

**Welcome to our worship
especially if you are a visitor.**

During both services we will be licensing those who assist with the administration of Holy Communion.

10am Service will begin with handbells playing 'O come, O come Emmanuel.'

Opening Hymn 57

Hymns are not sung at 8.30 service

The Collect (prayer for the day)

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

First Reading *Isaiah 64.1-9*

¹O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence – ²as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil – to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence!

³When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.

⁴From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. ⁵You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. ⁶We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. ⁷There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. ⁸Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. ⁹Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity for ever. Now consider, we are all your people.

Second Reading *Psalm 80.1-8,18-20*

Turn us again, O Lord God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, & we shall be saved.

¹ Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, you that led Joseph like a flock;

² Shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim, before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh.

³ Stir up your mighty strength and come to our salvation.

⁴ **Turn us again, O Lord God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, & we shall be saved.**

⁵ O Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angry at your people's prayer?

⁶ You feed them with the bread of tears; you give them abundance of tears to drink.

⁷ You have made us the derision of our neighbours, and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

⁸ **Turn us again, O Lord God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, & we shall be saved.**

¹⁸ Let your hand be upon the man at your right hand, the son of man you made so strong for yourself.

¹⁹ And so will we not go back from you; give us life, and we shall call upon your name.

²⁰ **Turn us again, O Lord God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, & we shall be saved.**

Hymn 944 (keep your place as repeated after the Gospel!)

Gospel Mark 13.24-37

Jesus said to his disciples: ²⁴In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, ²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁶Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in clouds" with great power and glory. ²⁷Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. ²⁸From the fig

tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place.

³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. ³²'But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. ³⁵Therefore, keep awake – for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

We sing **944** as Sunday School leaves

Sermon Canon Janet

The Intercessions are led by

8.30am Janice Wones

10am Dorothea Matsveru

Offertory Hymn 405

During this hymn the collection is taken. If you are a UK tax payer please place your offering in a yellow envelope and complete the details on the front. Please ask about our regular giving schemes.

Hymns during the administration of Holy Communion 655, 265

Post-Communion Prayer

O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Recessional Hymn 557

Please turn to face the middle of the church as the choir and clergy pass by.

NOTICES

Tonight at 5.30pm! Churches Together in Northfield **Ecumenical Service** at Northfield Methodists. All welcome.

Mothers' Union AGM and Christmas buffet lunch on Monday 4 December – 12.30pm in the Pastoral Centre. Please let Rowena know if you are planning to attend. Thank you.

The lunch will be followed by the **Community Christmas** planning team meeting at 2.30pm.

If you would like to help with this year's Community Christmas please put your name on the relevant list in the church porch asap.

Choir for Carol Service (17 Dec)

We had the first rehearsal last Monday and made a really good start – the music is MUCH easier than last year's! We could do with some more singers – especially alto and tenor voices. No audition required but you do need to attend the remaining rehearsals which are in church

8-9pm Monday's 4 & 11 Dec. The Carol Service is Sunday 17 December at 4pm (with rehearsal at 2.30pm).

Candlelit Compline for Advent

8.30pm – 9pm **Wednesdays** starting this week. Please enter church VERY quietly as it will be open from 8pm with quiet music, as a time of reflection and the **Advent & Christmas Prayer Tree will be available.** During this time of preparation and expectant waiting for the celebration of the nativity, we also remember those whom we have loved and died. By the pricket stand at the back of church we have set up a prayer tree. Please add the name of your loved one, together with any message, on a card bauble and hang it on the tree.

Gridiron Walk Thursday 7 December 2017. Annual Christmas canal walk to the German Market from Bournville. 9.34 train from Northfield. For further info contact Chris Michael 459 7556.

Christmas Jazz Evening – This coming Friday 8th December - featuring our very own Roy Dutton. Tickets are now on sale price £10 – not many tickets left. Rowena

Christingle Service is next Sunday at 8.30 & 10am

Please collect a Christingle Collection Candle to collect your small (or large!) change to raise money for the Children's Society – the collection boxes should be brought back to church on Sunday 10 December or asap after that. Thank you

Following our very successful 'Beer and Hymns' at *The Great Stone*, we now offer **Beer and Carols** on Sunday 10 December 8 – 8.45pm. Do come along and bring a friend. Also, we are holding a stall at *The Great Stone* Christmas Fair on Thursday 14 Dec from 4 – 8pm(ish!).

Northfield Methodist Church Tree-fest on Thurs 14, Frid 15 and Sat 16 Dec (2-5pm with late open till 7pm on Friday). A variety of interesting trees + refreshments, model railway, making miniature trees, and on Saturday a Santa's grotto and face-painting. Donations welcome!

Parish Christmas Card delivery

Please can you help deliver some cards? They are available in packs of 20. There is a list of streets in the parish available. Please sign up again the street(s) you can do – they are in groups of streets close together, but you don't have to do the whole group. Please do NOT deliver cards outside the parish as they 'belong' to another church!

Weekly events in Pastoral Centre

'Stay and Play' (Parent/carer and baby/toddler group) Mondays in term - time 9.30-11am.

Gridiron Coffee Morning with games! Tuesdays 10 – 11.30am.

The Gridiron Diary -The Gridiron is a non-fundraising social arm of the church, open to all. It relies on people offering to organise an activity or event at a time to suit them, so spreading the workload. There is no committee, just a diary secretary, or secretaries, to organise a

meeting at the start of the year and then publicise the annual programme. It is not time consuming. After six enjoyable years, Chris and Stuart Andrew are stepping down. If anyone would like to take on the role as diary secretary(ies) or would like more information, please contact us: Tel: 0121 628 0425 e-mail js.andrew@live.co.uk.

For your prayers

Pray for those who are ill including: Richard Barber (now back home). Please pray for Steph and all the family too. Also Stephen Scriven (Lorraine's son).

Those who have died

Diane Easton(Merle's sister), Alfred Douglas (Doug) Morgan

Prayer requests may be left in the book by the 'Mary Altar.' They are included in *Morning and Evening Prayer* several times a week.

Baptism & Wedding Enquiries

Please come to the Parish Surgery on 1st & 3rd Wed of month 6-7pm in the Pastoral Centre 173 Church Road, Northfield, B31 2LX

Contact Details

Parish Office – 0121 475 1518
Rectory – 0121 477 3111
Parish Office – stlaurence@btconnect.com
Rector – janet.rectory@gmail.com

Website: www.stlaurencenorthfield.org

Twitter: @stlaurenceb31

Rector: @janetchapman5

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www.facebook.com/StLaurenceChurchNorthfield

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