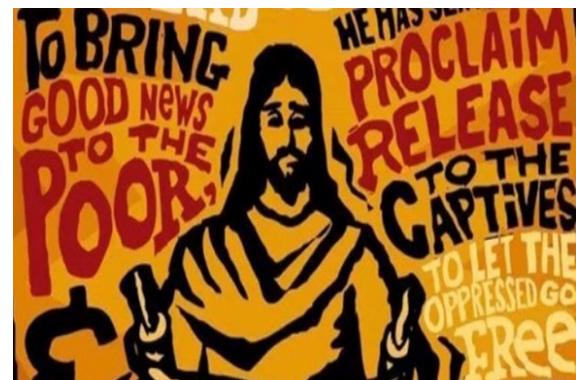


# Christ Church

# Higher Bebington

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Epiphany 3



**Welcomers:** Grace Fagan & Heather Whitehead

**Next week:** Ny Gibson & Jackie Jones

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

This morning Revd. Eunice Blackmore will lead our 10.00am Service of the Word. We welcome Bernie Frost from Charles Thompson's Mission, who seek to bring Christ's love to the poor and homeless of Wirral.

There will be a short Communion Service at 11.45am.

There will not be a service this evening.

## HYMNS

- 188 Guide me, O thou great Redeemer
- 53 Be still for the presence of the Lord
- 73 Brother, sister let me serve you
- 532 We have a Gospel to proclaim

## Prayer for the week

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.

**Amen**

## Thoughts for the week:

"The deeds you do may be the only sermon some persons will hear today." - *St Francis of Assisi* (sometimes "mis-quoted" as "preach the gospel at all times and if necessary use words")."

"The only way the Kingdom of God is going to be manifest in this world before Christ comes is if we manifest it by the way we live as citizens of heaven and subjects of the King". - *R.C. Sproul*

"There can be no Kingdom of God in the world without the Kingdom of God in our hearts." - *Albert Schweitzer*



Don't Eat Sunday Lunch  
Alone -  
**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February  
at 12.30pm**

Broadway Steak & Wine



**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February at 4.00pm:** A fun event with Bible stories and playful activities for children, their siblings and parents/carers. Theme: "Creation".

The first reading is Isaiah 9: 1-4 (NIVUK)

Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for those who were in distress. In the past he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future he will honour Galilee of the nations, by the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan –

<sup>2</sup> The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned. <sup>3</sup> You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest, as warriors rejoice when dividing the plunder.

<sup>4</sup> For as in the day of Midian's defeat, you have shattered the yoke that burdens them, the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor.

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

## Regular Activities at Christ Church

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January**



**9.00am** Morning Prayer on Zoom



**9.30am** Toddler Group

**1.30pm** Sit Fit - chair-based exercises

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January**



**10.00am** Indoor Bowls



**10.30am** Happy Reading Group

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January**



**10.00am** Baby Group



**9.30am** Connect Café with Oasis

**10.30am** Holy Communion



**10.30am** Line Dancing

**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January**



**12.30pm** Prayers for Peace



**1.30pm** Sit Fit- chair-based exercises

**2.00pm** Choir Practice

**2.00pm** Bereavement Journey



**7.30pm** Dru Yoga



**10.30am** Tai Chi

**Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January**

**\*Now back to usual time**



**12 noon** Lunch Club \*



**2.00pm** Baby & Child First Aid Course



We will be starting a **Bereavement Journey** course on **Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup> February, 10.00am-11.45am.** Cake donations welcome. These sales are a wonderful opportunity for young people to spend time in the community and learn lots of skills, as well as raising money for charity. Do come and buy a cake if you can!

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew 4:

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

12-23 (NIVUK)

Jesus begins to preach

**12** When Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, he withdrew to Galilee. **13** Leaving Nazareth, he went and lived in Capernaum, which was by the lake in the area of Zebulun and Naphtali – **14** to fulfil what was said through the prophet Isaiah:

**15** ‘Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali, the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles –

**16** the people living in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.

**17** From that time on Jesus began to preach, ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.’

Jesus calls his first disciples

**18** As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. **19** ‘Come, follow me,’ Jesus said, ‘and I will send you out to fish for people.’ **20** At once they left their nets and followed him.

**21** Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee, preparing their nets. Jesus called them, **22** and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

Jesus heals the sick

**23** Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and illness among the people.

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



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.

**Experience Easter:** Our storytelling event for local primary school children from Monday 16<sup>th</sup> - Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March.

There will be a meeting on **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> 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 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of Mothers' Union. On **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February (Ash Wednesday)** from 11.30am - 3.30pm in the Community Centre, our MU branch will be serving a lunch of soup and scones (savoury & sweet). Please join us to help us mark the wonderful worldwide work of the MU. Please note Connect Coffee will be running as normal that day.



## Grand Attic Sale and Coffee Morning - Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> January, 10am to 12 noon.

If you are able to help by setting up tables (from 4.45pm on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January) or on a stall on Saturday, please speak to Jill Loach/ Parish Office. Thank you to those who have already offered their help. 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.

Tables - £5 if you would like to sell your own items.

Many thanks to all for the very kind messages of love and support following my accident in November.

My elbow is improving and treatment continues.

Also many thanks to all who contributed used stamps over the festive period. Fiona Murphy

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

### Forthcoming Funeral:

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February      12 noon      Heather Thomason      Christ Church

**Anniversaries:** Jack Hussey, Mildred McGrey, Audrey May Evans, Doreen Tierney, Florence Higgins, John McGreevey, George Henry Burkey, Louise Michelle Clarke, Gavin Shorrock, Lewis Emrys Jones, Jean Adlard, Tilly Woods, Marc Clarke, Maurice Rawsthorne, Stephen Ryder Jones, Joyce Williams, Doreen Alexander, Brian Roberts, Rob Williamson, Sonia Shone, Colin Peter Williams, Pat Dodd, Isobel Howarth.

**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, Amelia & Sue Trenbirth, Paddy Walsh, Gill & Terry Walters, Jane & Malcolm Wheatley, Linda & Ron White.

Associate Minister: Rev. Eunice Blackmore 0151 648 5343 [euniceblackmore@talktalk.net](mailto:euniceblackmore@talktalk.net)

Parish Secretary: Victoria Gleave 0151 608 4429

[parishoffice@christchurchhigherbebington.org.uk](mailto:parishoffice@christchurchhigherbebington.org.uk)

Office hours: Every week day morning: 9.00am to 12.30pm

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