

St. John's, Tupton

Sunday 9 December 2018

HOLY COMMUNION

WELCOME

Please take the opportunity before the service to be still before God.
To pray for those taking part in the service and for those sitting near you.

Prayer items:

Please pray for all people around the world who are currently suffering extreme hunger and for those aid agencies struggling to help.

As the winter weather begins to bite please pray for those who are homeless and on the streets as well as those who may have a roof over their head but are unable to afford heating & food.

Pray for all those who strive to help them locally and nationally. For the work of Church on the Bus in Chesterfield area plus Centrepoint, Grace Chapel and Clay Cross and Chesterfield Foodbanks.

Pray for all the North Wingfield Team clergy & Readers in their ministry.

Pray for the whole Church Family here at St John's both individually and as a Body and give thanks for the gifts each person has & shares.

Pray for all the people of Tupton that they come to know Jesus more.

Pray for ways to show the true meaning of Christmas to others amongst all that is going on in the world.

Let's pray for a growth of faith here at St John's and a great desire to get to know Jesus more and more deeply.

Pray for the Holy Spirit to work with us and for us.

Please hold in your prayers: Marcia & Merv, Eileen, Hannah, Margaret Cowlishaw, Sandra, Ellie, Caroline, Rachel & Phil, Norman & Melanie, Robert, Linda, Karin, Paul, Leanne & Laura and anyone else who needs God's healing touch.

Next Sunday

16 December 2018

Zephaniah 3: 14-20

Luke 3: 7 - 18

Morning Worship

Leading: Marie

Speaker: Janet

Reading: Bill & Nigel

Prayers: Sandra

Welcoming: Eileen

Collection: We do not take an offering in the services but there is a plate at the back of the church.

St. John's Church
is part of the North
Wingfield Team Ministry.
Parish Office:
(01246) 852281
Administrator:
Melanie Earland

Visit us on the web at
www.stjohnstupton.co.uk

If you require prayer
please contact:
Rev Colin Cooper
07794 845205

Notices:

Join us as we follow the star.

All Age Service

2 December 10 am

Holy Communion

9 December 10 am

Morning Worship

16 December 10 am

Carols by Candlelight

16 December 6 pm

Holy Communion

23 December 10 am

Christingle

24 December 4 pm

Midnight Holy Communion

24 December 11:30 pm



Please stay & have a cup of tea or coffee after the service.

Readings:

1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18

Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. According to the Lord's word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

With Christmas in mind....

Which Christmas carol is most popular with new parents? Silent Night!

Where do mistletoe go to become famous? Holly-wood

Why is turkey so popular at Christmas? Because the weather is a lot warmer over there.

Why do Mummies like Christmas so much? Because of all the wrapping!

What is the best Christmas present in the world? A broken drum - you just can't beat it!

What's impossible to overtake at Christmas? - The three wise men!

How do snowmen get around? On their icicles.

What does Santa call reindeer that don't work? Dinner.

I sent my girlfriend a huge pile of snow. I rang her up and asked, 'Did you get my drift?'

God's Special Gift

For those of us about to spend Christmas with a new child or grandchild, we will know how very special the arrival of a baby is! This Christmas we celebrate again God's gift of Jesus: *'Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!'* (2 Corinthians 9:15). What can we say about this baby?

He is God Himself:

The unthinkable has happened: God has become a human being! The eternal, creator God enters the world of time and space, both fully human and fully divine. This divine baby can bring hope to our messy world, because He has fully become part of it. He doesn't stand apart, but demonstrates a commitment to be with us and on our side in the midst of sin and suffering.

He is human like us:

Jesus fully engaged with the jungle of human experience. By His cross and resurrection, He can release us from the power of wrong, hurt and shame to secure for us a life of love, peace and forgiveness.

Remember, the crib and cross are made of the same wood!

He is one with us:

In the coming of Jesus, God doesn't draw us simply into a cosmic event, but into a relationship. Just as you or I can hold and hug our children and grandchildren, so we have a God who wants to be intimately involved in our lives. As Emmanuel, *'God is with us'* (Matt 1:23). Therefore, the question is: *Are we with Him? Are we ready to make space for Him at the center of our Christmas Celebrations this year?*

At Christmas time, when we receive presents we don't really need, God offers us a gift we cannot do without.' (J John).

As for giving generously over Christmas:

Let us give according to our incomes lest God make our incomes to match our gifts. *Anon*

The world provides enough for every man's need but not for every man's greed. *Gandhi*

If we have God in all things while they are ours, we shall have all things in God when they are taken away. *Anon*

It is easier to renounce worldly possessions than it is to renounce the love of them. *Walter Hilton*