

The Marden Vale Team Ministry
Christ Church, Derry Hill – St. John the Baptist, Foxham – St. Martin, Bremhill
Sunday 22nd November – Sunday next before Advent
Christ the King

COVID-19 and SUNDAY WORSHIP

In accordance with Government regulations church services are suspended from 5th November until 2nd December.

This Sunday's [online service](#) by the Marden Vale Team Ministry comes from Derry Hill where we celebrate Christ the King



Also available:

8.10am Sunday Worship on BBC Radio 4

9am [Church of England online](#)

2.15pm Songs of Praise on BBC1

Bells

Tune in to 'Bells on Sunday' on Radio 4 at 5.43am. Or listen later [online](#) From St Mary Magdalene, Ditcheat, Somerset.



Private Prayer (1 individual or household at a time)

Christ Church, Derry Hill

Thur to Sat 10am-3pm Sun 12-3pm

St Martin's, Bremhill Daily 9am-4pm

Calne Food Bank at Church House, 30 Church St., Calne: 12-4pm Tue & Fri, 10am-1pm Wed
Visit [Calne Food Bank](#) for more information.

Advent

There will be a Marden Vale Team 'Zoom Compline' on Weds and Fri evenings at 8pm beginning 2nd Dec. A link will be sent out next week.

Look out for the virtual **Advent Calendar** from 1st Dec.

You can find out how to support your local church through the [Parish Giving Scheme](#)

Keeping in touch Contact Linda 01249 817926 or email lindac@mardenvale.org.uk
Website www.mardenvale.org.uk
Derry Hill's [Facebook page](#)

Prayer Join the Church of England Daily Prayer by visiting our website: www.mardenvale.org.uk and clicking on 'Pray' on the top line.

In the coming week please also pray for:

- all who are affected by coronavirus, all who work on the frontline to keep us safe, to help the sick, to keep us fed...
- for continued progress with vaccines
- all those affected by storm, flood, fire and earthquake - especially Greece & Turkey
- the people of the US during the transition of administrations
- an end to the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan
- a ceasefire in Ethiopia to enable aid to reach people suffering through this conflict
- those who are anxious, exhausted, isolated. May those whose mental health is fragile be able to access the counselling, medication and support they need
- our local schools-for everyone to stay healthy
- local shops and businesses
- Kingston House residents and all who work there
- Lucy Ayles (YWAM) as she leads & teaches at Discipleship Training School
- the work of Christian Aid
- our brothers and sisters in Sudan (especially with refugees fleeing conflict in Ethiopia) & South Sudan
- all who are sick, awaiting diagnosis, those in hospital. Especially we pray for: **Mark Steele, Christine Gundry, Mark Jennings, Lynne Cottrell, Rob Simons, Len Jones, Jacob Maloy, Paul Crayford, Helen Lewis, Jackson Goodship, Jane Jordan, Angela Barker, Liz Kinch, Doreen Williams, Bill Norman, Brenda Beint, Sonia Strange, Barbara Starr and Chris Bird.**
- All who have died in recent weeks, the bereaved, and all whose anniversary of death falls at this time.
- **Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Pray for the Church of Bermuda (Extra-Provincial to the Archbishop of Canterbury), The Rt Revd Nicholas Dill – Bishop of Bermuda

Light a Candle May I encourage you to continue this practice of praying, and lighting a candle and placing it in a window as a sign of hope each Sunday evening.

Join the Archbishops' call for [Prayer for the Nation](#) each evening at 6pm during November

*Loving God, at this time of crisis
when so many are suffering,
we pray for our nation and our world.
Give our leaders wisdom,
our Health Service strength,
our people hope.*

*Lead us through these parched and difficult days
to the fresh springs of joy and comfort that we find in
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

Readings for Christ the King

Collect

God the Father,
help us to hear the call of Christ the King
and to follow in his service,
whose kingdom has no end;
for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, one glory.

Psalm 95:1-7

O come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!
For the Lord is a great God,
and a great King above all gods.
In his hand are the depths of the earth;
the heights of the mountains are his also.
The sea is his, for he made it,
and the dry land, which his hands have formed.

O come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!
For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep of his hand.

O that today you would listen to his voice!

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

For thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

Luke 19: 29-38

When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, "Why are you untying it?" just say this: "The Lord needs it."' So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, 'Why are you untying the colt?' They said, 'The Lord needs it.' Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying,
'Blessed is the king
who comes in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven,
and glory in the highest heaven!'

St. Cecilia

On 22nd November the Church also remembers St. Cecilia. Very little is known for certain about her other than in the second or third century, a woman called Cecilia allowed Christians to meet in her home in Rome. The church built on this site is dedicated to her. Cecilia was martyred on this day in about the year 230 and she is honoured as the patron saint of musicians.



St. Augustine, in his Exposition of the Psalms, wrote of the joy of singing: "What is this joy I speak of, this singing exultantly? It is an inner melody that means our hearts are bursting with feeling that words cannot contain. And to whom does such joy belong if not to the God who is beyond language? When words will not come, and you cannot keep silent, what else can you do but let the melody soar? What else can you do when the rejoicing heart runs out of words and the intensity of your joy will not be imprisoned by language? What else can you do but to sing out to God with 'songs of joy'?"

Indeed, how can we keep from singing? In 1991 Enya released "[How can I keep from singing?](#)" and in 2006 [Chris Tomlin](#) released a very different song of the same name. I love them both. Music and song, with or without words, has the power to make our spirits soar. When we lift our voices to God in lament or praise I believe it is a healing experience. This setting of Psalm 51 by Gregorio Allegri is on my playlist at the moment [Miserere mei](#). Today, why not find your favourite piece, whatever it may be, and let the gift of music be your joy or consolation?

