

Woosehill Church



Worship for 28th November

10:00am Morning Worship **Rev'd Soba Sinnathamby**

Steward: Steve Lewis
Sidesperson: Val Weedon
Reader: Val Weedon
Prayers: Colin Weedon
Projector: Nava Sinnathamby
Audio Visual: Geoff Peck
Music: Recorded
Flowers: Melanie Hutchinson
Coffee: Sue Falquero

4:00pm Christingle Service **Doreen Murgatroyd**

YOU MUST WEAR A MASK UNLESS YOU HAVE AN EXEMPTION** - see next page for details.

DIARY: This week - all events in Church unless otherwise stated

Tues	7.15-8.30pm	Parish Zoom Advent Course -see below for link
Wed	9.00-11.00am	Tadpoles
Thurs	10.00am-12pm	Sing Something Simple

Parish Zoom Advent Course

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83997394879?pwd=L1FDSWxSYmYyOGNHUmd0ZytNQUJRRUT09>

All our 10am services are live streamed on You Tube. The link for this week's service is <https://youtu.be/0U0Kq6Dx-d8>

Alternatively, go to You Tube, then search for Woosehill Church and select the video saying LIVE.

We will be serving coffee after the service. Please bring your own cup/mug.

Events & Notices

UPDATE FROM THE STEWARDS

We ask that anybody attending a service at Woosehill Church wear a facemask throughout the service including when singing. If you can, we would also suggest that anybody attending take a precautionary Lateral Flow Test beforehand. We would also ask that Church groups meeting in the church follow the same guidelines. Let's hope and pray that by taking these simple precautions we can keep everybody safe.

Communion - Just a reminder as we are all a bit out of practice and things still aren't quite as they used to be! When we are using the small Methodist communion cups, the bottom tray is the regular fermented communion wine and the top tray is non-fermented wine. Historically, there are relatively few partakers of the non-fermented wine, hence usually only 5 or 6 cups on the top tray. Unfortunately, of late we've noticed that, on occasion, the non-fermented has run out before the usual partakers have taken communion, leaving them in somewhat of a quandary. So, unless you definitely want non-fermented, can you please take from the bottom tray. Thank you. The Stewards.

PRAYERS

If you would like prayers for yourself, your family or friends, please contact the Prayer Coordinator, Lynn Smith woosehillprayerchain@gmail.com or tel.07757 701730. Messages on the prayer chain are totally confidential and only seen by those Church members on the chain, if you would also like to be included in the intercessions on a Sunday morning then please let Lynn know.

VIRTUAL PRAYER WALK

On our virtual prayer walk around Woosehill, this week please pray for the residents of Owl Close & Peacock Walk as part of our journey praying for all our neighbourhood.

CHRISTMAS POSTBOX

We will be operating the Christmas postbox again this year from 5th - 19th December. The cards will be sorted after the 10am service on the 19th December ready for collection. Please remember to make a donation which goes towards the children's charities, Action for Children & The Children's Society. Please only post cards for church members and please do not add to the heaps at the Carol Service as church members may have collected in the morning.

CAROL SINGING

I have managed to get a slot for Carol Singing at Waitrose, Bracknell on Saturday 18th December at 11.00am. We can only have a maximum of 15 singers. It will be lovely if you could bring along a musical instrument. Please let me know whether you are free and able to join.

More information later. God bless, Soba-

BERTIE EMAILS

Anyone who would like to receive the Bertie emails can sign up on the St Paul's website: www.spauls.co.uk Just click on the 'Newsletter' tab and enter your details.

CHURCH MAGAZINE DEADLINE

The absolute deadline for the next church magazine is 28th November. This is later than usual and should allow for all the dates and announcements for the Advent and Christmas period to be included. Please do ensure that any items which you wish to include arrive in good time. I also welcome seasonal items such as poems and reflections as well as news of church family members past and present. I look forward to hearing from you! Val

CAROL SERVICE

This year our Carol service will be on 19th December. Individual and group contributions, like poems & sketches are welcome. Please contact me if you would like to offer anything. Soba.

SPONSOR A BOOK FOR A CHILD - MESSAGE FROM QUENCH BOOKSHOP

Our friends at The Cowshed are busy putting together Christmas sacks for families who are in crisis. We would love to be able to bless them with books to go into the Christmas sacks, books that share the real story of Christmas. In order to do this, we need your help. Would you be willing to contribute some money to buying a book or two? If so, please pop into either the Wokingham or Maidenhead shop with your donation, or contact us via admin@quenchshops.com, or call Ali on 07962869128. Please act immediately as we need to get moving on this! (Please note: we are not collecting books, but money to purchase new books. Thank you.)

<p>Please send any information for the notice sheet to woosehill.church@googlemail.com before 8.00pm on Wednesday. Thank you. Alison</p>
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REFLECTION FROM OUR MINISTER

Dear Friends,

Advent Hope

One of the collects from the Book of Common Prayers, used every day during Advent, reads:

ALMIGHTY God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious Majesty, to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, now and ever. Amen.

We see in this prayer the essence of Advent encapsulated. It speaks about darkness and light; about our present mortal life and the rising to immortality in the future; it speaks, more importantly, about Christ who came to visit us before, in humility and his glorious return in majesty, in the future.

Darkness symbolises the state of God-forsakenness in the world. It also speaks of the lostness of humanity. But there is light. Light symbolises future and hope. There is an instance recorded in the book of Isaiah [21:11-12], after the fall of Babylon. A messenger asks a seer “watchman, what of the night?”, meaning whether the troubles are over. The reply was “the morning comes, and also the night”, meaning there is hope and respite in the midst of troubles. St Paul’s observation on light is far reaching. He says, “The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armour of light” [Romans 13:12]. He encourages us to think about the final salvation we will experience when Christ returns.

As we begin Advent this year, we are drawn into pondering the contrasting nature of our Christian belief. There is light and darkness; there is death and immortality; dread and hope; judgement and grace; first and second coming; end and beginning. This is the reality of our times. We cannot ignore or eliminate one or the other, but hold them in balance. Richard Hoefler, a Christian writer, describes Advent as a `season of stress`.

Advent gives us a glimpse into the future. While we see in our world, the principalities and powers still firmly holding on, we believe in the scriptural proclamation of the true and faithful words of God who says, “behold, I will make everything new”. This sense of hope in the future is what makes us special and different. As people of the `mean time` - living in an era between the first and second comings of Christ - we see this season evoking a deep sense of hope throughout. While we take this season to prepare ourselves to celebrate the birth of our saviour, our eyes are still set on the time when the consummation of our salvation is realised.

With prayers,
Soba-

Worship for 5th December

10:00am Holy Communion Rev'd Soba Sinnathamby

Steward: John Hoskins
Sidesperson: Lynn Smith
Reader: Lynn Smith
Prayers: John Hoskins
Projector: Bob Clark
Audio Visual: Ed Smith
Music: Chris Merchant
Communion Steward: Linda Hoskins
Flowers: Linda Hoskins
Coffee: Jeanie Dunsmoir

6:15pm Reflective Service Rev'd Cara Smart

Steward: Steve Lewis

Coming up in the next few weeks:

12 th December	10.00am	Morning Worship Rev'd Sam Funnell
19 th December	10.00am 7.30pm	Holy Communion - Rev'd Richard Lamey Carol Service - Rev'd Soba Sinnathamby
25 th December	10.00am	Christmas Holy Communion - Rev'd Cara Smart
26 th December	9.30am	Combined Woosehill/St Paul's/St Nicholas' Service at St Paul's Church

If you have any enquiries or would like to speak to a minister for any reason, please contact Rev'd Soba Sinnathamby - soba.sinnathamby@hotmail.co.uk
01189894374

If you have any concerns please talk to the Minister or Steward on duty.

To keep up to date, visit our website - www.woosehillchurch.org or 'like' our Facebook page - 'Woosehill Church'.