

THE CHURCH @ THE PINES WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

ORDER OF SERVICE 1st December

LEADER: Brian Gennery

Welcome and notices followed by Quiet time

Call to worship

Lighting the first candle

Hymn – He's got the whole world in His hands

Prayers

Reading – Genesis 2 vv 4 – 7

Look at your orange, Sing Christingle verse 1

Reading – Leviticus 19 vv 9 -10

Look at the fruit and sweets, Sing Christingle verse 2

Reading – Mark 15 vv 22 – 30

Look at the red ribbon, Sing Christingle verse 3

Reading – John 8 vv 12 – 18

Look at the candle, Sing Christingle verse 4

Talk – what is Advent?

Sing Christingle all verses

Prayers of intercession and The Lord's Prayer

Hymn O come, O Come Immanuel

Blessing

Grace

Coffee

The YouTube link to view the live stream on Sunday is:

https://youtube.com/live/ktxMB36_aWk?feature=share



PRAYERS THIS WEEK:

In this Advent of expectation
draw us together in unity,
that our praise and
worship
might echo in these walls
and also through our
lives.

In this Advent of expectation
draw us together in
mission,
that the hope within
might be the song we
sing,
and the melody of our
lives.

In this Advent of expectation
draw us together in
service,
that the path we follow
might lead us from a
stable
to a glimpse of eternity.

We pray especially at this time for Fred as he begins chemotherapy treatment, Beth's Mum who is very unwell, and Kate who has been unwell and is awaiting results from her Doctor. We pray for strength and healing for them all.

This week we pray for all those living in Spinis. May they know your love and presence in their lives.

NOTICES

30th Anniversary Service – 8th December

We are really looking forward to celebrating 30 wonderful years of worship at Church @ the Pines.

The special service on Sunday 8th December will start at the usual time of 11am.

If you have let Brian know you are attending, please make sure to attend! We are looking forward to having a large congregation on the day, with members of our church and other churches in the circuit and beyond!

Dates for your diary – Christmas services

- 1st December – Christingle Service
- 8th December – 30 years service
- 15th December – Nativity service
- 22nd December – Carol Service
- 25th December – 9.30am Christmas Day service
- 29th December – no service at Church @ the Pines – circuit service at Woosehill and streamed online, further details to follow
- 5th January 2025 – 11am service as usual at Church @ the Pines



Christmas Choir!

We are really hoping to bring together a small choir for our Carol Service on 22nd December. If you enjoy singing, please do consider joining us so we can truly raise the roof on the 22nd !

This year, we are having rehearsals on Sunday mornings before our service hoping this will be more convenient for people than weeknight rehearsals.

We will have a short rehearsal starting at 10.30am on the following dates:

1st December

15th December

22nd December (before the Carol service itself)

Please do chat with Sarah or Indira about joining us.

Church Finances

We do not take a collection during the service but a Response Box (for cash) and a contactless machine (for cards) is on the Information Table, should you wish to make a donation to the work of our Church.

Alternatively, you could sign a Standing Order form committing to regular monthly giving, which allows our Treasurer (Ben) to monitor the church finances more closely. Please do speak with Ben if you wish to make arrangements for this.

NOTICES FROM ST MICHAEL'S

School Admissions

To make the system fair and transparent, those wishing to apply to St Michael's or Ranelagh church schools on church attendance criteria will be asked to sign a register at the back of church each time they attend (even if they have a sibling at the school). To make sure that all new signees understand the admissions criteria we ask that you email the parish office to make an appointment.

Please note: Please go to the relevant school website for the latest admissions policy.



READINGS

Genesis 2:4-7

This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created, when the LORD God made the earth and the heavens. Now no shrub had yet appeared on the earth and no plant had yet sprung up, for the LORD God had not sent rain on the earth and there was no one to work the ground, but streams came up from the earth and watered the whole surface of the ground. Then the LORD God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.

Leviticus 19: 9-10

9 “When you reap the harvest of your land, do not reap to the very edges of your field or gather the gleanings of your harvest. 10 Do not go over your vineyard a second time or pick up the grapes that have fallen. Leave them for the poor and the foreigner. I am the LORD your God.

Mark 15: 22-30

They brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means “the place of the skull”). Then they offered him wine mixed with myrrh, but he did not take it. And they crucified him. Dividing up his clothes, they cast lots to see what each would get. It was nine in the morning when they crucified him. The written notice of the charge against him read: THE KING OF THE JEWS. They crucified two rebels with him, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by hurled insults at him, shaking their heads and saying, “So! You who are going to destroy the temple and build it in three days, come down from the cross and save yourself !”

John 8: 12-18

When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” The Pharisees challenged him, “Here you are, appearing as your own witness; your testimony is not valid.” Jesus answered, “Even if I testify on my own behalf, my testimony is valid, for I know where I came from and where I am going. But you have no idea where I come from or where I am going.

You judge by human standards; I pass judgment on no one. But if I do judge, my decisions are true, because I am not alone. I stand with the Father, who sent me. In your own Law it is written that the testimony of two witnesses is true. I am one who testifies for myself; my other witness is the Father, who sent me.”

