

17th December 2017 ~ Third Sunday of Advent
10.00 am Holy Communion

President & Preacher: Revd Sr. Elizabeth Shearcroft, C.A.

Readings: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 OT page 702
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 NT page 202
John 1:6-8, 19-28 NT page 88



Remember:

Shop online via the link below and Immanuel and St Andrew Church benefits at no cost to you.

<http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/immanuelstandrew>

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Wardens	(Vacant) (Vacant)
Treasurer	Caroline Hewitt
Envelope Sec	Lorraine Thomas
Stewardship	Lorraine Thomas
Safeguarding	Laura Reynolds (Children)
Officers	Maureen Boothe (Vulnerable Adults)
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OPEN DOOR

Our weekly newsletter for you to take home



Immanuel and St Andrew

Registered Charity no:1131245
www.immanuelstreatham.org.uk

10th December 2017
Second Sunday of Advent
10.00 am Holy Communion

President Revd Sr. Elizabeth Shearcroft, C.A.
Preacher: Dr. Marion Gray

During Advent we light the candles of the Advent Wreath using the liturgy in the separate Service booklet. If you would like to take a copy to use at home please do.

Readings: Isaiah 40:1-11 OT page 677
2 Peter 3:8-15a NT page 235
Mark 1:1-8 NT page 33

Collect

**O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power
and come among us,
and with great might succour us;
that whereas, through our sins and wickedness
we are grievously hindered
in running the race that is set before us,
your bountiful grace and mercy
may speedily help and deliver us;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honour and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

Diary Dates

December

Tuesday 12th ~ Faith Group meets at School 8.50 am ~ (advisory group to FGB)

Tuesday 12th Prayer group in the chapel ~ 7.30pm

Thursday 14th ~ CAIAS ~ TBC

Thursday 14th ~ Memorial Carols in church ~ in conjunction with local Funeral Directors ~ a time to reflect and give thanks for loved ones. 7pm

Carols for Christmas

Are you ready and who have you invited?

Sunday 17th December at 6.00pm

God's love for us heard in modern versions of the traditional lessons and familiar carols.

Nativity costumes welcome whatever your age!

Mulled wine, Christmas nibbles & Gingerbread figures plus free gift.

Make this part of your family Christmas preparations

~ Approx. timings ~

Service an hour ~ eats and social hour and half max.

~ Cost ~

your time for an evening out with the family.

Immanuel Prays!

This new weekly prayer group started last Thursday— listen to the notices for which day it will meet as it will change to suit as many people as possible. We will try to run a daytime group as well depending on demand. Meetings will be in the Chapel and anyone and everyone is welcome. Our next meeting is on

TUESDAY 12th December at 7.30pm. If you can't come let us know if there is something or someone you want us to pray for.

Lorraine and Marion

Prayer Pointers

- Pray for our Advent preparations and the Services that will be offered.
- For those of our congregation facing the limitations of ill health.
- Pray for each of us as we seek justice, an end to wars and God's peace. For each of us as we learn afresh to live Jesus' commandment "*that you love one another as I have loved you*".
- For the people of Zimbabwe and members of our church who have relatives living there.
- For the "Leading Your Church into Growth" (LYCiG) course and those attending from Immanuel and St. Andrew, that this will benefit our church and its mission.

School Foundation Governor ~ Immanuel & St. Andrew Primary School

Following an unexpected resignation due to a change of circumstances we are looking for a foundation governor for our Primary School. You don't have to be a parent but do have to be a church member. It will involve a lot of work, with early morning or evening meetings about 10 times a year, training courses to attend, heaps of papers to read, and a whirlwind of constant change to cope with. In return, you will have one of the most worthwhile and fulfilling voluntary roles you can imagine. If you want to know more, talk to Simon Early or one of the other governors. You can also look on-line at ~
<http://www.immanuelchoollambeth.org/meet-our-governors/>

Ministry Musings

"And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God"

Micah 6:8b

Today is the 2nd Sunday of Advent ~This week we reflect on the Prophets who specifically foretold the coming of Jesus ~ and the Peace that He would bring ~ so our candle is the Peace Candle.

We reflect that God offers Hope that brings Peace. He does this through His Son Jesus Christ our Saviour.

When we say yes to Jesus how does that influence our behaviour? If there is no difference in our attitude towards God's people and all of His creation then what have we accepted in Christ?

If we are in God's image then our lives should declare the desire for Hope and the active seeking of Peace.

What better time of year than Advent to start sharing the Hope God gives? Really good practice for when we celebrate Easter and declare God's promise fulfilled!

What are you going to do this Christmas to show God's Hope and Peace in your life, with your family and friends or in the wider community? Who is on your guest list for your Christmas meal ~ just the family or have you a neighbour who is going to be home alone unless you ask them to join you for dinner or tea? Would it cost you so much to show God's love in this simple gesture or in some other creative way that shares His love? Maybe you cannot invite your neighbour in on Christmas Day but you could invite them to our Carols for Christmas next Sunday evening. Your neighbour may say no of course ~ but that is ok ~ what is important is that it is in your natural thought process to consider how you can share God's love through your actions ~ (words might come later ~ leave that to the work of the Holy Spirit)

**~ You know Jesus so consider making Him known ~
using the gifts God has given you.**



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