



Advent 2

7 December 2025

Advent 2, 7 December

8am Holy Communion: Order II Traditional

Readings: Romans 15.4-13
Please others not yourselves
Matthew 3.1-12
John the Baptist prepares the way

Collect: O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever. Amen

10am All Together Communion
including gifts of toys

Zoom Join Zoom Meeting: [CLICK HERE](#)
Meeting ID: 861 3500 8616.
Passcode: 599753
Landline dial in contact: 0330 088 5830
N.B. Please MUTE when joining Zoom

followed by coffee, wine, nibbles, cake and fellowship in the Chapter House

Monday 8 December

7pm Night Prayer

Tuesday 9 December

2pm St Andrew's West Carol Service

Wednesday 10 December

5pm-6pm St Andrew's West Carol Service

Thursday 11 December

9:30am Holy Communion
Readings: Isaiah 41.13-20
Matthew 11.11-15

Followed by coffee and fellowship, Chapter House

11am St Andrew's East Carol Service

6pm St Andrew's East Carol Service

Evening Youth Groups (see website for details)

Saturday 13 December

10am - 12pm Coffee Shop and Warm Spaces,
Chapter House

Sunday 14 December

10am Parish Communion

6pm Sunday@6

Vicar: Revd. Liz Oglesby-Elong (01767 312243)

Churchwardens: Chris Parker (07702 250776)
Nettie van de Weerd (07767 711353)

Administration Assistant: Susan Thorn (01767 317207)
secretary@standrewschurchbw.org.uk

Licensed Lay Minister: Rosemary Bentley (07885 431928)
romybentley@aol.com

All copy for inclusion in Sunday Pew Sheets to be sent to:
office@standrewschurchbw.org.uk by Tuesdays, 11am

www.standrewschurchbiggleswade.org.uk

office@standrewschurchbw.org.uk



Facebook: @StAndrewsBiggleswade



Instagram: @StAndrewsBiggleswade

bookings@standrewschurchbw.org.uk



Requesting our Prayers: Joan Betts, Liz Lavelle, Tim Robb, Marcus Smith, Derek and Gill Whinnett, Yvonne. We continue to pray for: Ricardo Landsman, Julia Pilgrim

We pray for the souls of the recently departed: For families and friends preparing for services of thanksgiving and celebration of life. We remember with prayers and thankful, privileged, memories those whose Year's Mind fall at this time: Heather Snell (7th), Doris Turner (8th), James Donovan (9th), Martin Gray (11th), Alison Kitch (13th), Ann Milton (13th), Stanley Morley (13th).

Mafambisa: We remember the people of our partner community of Mafambisa, for the vulnerable and orphaned children, the care workers, the caregivers and all who support them. By name this week we pray for care-worker: Virginia and children: Enos, Life, Tomas, Khetho, Sphesihle, Thabang, Thabo.

Christmas Wreath-Making and Soup Lunch

We are pleased to offer a Christmas wreath-making workshop on Saturday 6 December from 10am-12 noon. This will conclude with a 'soup and roll lunch' for a minimum donation of £10 towards Church Funds. There is a sign up sheet on the noticeboard in the foyer. Please bring any appropriate small dried fruits or flowers, cones or greenery.

Revd Liz

Sunday 7 December 10am All Together Communion, including gifts of toys

This year's toy donations will go to the Need Project based in Stotfold. They are a local Christian charity which works with different organisations and authorities to assist people when in need of support in our local area. They ask that toys are **brand new** and NOT wrapped which enables them to go to the most suitable recipient. Gift Cards for appropriate companies are also welcome to enable teenagers to choose something they would like. (If you are unable or don't attend the 10am Sunday Service but would like to donate please contact me on 07800 577106 to facilitate this).

Lucy Dilley

New Beginnings & Advent Quiet Time

As we enter a new Church Year and the Season of Advent we are once again invited and encouraged to give ourselves space and quiet, to stop and reflect, time to listen to God afresh. During Advent we are invited at 7pm on Mondays 8 and 15 December for Advent Night Prayer and 9.30am on Thursdays for Advent Holy Communion, as well as daily Open Church, and our main 10am Parish Communion on Sunday mornings. In prayerful preparation before all services, please can we give space for personal "Quiet Time" and therefore please avoid business and long conversations before the service. *The Churchwardens*

Christmas bookstall The Christmas bookstall is now open in the Chapter House with a selection of Christmas cards and Advent candles.

Chris Parker

Christmas Home Communion

If you, or a relative, friend or neighbour, wishes to receive Communion at home during the Christmas season, please inform the Administration Assistant as soon as possible, providing your contact details to her. Thank you. secretary@standrewschurchbw.org.uk

Revd Liz

Carol Singing 17 and 18 December

This year's community carol singing, to which you are all invited, is focused on King's Reach and the St Andrew's estate. If you could help to deliver leaflets advertising this in either area, we would be grateful. You will find bundles of leaflets in the entrance which we would like to deliver to those two areas to encourage them to join in. Please take one or two bundles and deliver them between 10 and the 16 December.

Growth and Mission

Advent Prayer Tree A Christmas tree is beside the votive candle stand with labels to put the name of a person, an organisation, or a group of people you feel needs prayer this Christmas. Your prayers will be commended during the service on 21 December.



Mafambisa 2026

We will be taking a team to Africa again next year and are keen to hear from anyone interested in joining the team. Please speak to Chris Parker or Oliver Dilley if you are interested. We expect the dates to be 1 - 14 August 2026.

Oliver Dilley and Chris Parker

Warm Spaces

Warm Spaces will be available in the Chapter House on Saturdays from 10am till 12noon and Thursdays from 10:30am-11:30am, finishing on 21 March. On Thursday 11 December the Community Agent Julie Balaam will join us again to help with any questions you may have on benefits, disabled badges, housing issues etc. Warm Spaces will be closed on 25 and 27 December and on 1 and 3 January. *Nettie van de Weerd*

Food Bank Reverse Advent Calendar As usual we're working with Biggleswade Baptist Church to help with food parcels over the Christmas period. If you can help by putting together a box/bag of items (one for each day of Advent) there are notices and flyers with suggestions on the notice board and in the foyer. Donations for Christmas are needed by **Thursday 18 December**, but any further donations will be used in the New Year - still school holidays and difficult for many families. *Maggie McLoughlin and Anna Rutt*

Weekly Prayer Lists

Praying for the sick is a very important and valued part of our ministry. In order to keep our prayers current, from 30 November, we will pray for those on the list for 4 weeks.

If you wish this period to be extended, please inform the Admin Assistant at the end of that time:

secretary@standrewschurchbw.org.uk

Revd. Liz

Stewardship Envelope Packs

New packs of addressed Stewardship Envelopes are ready for collecting from the back of the Church for users of the weekly envelope scheme. The Packs are on the table by the South Porch. The new Packs start in December so please collect them as soon as possible.

If you want more information about the ways you can make regular donations to the Church, then please have a word with me or telephone me on 01767 312347.

Adrian Maynard

Churchyard Flower beds

As you probably know Jan Gardner has now moved away and this leaves a big hole in our churchyard team. We are really grateful to Jan for all that she did in the church yard to keep it looking so good. We would now like to recruit people to take on the flower beds that Jan looked after. The good thing is that the flower beds are already in great condition. Please speak to Chris Parker, Vaughan Johnson, or John Dilley if you would like to care of a flower bed.

MU Christmas Soup Lunch Thursday 18 December 12noon -2pm

Festive fayre and carols. All welcome. No set price, donate what you can.

Maggie McLoughlin

Food Bank

Please consider adding an item to your shopping basket to help those in need in our area. Current needs are: tinned carrots, custard, rice pudding, tinned bolognese. You may wish to include a Christmas treat (in the next 2 weeks—to ensure Christmas distribution) Items can be put in the box in church or at the supermarket.

Maggie McLoughlin and Anna Rutt

Flowers/ Window Displays Request

There are currently a small team of flower arrangers who kindly create amazing displays for certain windows for major festivals and who I hope will continue to do so, however I am looking for some additional support and help! I am looking for volunteers who are willing to arrange flowers in a vase or donate—perhaps on special occasions. There is a quieter time coming up as we do not have flowers in Advent but then the Christmas season will be here. I have engaged with some groups linked to the church who seem enthusiastic to offer their creative gifts for the window displays which I am delighted to have onboard. If you would like to support this in ANY way (financial, creativity or suggestions) please contact me on 07800577106. lucydilley18@gmail.com

Lucy Dilley

Easy Fundraising

Thank you to those who used easyfundraising when shopping online; we have received a payout of £22.82 this quarter. If you shop online why not sign up at easyfundraising.org.uk and select St Andrews Church Biggleswade as your cause to support? After registering with them just head to the website when shopping and see if the retailer you want to use is on the list, click the link and shop as usual. Any questions please don't hesitate to ask. The pennies raised on every transaction soon add up. Anna Rutt

Social Media

Keeping in touch with family and friends is something as a Church we are trying to undertake through the use of our social media platforms. Please do contact Oliver Dilley or Jessica Mephram with any ideas, thoughts or content for the social media pages. In the meantime please continue to like, follow and share our social media accounts.

Facebook: @standrewsbiggleswade Instagram: @standrewsbiggleswade

Future Dates

8 & 15 December	7pm	Advent Night Prayer
17 December	6pm	Carols on the lawn
18 December	6pm	Carols—King's Reach and St Andrew's Park, <i>followed by drinks at King's Reach</i>
20 December	10:30am-12noon	Nativity Tableau (please sign up on sheet in foyer)

Living God, draw us deeper into your love; Jesus our Lord, send us to care and serve, Holy Spirit make us heralds of good news. Stir us, strengthen us teach and inspire us to live your love with generosity and joy, imagination and courage, for the sake of your world and in the name of Jesus. Amen

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