

# Welcome to St Andrew's

21<sup>st</sup> January 2024



**It's lovely to have you worshipping with us today, if you are new, we would love to welcome you, please do introduce yourself to one of our welcomers on the door. If you need any help or information, they will be happy to assist.**

**To find out more about what's on at St Andrew's please see our website and Facebook pages;**

**<https://standrewseg.co.uk/>**

**<https://www.facebook.com/StAndrewsChurchEasternGreen/>**

## **The Third Sunday of Epiphany**

### **Collect**

God of all mercy,  
your Son proclaimed good news to the poor,  
release to the captives,  
and freedom to the oppressed:  
anoint us with your Holy Spirit  
and set all your people free  
to praise you in Christ our Lord.

### **Post Communion**

Almighty Father,  
whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ is the light of the world:  
may your people,  
illuminated by your word and sacraments,  
shine with the radiance of his glory,  
that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed  
to the ends of the earth;  
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

## **First Reading: Psalm 139: 1-6 & 13-16**

The Inescapable God

To the leader. Of David. A Psalm.

<sup>1</sup> O LORD, you have searched me and known me.

<sup>2</sup> You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.

<sup>3</sup> You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways.

<sup>4</sup> Even before a word is on my tongue, O LORD, you know it completely.

<sup>5</sup> You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

<sup>6</sup> Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.

<sup>13</sup> For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

<sup>14</sup> I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

<sup>15</sup> My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

<sup>16</sup> Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed.

NRSVA (New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised)

## **Gospel Reading: Matthew 28:16 to end**

The Commissioning of the Disciples

<sup>16</sup> Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. <sup>17</sup> When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. <sup>18</sup> And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

NRSVA (New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised)

## **Notices**

### **Questions of faith?**

Why not join us for Alpha? Alpha is a short course where each week we discuss aspects of the Christian faith. It's a chance to ask all the questions you never quite dared to, in a relaxed friendly environment. We start with a light supper, then there will be a short talk and a time of discussion. We will start on Monday 29th January at 6pm 'till 7.30pm and run for 8 weeks up until Easter. Why not come along and try a session to see if it's for you? To find out more and speak to Rev Jo on 07588 576351.

### **Can you help?**

We need people to sign up to support our alpha course by providing food for each session. Ideally, we would like at least 2 people each week. You don't need to be a good cook, you are welcome to buy something and bring that. Food can be brought on a Sunday for the Monday if that's helpful. You can also keep the receipts and claim back if needed. Please sign up on the sheet at the back of church. Please also be keeping the course and its participants in your prayers. Any questions chat to Jo. Thanks

### **Prayer Ministry**

Every week before a service the Prayer Ministry Team will pray for the church, the congregation and for that day's service. On the third Sunday of each month members of the Prayer Team will be available to any member of the congregation who would like a prayer to cover a specific situation – either for themselves or a loved one when two members of the team will join with that person to pray with him or her after the service. The members of the team are Lynnette, Jeremy, Rita and Sara. Confidentiality is assured and permission will be sought to share with the Prayer Team who, will continue to pray on their behalf.

### **Prayer Book**

There is a book placed at the back of the church in memory of Lesley Lee, in which you are invited to enter the name of someone for whom you would like to be held in prayer. Please feel free to make an entry in the book knowing those named will be held in prayer by the Prayer Group.

### **Tots Time**

Tots time is our new Tots group for babies toddlers and their carers. The next few dates are: 25<sup>th</sup> Jan, 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb, 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> March. Pop in any time from 8.45am, finishing around 10.15am.

### **Time to Pray 2024**

As we start the new year, we invite you to join us to pray together for our mission and witness for 2024. The first Saturday in the month will be a

time to come together to pray and to listen to God as we think about what God is calling us to be and do as a church, within our parish and also beyond to the new estate. We will meet in church at 9.30am on 3<sup>rd</sup> February and 2<sup>nd</sup> March. There will be coffee and pastries available after the time of prayer. Sue Masters, [susanmasters@skycom](mailto:susanmasters@skycom)

### **Flower Rota**

The 2024 Flower Rota is at the back of church. I have made it a two-weekly rota to help with finances. If there is a specific date on which you would like to have flowers in the church (if that date is not already listed, just let me know or write the date and your name on the bottom of the rota). As last year, I can do the flowers for you, or you can source and arrange the flowers yourselves. Julia McNaney.

### **Craft and Hobby Fair**

Our next Craft and Hobby Fair will be on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February from 1.30pm - 4.30pm at Eastern Green Village Hall. We are looking for donations of books and jigsaws, including children's. If you have any to donate please speak to Rebecca Martin in church or contact Julie on 07756 918847 or [administrator@standrews-eg.org.uk](mailto:administrator@standrews-eg.org.uk). Thank you.

### **Donations**

Should you wish to give online to support the work of the church, the link below or the QR code will take you directly to the page. It is a secure way of supporting the churches ministry. Thank you for your ongoing support. Nick Tooby.

<https://givealittle.co/campaigns/eef64318-0a22-4db7-8d81-0ab3ccddf15d>



Diary Dates	Time	Event
Sun 21 <sup>st</sup> Jan	10.00am	Holy Communion
Mon 22 <sup>nd</sup> Jan	9.30am	Morning Prayer
	7.30pm	History Group AGM
Tues 23 <sup>rd</sup> Jan	11.00am	Bereavement Group Meeting
Weds 24 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10.00am	Wednesday Communion
Thurs 25 <sup>th</sup> Jan	8.45am	Tots Time
Sun 28 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10.00am	Holy Communion

***Please send notices for next week to Julie by Thursday, email [administrator@standrews-eg.org.uk](mailto:administrator@standrews-eg.org.uk) or call 07756 918847***