

**26<sup>th</sup> November 2023 - Christ the King**

A Tribute to Reverend Kate Wilson

Go. Silent friend, your life has found its ending;

To dust returns your weary mortal frame.

God, who before birth called you into being,  
now calls you hence, his accent still the same.

Go, silent friend, your life in Christ is buried;

For you he lived and died and rose again,  
Close by his side your promised place is waiting  
where, fully known, you shall with God remain.

Go, silent friend, forgive us if we grieve you;

Safe now in heaven, kindly say our name.

Your life has touched us, that is why we mourn you;

Our lives without you cannot be the same.

Go, silent friend, we do not grudge you glory;

Sing, sing with joy deep praises to your Lord.

You, who believed that Christ would come back for you,  
now celebrate that Jesus keeps his word.

(1996 WGRG Iona Community)

Thank you Kate for your love, care, friendship and support.  
You are greatly missed.

May you rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen

St Mary's  
Fordingbridge  
SP6 1BB

St Mary's  
Breamore  
SP6 2DF

Holy Ascension  
Hyde  
SP6 2QJ

St Giles  
Godshill  
SP6 2JJ

St Boniface  
Woodgreen  
SP6 2AJ

St Mary's  
Hale  
SP6 2RF

Sandleheath  
Uniting Church  
SP6 IPT

Mary Melbourne (Churchwarden and LLM)

*We welcome all, especially visitors and those attending for the first time. If you need gluten free wafers at Communion, please speak to someone at the door before the service.*

***Please take this newsletter home with you for the week ahead. God Bless!***

# Readings for this Week: 26<sup>th</sup> November 2023

## Christ the King

### (The Sunday Next Before Advent)

#### **COLLECT:**

God the Father,  
help us to hear the call of Christ the King  
and to follow in his service,  
whose kingdom has no end;  
for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, one glory.

**AMEN.**

#### **PSALM 95:1-7**

1. O come, let us sing to the Lord;  
Let us heartily rejoice in the rock of our salvation.
2. Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving  
And be glad in him with psalms.
3. For the Lord is a great God  
And a great king above all gods.
4. In his hand are the depths of the earth  
And the heights of the mountains are his also.
5. The sea is his, for he made it,  
And his hands have moulded the dry land.
6. Come, let us worship and bow down  
And kneel before the Lord our Maker.
7. For he is our God;  
We are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

## A Reading from the Letter to the Ephesians

*Ephesians 1:15-23*

*Paul's prayer for an increase in the gift of wisdom for the Christians in Ephesus.*

<sup>15</sup>I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason <sup>16</sup>I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. <sup>17</sup>I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, <sup>18</sup>so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, <sup>19</sup>and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. <sup>20</sup>God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, <sup>21</sup>far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. <sup>22</sup>And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, <sup>23</sup>which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

*At the end, the Reader says:*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God**

### **THE GOSPEL READING**

*Please stand and turn to face the Gospel Reader*

*When the Gospel is announced, the Reader says:*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *Matthew*

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**(Glory be to thee, O Lord.)**

*Matthew 25:31-46*

*The third of Jesus' parables – we shall be judged on how we have behaved to others.*

Jesus said to his disciples: <sup>31</sup>“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. <sup>32</sup>All the

nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats,<sup>33</sup> and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left.<sup>34</sup> Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world;<sup>35</sup> for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me,<sup>36</sup> I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me."<sup>37</sup> Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink?<sup>38</sup> And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing?<sup>39</sup> And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?"<sup>40</sup> And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."<sup>41</sup> Then he will say to those at his left hand, "You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels;<sup>42</sup> for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink,<sup>43</sup> I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me."<sup>44</sup> Then they also will answer, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?"<sup>45</sup> Then he will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me."<sup>46</sup> And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.'

c) *New Revised Standard Version of the Holy Bible*

*At the end, the Reader says:*  
This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*(At the end, the Reader says:*  
This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise be to thee, O Christ.)**

## **POST COMMUNION PRAYER:**

Stir up, O Lord,  
the wills of your faithful people;  
that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works,  
may by you be plenteously rewarded;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**AMEN**

**Avon Valley Community Matters - Families Together Upcoming dates:**  
**Saturday 25th November** - Family Lantern Making Workshop, 2pm-4pm at St Mary's Church Hall **Friday 1st December** - Christmas Lantern Parade (please email familybefriender@yahoo.com for more information) **Wednesday 20th December** - Family Christmas Dinner and Nativity, 11am-2pm at St Mary's Church Hall You can find information about our events by going to <https://AvonValleyCommunityMatters.eventbrite.com> or emailing familybefriender@yahoo.com

**Christmas Bazaar** - Hulse Hall, Breamore on **Saturday November 25<sup>th</sup> 10.30 - 4pm**. A warm welcome awaits you at this happy community event! Lots of interesting stalls together with mulled wine, mince pies, bacon rolls and more - what could be better?! Any queries contact Viv or Andy Finch 01725 512267

**Fordingbridge Choral Society** is performing a concert of magnificent music in **St Mary's Church, Fordingbridge** on **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 7.30pm**, This exciting programme includes Brahms' **Song of Destiny** (Schicksalslied) followed by Mendelssohn's **Hymn of Praise** (Lobgesang) accompanied by the Edwards Ensemble and talented soloists. Please come - we love a huge audience! Advance tickets include interval drink £15 from Fordingbridge Bookshop and online at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/fordingbridgechoral](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/fordingbridgechoral)

**Sarum College** is privileged to have recently received a copy of the Saint John's Bible Heritage Edition – the first hand-written and illustrated Bible to have been commissioned by an abbey in 500 years - and to celebrate this amazing book, we are holding a free open event from Saturday **25<sup>th</sup> November to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December** - <https://www.sarum.ac.uk/open-week-sjb/> All 7 volumes of the Saint John's Bible will be on display in the Seaton Room with someone in attendance to explain about the books and to answer questions. The display will be open during the following times: Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> : 10-4; Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> : 12-4; Monday 27<sup>th</sup> - Friday 1<sup>st</sup> : 10-6. Visitors will be able to look at each volume and to take photographs. We hope as many people as possible will pop in and be inspired by this very special piece of sacred art. Thanks Annette Young

Dear all, - I have a number of '**Real Advent Calendars**' with Fairtrade Chocolate and a booklet of the Christmas Story. They are £4.50 each and I can deliver. Perfect gift for your godchild, grandchild or even yourself! Please contact me on either my mobile 07855210769 or [Ruth.crosland@avonvalleychurches.org.uk](mailto:Ruth.crosland@avonvalleychurches.org.uk). Thanks Ruth Crosland

On **Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December Hyde Church** are holding a CHRISTMAS FAIR in the Village Hall from 11am - 2pm. Come and browse the stalls, enjoy soup and rolls, buy Christmas presents and cards - all to raise funds for the Church and local businesses.

**Avon Valley Men's Fellowship** - Our final supper this year will be at the Old Beams pub in Ibsley on **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December**. We will be meeting at **6:30pm**

for a **7pm start**. After the one course supper our speaker will be Adam Feak who is the Free church chaplain at Winchester prison. Adam will be talking about his background and prison work and it promises to be most interesting. The cost of the evening is £17. If you would like to join us please contact Stephen Darke for more information and the menu choices. E-mail - darkefamily@btinternet.com or phone 01425 656988.

☆ Our Christmas Coffee Morning 8.12.23, 10.30 - 12.00, (the last of the year) is also the launch of this years Christmas Tree Festival. Do join us for Festive food, songs and a warm welcome. The Fair Trade Coffee Morning team.

NB The trees remain on display throughout the Christmas season. Pop in at any time to enjoy the ingenuity of local groups and the interpretations of the theme A Christmas Carol. 🎄

Janet, Helen & the team will be offering **Christmas wreaths & table decorations** in aid of church funds. Wreaths will be £25 and table decorations £12. A traditional wreath with poinsettias or a natural country wreath is the choice. **Collection** will be on **Wednesday 13th December at 10.00 am** from Newman's Central Stores in Shaftesbury Street. We will notify the date of the table decorations later.

Please email Helen at thetagues@fordingbridge.com or telephone 01425 655462 or telephone Janet on 01425 653269

**Shortest Day Christmas Service at St Giles, Godshill** - The Shortest Day Christmas Service is one with a difference! Like last year, it will be a more reflective half-hour service open to everyone, including those people who might recoil from a full-blown Carol Service, but may find welcome solace and sanctuary in a troubled world through this time together. There will be readings and carols and prayers, followed by mince pies and mulled wine. **The Date: Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December, 11 am at St Giles, Godshill.** All are Welcome!

**Save the date : Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup> January** Epiphany concert to be held at St. Mary's Church, Hale, from 4pm. It will have all the tradition of our Advent concert but with a slightly different feel to it. Do come and support us. Raising funds for Trussell Trust and the roof fund. Thank you.

### **Open Gardens 2024 – Fordingbridge/Godshill/Sandleheath**

We now have a small list of gardens that will be open over the late May Bank Holiday to help us raise funds, but we need a few more. Your garden doesn't have to be either large or spectacular, we aren't trying to do Chelsea! It would be great if you could also host your guests with refreshments (or perhaps have a few plants to sell) but if you don't bake we can find you a partner. Or do you have a non-churchgoing friend with a garden they would be prepared to open? We need to begin to plan after Christmas so please let me know if you are willing to help. Mark Ward: mark@fordingbridge.com or 01425 656120

Please note that St Mary's Fordingbridge is no longer collecting plastic milk bottle tops - they can now be left on the empty milk bottle and put in the recycling.

**Saturday 18th November-** a big thank you to everyone who helped or visited our 'Soup and a Roll' event, we are delighted to report we raised just over £200 for church funds! Many thanks from the Church Family of Hale & Woodgreen!

The Michaelmas Group enjoyed a very sociable evening packing 19 shoeboxes for this year's appeal. We would like to thank everyone for their support in providing boxes, items and an amazing £80 towards transport costs which will also be gift aided.

Thanks Helen Tague

**CANYOU HELP?** There is a cupboard in the cloakroom at St Mary's Church Hall which has had a new lock fitted. We do not know who asked to have a new lock, what the contents are, whether it is still being used and we do not have a spare key at the Church Office. **Please contact the Church Office before 4<sup>th</sup> December** on 01425 653163 or [office@avonvalleychurches.org.uk](mailto:office@avonvalleychurches.org.uk) if you or someone you know is using this cupboard or further action will be taken to gain access. The very successful AVCM projects need additional space to support their community catering activities. Thank you very much, FB LCC.

**ITEMS FOR PARTNERS** need to be sent to the Church Office (e-mail address below) by 5.00p.m. on **Wednesdays**. Please put 'Partners' in the e-mail subject line. Thank you, Zoe

## Reflection

I love Prayers and keep the ones I like. Here's one from a couple of years ago to guide and inspire you through Advent. Thanks Marianne (Tomkies).

Lord, as the season of Advent begins,  
We pray that we may use it as a time of wise reflection.  
A time of prayer and thoughtfulness,  
as we await your coming to Earth.  
A time of your coming into the Church.  
A time of your coming into our neighbourhoods.  
A time of your coming into each one of us.  
That our hearts may be ready to receive you.  
Come Lord Jesus.  
Amen

Beverly Judd

**CHURCH OFFICE IS OPEN TO VISITORS** between 10.00 am and 12.00  
Contact via Email : [Office@AvonValleyChurches.org.uk](mailto:Office@AvonValleyChurches.org.uk) or call 01425 653163 between 10.00 am and 12.00 or  
leave a message Website : [www.AvonValleyChurches.org.uk](http://www.AvonValleyChurches.org.uk)

# Christ the King 26<sup>th</sup> November

Online services available via Facebook or Website  
at 'Avon Valley Churches'

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<b>Sunday</b>	<b>8.15 am</b>	<b>Breamore</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
<b>26<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>	<b>10.00 am</b>	<b>Fordingbridge</b>	<b>Sung Eucharist</b>
	<b>10.00 am</b>	<b>Hyde</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
	<b>10.00 am</b>	<b>Woodgreen</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
	<b>10.45 am</b>	<b>Sandleheath</b>	<b>Morning Service</b>
Monday Wednesday Friday	10.00 am	Online	Morning prayer ( <i>Meeting ID: 846 5168 7529, Password: 764200</i> )
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>8.15 am</b>	<b>Fordingbridge</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Dec</b>	<b>10.00 am</b>	<b>Breamore</b>	<b>Morning Service</b>
	<b>10.00 am</b>	<b>Fordingbridge</b>	<b>Allsorts Service</b>
	<b>10.00 am</b>	<b>Hale</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
	<b>10.00 am</b>	<b>Hyde</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
	<b>10.45 am</b>	<b>Sandleheath</b>	<b>Morning Service</b>
	<b>6.00 pm</b>	<b>Fordingbridge</b>	<b>6 O'Clock Service</b>