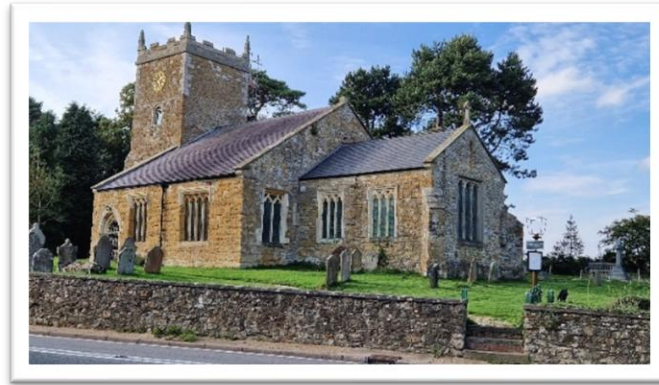


St Helen's Church, Burgh on Bain



Service with Holy Communion 1st Sunday of Advent

Scripture & Notices, Sunday 30th November 2025

**PLEASE TAKE THIS NOTICE SHEET WITH YOU
AFTER THE SERVICE**

Prayer for the week: Father, let your hope arise in our hearts! Lift our eyes up to see that you alone are where our hope comes from. Help us to shake off the anxiety, discouragements, and distractions that have filled the past year. We invite your Spirit into this Advent season. Renew our sense of holy anticipation! Amen.

"Filling the world He lies in a manger!"

Saint Augustine

The Word

Each week, we share Scripture from the Lectionary. The service leader may choose not to use all of this Scripture in the service itself, so be guided by them. But, please take this notice sheet with you and (re)read the Scripture during the week, and the chapters around it for context.

Psalm 122

- ¹ I was glad when they said to me,
‘Let us go to the house of the Lord.’
- ² And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem;
- ³ Jerusalem, built as a city
that is at unity in itself.
- ⁴ Thither the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord,
as is decreed for Israel,
to give thanks to the name of the Lord.
- ⁵ For there are set the thrones of judgement,
the thrones of the house of David.
- ⁶ O pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
‘May they prosper who love you.
- ⁷ ‘Peace be within your walls
and tranquillity within your palaces.’
- ⁸ For my kindred and companions’ sake,
I will pray that peace be with you.
- ⁹ For the sake of the house of the Lord our God,
I will seek to do you good.

Reading - Old Testament - Isaiah 2.1–5

¹ The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

² In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.

³ Many peoples shall come and say,
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.'
For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

⁴ He shall judge between the nations,
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,
and their spears into pruning-hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.

⁵ O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the Lord!

Reading - New Testament – Romans 13.11-14

¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; ¹³let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.



The Gospel

Matthew 24.36–44

³⁶But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left.

⁴²Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.



30th November – Andrew, first disciple of Jesus

Andrew, whose feast day ends the Christian year on 30th November, is probably best known to us as the patron saint of Scotland, though his only connection with the country is that some of his bones were reputedly transported in the 8th century to Fife and preserved at a church in a place now named St Andrews.

In fact, there are so many legends about him all over Europe and the Middle East that it's safest to stick to what the Gospels tell us – though the strong tradition that he was martyred by crucifixion is probably true and is perpetuated in the 'St Andrew's Cross', the 'saltyre' of Scotland.

The Gospels record that he was one of the first disciples of Jesus, and the very first to bring someone else to Christ – his own brother. Like many fervent Jews at the time Andrew and an unnamed companion had been drawn to the desert, to be taught by the charismatic prophet known to us as John the Baptist. Many thought that he was the long-promised Messiah, but John insisted that he was not. 'I am the voice crying in the wilderness,' he told the crowds. 'Prepare the way of the Lord! One comes after me who is greater than I am.' So when one day John pointed out Jesus to Andrew and his friend and described him as the 'Lamb of God', the two young men assumed that the next stage of their spiritual search was about to unfold. So as Jesus made off, they followed him.

More strangely then (though, on reflection, very true to human nature) that when Jesus turned and asked them what they were 'seeking', all they could come up with was a lame enquiry about his current place of residence: 'where are you staying?' Or, perhaps, they were hinting that what they were seeking could not be dealt with in a brief conversation. If they could come to his lodgings, perhaps their burning questions might be answered.

The reply of Jesus was the most straight-forward invitation anyone can receive: 'Come and see'. Come and see what I'm like, what I do, the sort of person I am. What an invitation!

The results of their response were in this case life-changing – for themselves, and for many other people. Andrew brought his brother, Peter, to Jesus. The next day Jesus met Philip and called him to ‘follow’. Philip then brought Nathaniel. The little apostolic band who would carry the message of Jesus to the whole world was being formed. They came, they saw, they were conquered! And right at the front of the column, as it were, was Andrew, the first disciple of Jesus.

‘Between Sundays’

In the New Year, we will be running an 8-week course produced by the Bible Society, called **The Bible Course**. The course is accessible for people new to Christianity, ideal as a follow-on from courses like Alpha or for mature Christians wanting to increase their understanding of the Bible or help others to read the Bible more productively. More details of the course can be found here: www.biblesociety.org.uk/explore-the-bible/the-bible-course. Please let Neil Walker know if you are interested.



Sara preferred to let people work out the hymns for themselves

Notices

Please join us for refreshments after the service.

Wed. 3rd Dec. – Advent gathering, “Journeying with the Magi” – 7pm
All Saints’ Church, Goulceby

Sunday 7th December – Holy Communion – 10am
St Julian’s Church, Benniworth

Tuesday 9th December – Carols by Candlelight – 7pm
All Saints’ Church, Goulceby

Wed. 10th Dec. – Advent gathering, “Journeying with the Magi” – 7pm
Honeypot Cottage, Mill Lane, Burgh on Bain

The Ministry Team is setting up a **Pastoral Care** team to support our communities. If you feel you have a heart for this, please contact Neil Walker on 07771 861202 and more information will be provided.

Weekly **Compline** service by Zoom, led by our Rural Dean, Revd Mark, most Wednesdays, 6:30pm to 7pm latest. Link on the Group web site.

The Parish **Prayer Circle** exists to meet some of the prayer needs of the community. You can join the Prayer Circle or you can make a request for prayer (confidential within the Prayer Circle) by contacting Neil Walker on 07771 861202)

Service leader: Revd. Pam Fraser
Churchwardens: Judith Varley, George Ward
Organist: Kathy Brayshaw

🌐 Asterby Group website: www.asterbygroup.org

📘 www.facebook.com/groups/asterbygroup