

How wonderful life is when you're in the world

Are you following the star this year? In what is either an amazing coincidence, or a stunning piece of co-ordinated planning the Church of England and John Lewis seem to have come up with the same theme for their publicity.

You might know by now that I always look to an inspirational source for my Christmas teaching. And that's usually the great retailer's festive ad, to see how I can relate what they're promoting to the Christian message. I was almost disappointed this year, when I discovered that the ad is essentially a short promotional trailer for a biographical film. It doesn't seem to be particularly Christmassy, until the final message of 'Some gifts are more than just a gift'. It's then that we realise that the small boy being given a piano for Christmas is the young Reg Dwight – that this gift would shape the life journey of the future Elton John.

We can't predict how a gift that we buy for someone this year might shape their future, but God's gift to us is Jesus Christ. For those who follow Jesus there is a very exciting life journey ahead, shaped by his teaching.

So why not join us at our Advent and Christmas services this year as we #followthestar and discover how wonderful life is when Christ's in the world.

Steve

Rev Steve Wilkinson, Rector, the Woodbridge Group of Churches

We can't list everything in here as they haven't invented a font capable of conveying that density of information on a single sheet of paper. Details of our other Sunday services on December 2nd, 9th, 16th and 30th are on www.achurchnearyou.com

FACEBOOK: Like "Woodbridge Group of Churches"

TWITTER: Events are tweeted by '@sixchurches'. Steve posts as '@woodbridgevicar'

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Follow The Star

WOODBRIDGE
GROUP OF CHURCHES

Advent & Christmas Services 2018 in our six parishes

St Michael and All Angels, Brinkworth : St James the Great, Dauntsey :

All Saints, Garsdon, St Peter & St Paul, Great Somerford :

St Giles, Lea : St John the Baptist, Little Somerford

Sunday 2nd December – Advent 1

4.00pm 'Messy Christingle' Brinkworth

A very special time for all the family to celebrate Jesus, the Light of the World, with activities and refreshments

Sunday 9th December – Advent 2

9.30am Café Church with Christingles Little Somerford *A very informal service including coffee and croissants, tea and toast. Try not to eat the oranges...*

11.00am Lessons and Carols Brinkworth

4.00pm Lessons and Carols with Christingles Great Somerford *Traditional carols with Christingles to take home*

5.00pm Christingle Lea *A family friendly Advent service, celebrating Jesus, the Light of the World.*

Friday 14th December—Village Carol Events

6.30pm Carols Round the Tree Brinkworth *Organised by Brinkworth Heritage Society*

6.30pm Carols on the Green The Green, Little Somerford (in church if wet)

Sunday 16th December – Advent 3

11.00am Lessons and Carols Garsdon *Traditional carols for all the family, with Bible readings from the NIV Bible*

4.00pm Lessons and Carols Little Somerford *Carols and Christmas readings for everybody!*

5.00pm Lessons and Carols Lea *Hear the story of God's great plan of salvation retold for a modern audience*

6.00pm Lessons and Carols Dauntsey *Traditional worship, carols & Christmas readings from the King James Bible*

Sunday 23rd December – Advent 4

10.30am Holy Communion for Advent Great Somerford

Monday 24th December—Christmas Eve

"The Great Big Barn Nativity" *Three special celebrations for all the family with the sights and sounds of the stable. Come dressed as a character and take part. Wellies & torches useful in Brinkworth and Lea. No naked flames or candles please.*

4.00pm starts at St. Michael and All Angels Church Brinkworth, moving to Church Farm

4.00pm The Mount, Park Lane, Great Somerford (next to the Church)

4.30pm starts at St. Giles, Lea, moving to Aquetong Farm

8.00pm Holy Communion Brinkworth *An 'early Midnight' Communion service for Christmas*

11.00pm Midnight Communion Dauntsey *An opportunity to share this special time together around the Lord's Table illuminated by candlelight (Common Worship service)*

Tuesday 25th December – Christmas Day

Bring one of your presents along and show us what is special to you. You're welcome to bring a bottle of something fizzy to share afterwards. All services designed for the whole family

10.00am Family Worship Dauntsey

10.30am Holy Communion Great Somerford (Book of Common Prayer service)

10.30am Family Worship Little Somerford

10.30am Family Worship Brinkworth

10.30am Family Worship Garsdon

11.00am Holy Communion Lea (Common Worship service)