

***‘And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.’ (Luke 2:7)***



*Heavenly Father, as we light the fourth candle of Advent, we rejoice in the gift of love revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ. Fill our hearts with compassion and peace, that we may welcome him with joy and share his light with the world. Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.*



*Love Comes - Held safely within a gentle womb all the truth, majesty and creativity of a living God into a tiny heart - just one star shone anew led by angelic voices and open hearts - a young mother, a faith filled father and a few simple shepherds came and acknowledged the word of God - the extraordinary transformation had begun.....*

*Have mercy we pray on all who cannot share our happiness this Christmas time. We are mindful of the poor and the hungry, the sick and those separated from the ones they love. Especially we pray for: **ELEANOR BROOKS - ELSIE ROWE - HILARY ABRAHAMS - DIANA HEATHER - ELIZABETH PAY - ANN BARTLETT - BARBARA JARVIS - SARAH WILLIS - MARK MARKCOONS - JO WATKINS - MARTYN DILLEY - SUZANNE MILLER - SUE & EMMA KINKEAD, Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

*May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ child. Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever. Amen.*



Please **support the work of St Mary's** via the contactless payment device at the back of church or donate via the 'give a little' website or QR code **here**. Any donation gratefully received.

# St. Mary the Virgin, Hayes, Kent

## PEW SHEET – 21<sup>st</sup> December 2025

**TODAY**      8am Holy Communion (BCP)  
                   10.30am Fresh Start Christingle Style Service  
**6pm** Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

## COLLECT for the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

Eternal God,  
as Mary waited for the birth of your Son,  
so we wait for his coming in glory;  
bring us through the birth pangs of this present age  
to see, with her, our great salvation  
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**READINGS:** Isaiah 7.10-16 (pg 646); Luke 2.4-7 (pg 56)

## THIS WEEK

9.15am	<b>Morning Prayers</b> – Zoom Tues–Wed (link from the office), <b>in church Mon-Thurs 9.15am, Sat 10am</b>
23 <sup>rd</sup> Dec	Tues 10am- 12pm Church Open for <b>Quiet Space</b> 2.30pm <b>Pittsmead Christmas Service</b> please talk to Rev Tim if interested 7.30pm <b>Advent Prayers</b> with <b>Church Together</b> in Meetings Room
24 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Wed <b>NO Welcome Space</b> and 31 <sup>st</sup> Dec 4pm <b>Crib Service</b> in church 8pm <b>First Communion</b> Service
25 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Thu 10.30am <b>Family Communion Service</b>
27 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Sat 10am- 12pm Church Open for <b>Quiet Space</b>

**Next Sunday – 28<sup>th</sup> December 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of CHRISTMAS**

**8am Holy Communion (BCP)**  
**10.30am Parish Communion**  
**12.15pm Baptisms of Callie and Brooke Clemens**

## **Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

**Lord Jesus, light of the world,  
blessed is Gabriel, who brought good news;  
blessed is Mary, your mother  
Bless your Church preparing for Christmas;  
and bless us your children, who long for your coming. Amen.**

## **Advent Carol (tune: the Holly and the Ivy)**

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|---|--|
| <b>1.</b> Within the deepest darkness<br>A glowing light is lit<br>The darkness cannot put it out<br>Or do away with it                       | <b>3.</b> Wild desert John Baptiser<br>Shouted, 'Prepare the way!<br>Level out the hills! Fill the<br>potholes in!<br>Make way for God today!' |
| <b>2.</b> The prophets said Messiah<br>Would come to set us free,<br>To rule the world with life and<br>justice:<br>The Prince of Peace is He | <b>4.</b> The angel came to Mary<br>Who answered, 'Let it be,<br>I am the servant of the Lord:<br>now His mother I will be.'                   |

## **For Christmas Day**

- 5.** A baby in stable  
Bring joy to all the earth.  
He comes, our Lord  
Emmanuel,  
And we celebrate His Birth