



Advent 3

14 December 2025

Advent 3, 14 December

10am Parish Communion

Readings: Isaiah 35.1-10
The return of the redeemed to Zion
James 5.7-10 *Patience in suffering*
Matthew 11.2-11 *John the Baptist*

Collect: O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

Zoom Join Zoom Meeting: [CLICK HERE](#)
Meeting ID: 861 3500 8616.
Passcode: 599753
Landline dial in contact: 0330 088 5830
N.B. Please MUTE when joining Zoom

followed by coffee and fellowship in the Chapter House

6pm Sunday @6
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Monday 15 December

7pm Night Prayer

Tuesday 16 December

9:45am Edward Peake School Christmas Service

11am Edward Peake School Christmas Service

Wednesday 17 December

6pm Carols on the lawn

Thursday 18 December

9:30am Holy Communion

Readings: Jeremiah 23.5-8

Matthew 1.18-24

Followed by coffee and fellowship, Chapter House

12pm-2pm MU Christmas Soup Lunch

6pm Carol Singing: King's Reach SG18 8SX and
St Andrew's Park, SG18 0PZ
followed by drinks at King's Reach

Friday 19 December

10am Biggleswade Academy Christmas Service

Saturday 20 December

10am - 12pm Coffee Shop and Warm Spaces,
Craft and Chat, Chapter House

10:30am-12noon Nativity Tableau

7:30pm Biggleswade Choral Society Concert

Sunday 21 December

10am Parish Communion

6pm Service of 9 Lessons and Carols

Vicar: Revd. Liz Oglesby-Elong (01767 312243)

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All copy for inclusion in Sunday Pew Sheets to be sent to:
office@standrewschurchbw.org.uk by Tuesdays, 11am

www.standrewschurchbiggleswade.org.uk

office@standrewschurchbw.org.uk



Facebook: @StAndrewsBiggleswade



Instagram: @StAndrewsBiggleswade

bookings@standrewschurchbw.org.uk



Requesting our Prayers: Joan Betts, Liz Lavelle, Tim Robb, Charles Rutt, Marcus Smith, Nick Smithers, Derek and Gill Whinnett. We continue to pray for: Bobbie Ball, Fran Sharp, James Etienne

We pray for the souls of the recently departed: For families and friends preparing for services of thanksgiving and celebration of life: Beatrice de Quincey. We remember with prayers and thankful, privileged, memories those whose Year's Mind fall at this time.

Mafambisa: We remember the people of our partner community of Mafambisa, for the vulnerable and orphaned children, the care workers, the caregivers and all who support them. By name this week we pray for care-worker: Virginia and children: Christina, Thando, Blessing, Sneshpho and Jasper.

Need Project Toy Donations

May I thank you on behalf of the Need Project and all the worthy recipients of the gifts that were so generously given by the congregation and further afield last Sunday. We had a truly amazing response and following the Sunday Lunch raffle proceeds we have added further with 8 gift cards, so a massive thank you for everyone's generosity .

Lucy Dilley

Pew Sheet

Next week's pew sheet will be a double issue covering the weeks of 28 December and 4 January. Any messages you would like including, please email secretary@standrewschurchbw.org.uk by midday on Tuesday 23 December.

Sue Thorn

MU Christmas Soup Lunch Thursday 18 December 12noon -2pm

Festive fayre and carols. All welcome. No set price, donate what you can.

Maggie McLoughlin

New Beginnings & Advent Quiet Time

During Advent we are invited at 7pm on Monday 15 December for Advent Night Prayer and 9.30am on Thursdays for Advent Holy Communion, as well as daily Open Church, and our main 10am Parish Communion on Sunday mornings. In prayerful preparation before all services, please can we give space for personal "Quiet Time" and therefore please avoid business and long conversations before the service.

The Churchwardens

Christmas bookstall The Christmas bookstall is now open in the Chapter House with a selection of Christmas cards and Advent candles.

Chris Parker

Christmas Home Communion

If you, or a relative, friend or neighbour, wishes to receive Communion at home during the Christmas season, please inform the Administration Assistant as soon as possible, providing your contact details to her. Thank you. secretary@standrewschurchbw.org.uk

Rev'd Liz

Carol Singing 17 and 18 December

This year's community carol singing, to which you are all invited, is on 17 December on the lawn outside church (followed by drinks and mince pies) and on 18 December as follows:

6:00pm Sullivan Court, King's Reach SG18 8SX - near Sainsbury's local

7:00pm at Collings Crescent Play Area SG18 0PZ (followed by drinks at King's Reach from about 7:45pm)

If you could help to deliver leaflets advertising this in the preceding week in order to encourage locals to join in, we would be very grateful. The leaflets can be picked up from the table in the foyer.

Growth and Mission

Advent Prayer Tree A Christmas tree is beside the votive candle stand with labels to put the name of a person, an organisation, or a group of people you feel needs prayer this Christmas.

Your prayers will be commended during the service on 21 December.



Open Church

There will be no open church from lunchtime Christmas Day until Saturday 27 December and again from lunchtime Sunday 28 December until Friday 2 January. There will be no coffee shop nor warm spaces during that time. Coffee shop and warm spaces will be open again from 3 January. *Churchwardens*

Warm Spaces

Warm Spaces will be available in the Chapter House on Saturdays from 10am till 12noon and Thursdays from 10:30am-11:30am, finishing on 21 March. Warm Spaces will be closed on 25 and 27 December and on 1 January. *Nettie van de Weerd*

Food Bank Reverse Advent Calendar

As usual we're working with Biggleswade Baptist Church to help with food parcels over the Christmas period. If you can help by putting together a box/bag of items (one for each day of Advent) there are notices and flyers with suggestions on the notice board and in the foyer. Donations for Christmas are needed by **Thursday 18 December**, but any further donations will be used in the New Year - still school holidays and difficult for many families. *Maggie McLoughlin and Anna Rutt*

Craft and Chat

The last session of the year will be held on 20 December between 10am-12noon alongside the coffee shop. Crafters and non-crafters all welcome. *Anna Rutt*

Flowers/ Window Displays Request

There are currently a small team of flower arrangers who kindly create amazing displays for certain windows for major festivals and who I hope will continue to do so, however I am looking for some additional support and help! I am looking for volunteers who are willing to arrange flowers in a vase or donate—perhaps on special occasions. There is a quieter time coming up as we do not have flowers in Advent but then the Christmas season will be here. I have engaged with some groups linked to the church who seem enthusiastic to offer their creative gifts for the window displays which I am delighted to have onboard. If you would like to support this in ANY way (financial, creativity or suggestions) please contact me on 07800577106. lucydilley18@gmail.com *Lucy Dilley*

Food Bank

Please consider adding an item to your shopping basket to help those in need in our area. Current needs are: tinned carrots, custard, rice pudding, tinned bolognaise. You may wish to include a Christmas treat (in the next 2 weeks—to ensure Christmas distribution) Items can be put in the box in church or at the supermarket. *Maggie McLoughlin and Anna Rutt*

North Roof

As you are aware the roof of the north Aisle has been leaking for a while now and temporary repairs are no longer effective. We have now completed consultation with the DAC and other necessary bodies and have now posted notice of petition to apply for a faculty. All being well work will be able to start early next year. *Churchwardens*

Christingle Service

Our Christingle Service will be on Sunday 1 February at 3pm.



Used Stamps for St John's Hospice

Please remember to save any stamps from the Christmas cards you receive. Please cut around them and bring them to the back of the church where there is a collection box. It seems a small thing to do as regards fund-raising, but St John's are please to receive them.

St John's Hospice wished me to thank all at St Andrew's for the continued support.

Gill Hibbert

A Personal Message from the Vicar

Dear Friends in Christ, Greetings to you all as we continue to journey through this season of Advent. It is likely that I will need surgery in late February, 2026, followed by a period of recovery, possibly 6 weeks or so afterwards. Prayers most welcomed nearer the time, as I continue to hold you in mine.

Yours in Christ, Revd. Liz

Social Media

Keeping in touch with family and friends is something as a Church we are trying to undertake through the use of our social media platforms. Please do contact Oliver Dilley or Jessica Mephram with any ideas, thoughts or content for the social media pages. In the meantime please continue to like, follow and share our social media accounts.

Facebook: @standrewsbiggleswade

Instagram: @standrewsbiggleswade

For Advent:

O Sapientia

O come, thou Wisdom from on high!
Who madest all in earth and sky,
Creating man from dust and clay:
To us reveal salvation's way.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

Future Dates

15 December	7pm	Advent Night Prayer
20 December	10:30am-12noon	Nativity Tableau (please sign up on sheet in foyer)
	7:30pm	Biggleswade and District Choral Society Concert
21 December	6pm	Service of Nine Lessons and Carols
24 December	6pm	Crib Service
	11pm	Carols at the Screen
	11:30pm	Midnight Mass

Living God, draw us deeper into your love; Jesus our Lord, send us to care and serve, Holy Spirit make us heralds of good news. Stir us, strengthen us teach and inspire us to live your love with generosity and joy, imagination and courage, for the sake of your world and in the name of Jesus. Amen