

Christ Church Higher Bebington

Sunday 18th January 2026

Epiphany 2



Welcomers: Jill & Graham Loach and Hannah & John McCulloch

Next week: Bev Price, Grace Fagan & Heather Whitehead

Welcome to Christ Church! We are all one in the Spirit!

This morning we welcome Bishop Julie, Bishop of Birkenhead, who will preside and preach at our 10.00am Parish Communion Service.

HYMNS

- 94 Come let us join our cheerful songs
- 409 Open our eyes we want to see Jesus
- 560 Will you come and follow me
- 500 There is a Redeemer

Prayer for the week

Almighty God,
in Christ you make all things new:
transform the poverty of our nature by
the riches of your grace,
and in the renewal of our lives
make known your heavenly glory;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Thoughts for the week:

"To the artist He is the one altogether lovely, and to the educator He is the master teacher. To the philosopher He is the wisdom of God, and to the lonely He is a brother; to the sorrowful, a comforter to the bereaved, the resurrection and the life. And to the sinner he is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin from the world."
- John Gerstner

"Faith is not a once-done act, but a continuous gaze of the heart at the Triune God."
- Aiden Wilson Tozer

"I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen: not only because I see it, but because by it, I see everything else."
- C.S. Lewis

At our Service of the Word next **Sunday 25th January, 10.00am**, Bernie Frost from Charles Thompson's Mission will be speaking about their work. Bernie will be bringing a van and would be delighted to take any donations of good quality clothing including shoes, socks and underwear, particularly for men of slim build. Please bring your donations to this service.

The first reading is from 1 Corinthians 1: 1-9 (NIV UK)

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

² To the church of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be his holy people, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ – their Lord and ours:

³ Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Thanksgiving


⁴ I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. ⁵ For in him you have been enriched in every way – with all kinds of speech and with all knowledge – ⁶ God thus confirming our testimony about Christ among you. ⁷ Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. ⁸ He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Regular Activities at Christ Church

Monday 19th January



9.00am Morning Prayer on Zoom 

9.30am Toddler Group

1.30pm Sit Fit - chair-based exercises

Tuesday 20th January



10.30am Singing Café

12.30pm 4Cs Carers' Group



Wednesday 21st January



10.00am Baby Group 

10.00am Connect Café

10.30am Holy Communion

1.30pm Knit & Natter & the Sewing Group

Thursday 22nd January



10.30am Line Dancing

12.30pm Prayers for Peace



1.30pm Sit Fit- chair-based exercises

2.00pm Choir Practice

7.30pm Dru Yoga



Friday 23rd January

10.30am Tai Chi

The Bereavement
Journey
a place to talk

We will be starting a **Bereavement Journey** course on **Thursday, 29th January, from 2.00-4.00 pm**. If you, or someone you know, would like to join, please contact Eunice for more information.



The students at the Co-op Academy will be selling cakes during Connect Coffee on **Wednesday 4th February, 10.00am-11.45am**. Cake donations welcome. Please come and support our students.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 1: 29-42
Glory to you, O Lord. (NRSVA)

The Lamb of God

The next day he saw Jesus coming towards him and declared, 'Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! ³⁰ This is he of whom I said, "After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me." ³¹ I myself did not know him; but I came baptising with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.'

³² And John testified, 'I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³ I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptise with water said to me, "He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptises with the Holy Spirit." ³⁴ And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.'

The First Disciples of Jesus

³⁵ The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶ and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, 'Look, here is the Lamb of God!' ³⁷ The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus ³⁸ When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, 'What are you looking for?' They said to him, 'Rabbi' (which translated means Teacher), 'where are you staying?' ³⁹ He said to them, 'Come and see.' They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon.

⁴⁰ One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. ⁴¹ He first found his brother Simon and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' (which is translated Anointed). ⁴² He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas' (which is translated Peter).

This is the gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**



Due to repairs being carried out to the dividing wall in the Community Centre, the next Friday Lunch Club will be on **Friday 30th January**. There will also be a change to the start time on this occasion due to another booking. Lunch Club will start **at 1.00pm**. If you would like a place, please sign up at the Parish Office.

Experience Easter for schools: Our storytelling event for local primary school children from Monday 16th—Friday 20th March.

There will be a meeting on **Wednesday 4th February at 12.30pm** in the Community Centre. Do come along if you would like to be involved. Help is needed before and during the week so whatever you can offer is welcome. If you would like a chat to find out more, please speak to Libby or Eunice.



This year we celebrate the 150th anniversary year of our organisation.

On **Wednesday 18th February (Ash Wednesday)** from **11.30am - 3.30pm** in the Community Centre, our

Mothers' Union branch will be serving a lunch of soup and scones (savoury and sweet). Please join us to help us mark the wonderful worldwide work of the MU.



Grand Attic Sale and Coffee Morning **- Saturday 31st January, 10am to 12 noon.**

Request for help: We will be setting up tables from 4.45pm on Friday 30th January. On Saturday, we need lots of helpers behind the tables. If you are able to help on either day, please see Jill Loach or leave a message at the Parish Office. Thank you to those who have already offered their help. Tables - £5 if you would like to sell your own items. We will be grateful for any of the following goods to sell: Bric-a-brac, pre-loved or unwanted gifts, accessories, small fashion items, raffle prizes, small cakes or biscuits. Thank you.

Gracious God,

We bring before you the life of our church, Your church. We ask for your guidance as we look to the future, help us grow in faith, in fellowship and in service. We praise you for all who have served this church over the years, who have nurtured and encouraged our faith, who have been part of our continuing life and witness. You have called us into the body of Christ. Loving God, as we journey together through this period of interregnum, we thank you for your everlasting faithfulness to us. At this time of uncertainty and change we ask that you send us your Holy Spirit, to fill us with your vision, energy, and faithfulness in prayer. Guide with your heavenly wisdom the one whom You have chosen to be our leader in this parish, that the one whom we receive may be a wise and gentle shepherd of your people: ready to serve us with joy, to build us up in faith, and to lead us by example in loving obedience to your son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen



If you are interested in joining a short **Lent** course led by Fiona Murphy, which would run for a maximum of 5 weeks, probably on a Monday or Tuesday afternoon in the Community Centre, please speak to Fiona after the service or sign the sheet at the back of church.

Anniversaries:

Albert Banks, Iris Banks, Robert Henry Davies, Florence Esther Lamey, Constance Jane Minards, Ethel Windsor, Joseph Butterworth, Mike Henrickson, Peggy Evans, Mike Medlock, Alan Atkinson, Winifred Louise Gibson, Walter Meadowcroft, Arina Jones, Doris Wild, Stanley Nelson, Chris Green, John Scarffe, Phyllis Rosa Johnson.

Prayer List: Finlay Armstrong, Sharon Beecham, Thelma Brooks, Seth Cheesbrough, Eloise Cook, Debbie Edwards, John Henry & Edna Edwards, Gaynor Galway, Geoff Hall, Bridget Hamilton, David Hamilton, Pam Hollinshead, Kitty & Louise Jones, Ted Jones, Steve Joyner, Finley Kay, Deborah Lawrence, Jim Lloyd, Holly Martin, Fiona Murphy, Lin Murphy, Geoff Newns, Grahame Owen, Andy Parnaby, Rita Quine, Anne Samuels, Yvonne & Terry Slerman, Audrey Smith, Barbara & Steve Smith, Theresa Smith, Autumn Philippa Tavui, Natasha Taylor, Roisin Terris, Heather Thomason, Amelia & Sue Trenbirth, Paddy Walsh, Gill & Terry Walters, Jane & Malcolm Wheatley, Linda & Ron White.

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