

# CLAPHAM :: KEASDEN :: AUSTWICK :: ELDROTH CHURCHES WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

*"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light"*

## Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

No.141. Christmas  
and New Year 2022/3

### Isaiah 9.2-7

<sup>2</sup>The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. <sup>3</sup>You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. <sup>4</sup>For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. <sup>5</sup>For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. <sup>6</sup>For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup>His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.



### Psalm 96

- 1 Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.
- 2 Sing to the Lord and bless his name;  
tell out his salvation from day to day.**
- 3 Declare his glory among the nations and his wonders among all peoples.
- 4 For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised;  
he is more to be feared than all gods.**
- 5 For all the gods of the nations are but idols; it is the Lord who made the heavens.
- 6 Honour and majesty are before him;  
power and splendour are in his sanctuary.**
- 7 Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples;  
ascribe to the Lord honour and strength.
- 8 Ascribe to the Lord the honour due to his name;  
bring offerings and come into his courts.**
- 9 O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;  
let the whole earth tremble before him.
- 10 Tell it out among the nations that the Lord is king.  
He has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;  
he will judge the peoples with equity.**
- 11 Let the heavens rejoice and let the earth be glad;  
let the sea thunder and all that is in it;
- 12 Let the fields be joyful and all that is in them;  
let all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the Lord.**
- 13 For he comes, he comes to judge the earth;  
with righteousness he will judge the world and the peoples with his truth. **Amen**

## **Luke 2.1-14**

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>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. <sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup>'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'

**With the Anglican Communion:** *The Anglican Church of Melanesia, Archbishop Leonard Dawea. In our deanery: Giggleswick St Alkelda, Revd Julie Clarkson.*

**Our charity:** *Crisis at Christmas: offering much needed warmth, healthcare, food and company to people experiencing homelessness across the UK*

**In our community:** *Those working over Christmas; all in our emergency services.*

**Those in ill health:** *Robert Hird, Joan Robson, Peter Read.*

**Those who have died:** *Ian Woodburn, Frank Watson.*

### **Collect (Christmas Night)**

Eternal God, in the stillness of this night you sent your almighty Word to pierce the world's darkness with the light of salvation: give to the earth the peace that we long for and fill our hearts with the joy of heaven through our Saviour, Jesus Christ. **Amen**

### **Post Communion Prayer (Christmas Night)**

God our Father, in this night you have made known to us again the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ: confirm our faith and fix our eyes on him until the day dawns and Christ the Morning Star rises in our hearts. To him be glory both now and for ever. **Amen**

### **Collect (Christmas Morning)**

Lord Jesus Christ, your birth at Bethlehem draws us to kneel in wonder at heaven touching earth: accept our heartfelt praise as we worship you, our Saviour and our eternal God. **Amen**

### **Post Communion Prayer (Christmas Morning)**

God our Father, whose Word has come among us in the Holy Child of Bethlehem: may the light of faith illumine our hearts and shine in our words and deeds; through him who is Christ the Lord. **Amen**

## **New Year's Day - The Second Sunday of Christmas**

### **Isaiah 63.7-9**

7 I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord, the praiseworthy acts of the Lord, because of all that the Lord has done for us, and the great favour to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his steadfast love. 8 For he said, 'Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely'; and he became their saviour 9 in all their distress. It was no messenger or angel, but his presence that saved them; in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

### **Psalm 148**

1 Alleluia. Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights.

**2 Praise him, all you his angels; praise him, all his host.**

3 Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you stars of light.

**4 Praise him, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens.**

5 Let them praise the name of the Lord, for he commanded and they were created.

**6 He made them fast for ever and ever;**

**he gave them a law which shall not pass away.**

7 Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps;

**8 Fire and hail, snow and mist, tempestuous wind, fulfilling his word;**

9 Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars;

**10 Wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and birds on the wing;**

11 Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world;

**12 Young men and women, old and young together;**

**let them praise the name of the Lord.**

13 For his name only is exalted, his splendour above earth and heaven.

**14 He has raised up the horn of his people and praise for all his faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near him. Alleluia.**

### **Matthew 2.13-23**

13 Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.' 14 Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, 15 and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, 'Out of Egypt I have called my son.' 16 When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. 17 Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: 18 'A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.'

19 When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, 20 'Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead.' 21 Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. 22 But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. 23 There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, 'He will be called a Nazorean.'

## Prayers

**With the Anglican Communion:** La Iglesia Anglicana de Mexico.

**In our deanery:** Rathmell Holy Trinity, Revd Julie Clarkson.

**Our charity:** War Child UK, working with children affected by conflict in places like Ukraine, Yemen, and Afghanistan, to get them the life-saving aid and psychological care they need.

**In our community:** Those hoping for a better year ahead.

**Those in ill health:** Robert Hird, Joan Robson, Peter Read.

**Those who have died:** Ian Woodburn, Frank Watson.

### Collect for the New Year

God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
whose years never fail and whose mercies are  
new each returning day:  
let the radiance of your Spirit renew our lives,  
warming our hearts and lighting our minds;  
that we may pass the coming year  
in joyful obedience and firm faith;  
through him who is the beginning and the end,  
your Son, Christ our Lord, who is alive and  
reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy  
Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

### Post Communion Prayer

All praise to you,  
almighty God and heavenly king,  
who sent your Son into the world  
to take our nature upon him  
and to be born of a country girl:  
grant that we may be born again in him,  
so he may continually dwell in us  
and reign on earth as he reigns in heaven,  
now and for ever. **Amen**

## MUSIC IN OUR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR SERVICES

### Christmas Eve

11.30pm **Austwick** Midnight Communion

Opening hymn: **Carol Sheet 1** O little town of Bethlehem

Gradual hymn: **Carol Sheet 20** On Christmas night all Christians sing

Music before Communion: O Holy Night (Adolphe Adam, trans. John Sullivan Dwight)

Performed by Cara Dillon from Upon A Winter's Night, 2016

Closing hymn: **Carol Sheet 12** O come, all ye faithful

### Christmas Day

9.30 **Eldroth** and 11.00 **Keasden** Family Communion

Opening hymn **Carol sheet 12** O come, all ye faithful

Gradual hymn: **Carol sheet 10** Hark! The herald-angels sing

Music before Communion: O Holy Night (Adolphe Adam, trans. John Sullivan Dwight)

Performed by Cara Dillon from Upon A Winter's Night, 2016

Closing hymn: **Carol sheet 1** O little town of Bethlehem

### New Year's Day

9.30 **Eldroth** Benefice Holy Communion

Opening hymn: **Parish Praise 11** God is here! As we his people

Gradual hymn: **Parish Praise 13** O Lord my God (How great thou art)

Hymn before Communion: **Parish Praise 4** Beauty for Brokenness

Closing hymn: **Parish Praise 15** I cannot tell

**After our New Year's Service please join the Keasden 150 New Year Parish Walk**

Meet Keasden Head track end 10.30am or Keasden Head Farm 11.00am

**Services next week, The Epiphany, 8th January**

9.30am **Austwick** Holy Communion;

11:00 **Keasden** Holy Communion