NOTICES

Sunday 15th December

3.00pm Calstone: Nine Lessons and Carols10.00 Cherhill: Morning Worship and Baptism4.00pm Compton Bassett: T4All11.15 Heddington: Holy Communion

| Monday 16 th December | 10.00 Heddington Coffee Morning |
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| Sunday 22 nd December | 9.45 Calstone: Holy Communion6.00pm Cherhill: Carols4.00pm Compton Bassett: Cribs and Carols |

Upcoming Dates: Next Little Fishes – 9.15am, 7th January 2025 Next Home Group at the Rectory – 1.30pm, 8th January 2025

Contact details Administrator: Emma Marsh 07821 836233 <u>oldburybenefice@gmail.com</u> Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursdays, 9 am to 12 noon Benefice Office: 8 Court Farm Stables, Heddington, SN11 0PN Rector: Rev Matthew Earwicker, 01249 821329 <u>mattearwicker@gmail.com</u> (Day off - Friday) You will find contact details for the churchwardens in the Villages magazine.

If you need help with safeguarding issues, please contact the Safeguarding Officer on 07864 000906

15th December 3rd Sunday of Advent Zephaniah 3.14-20 Luke 3.7-18



O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Next week: 4th Sunday of Advent

Micah 5.2-5a Luke 1.39-55

Mary

Post Communion Prayer

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts; kindle in us the fire of your Spirit that when your Christ comes again we may shine as lights before his face; who is alive and reigns now and for ever.

Welcome

We hope you feel welcome at our church and find it a place where you can meet with God. If you are unsure about anything, please ask the person who gave you this sheet.

We love children and we understand they will make some noise; don't worry about it! However, if you feel your youngest ones would benefit from playing quietly in a corner, do ask the people who welcomed you and they can point you in a suitable direction. We may even have the odd book or toy for them to play with.

A loop system may be provided in this church. Please ask or check by switching your hearing aid to the "T" position.

Old Testament Reading: Zephaniah 3.14-20

Sing, Daughter Zion; shout aloud. Israel! Be glad and rejoice with all your heart, Daughter Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away your punishment, he has turned back your enemy. The LORD, the King of Israel, is with you; never again will you fear any harm. On that day they will say to Jerusalem, 'Do not fear, Zion; do not let your hands hang limp. The LORD your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves. He will take great delight in you: in his love he will no longer rebuke you, but will rejoice over you with singing.' 'I will remove from you all who mourn over the loss of your appointed festivals, which is a burden and reproach for you. At that time I will deal with all who oppressed you. I will rescue the lame; I will gather the exiles. I will give them praise and honour in every land where they have suffered shame. At that time I will gather you; at that time I will bring you home. I will give you honour and praise among all the peoples of the earth when I restore your fortunes before your very eyes,' says the LORD.

Gospel Reading: Luke 3.7-18

John said to the crowds coming out to be baptised by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our father." For I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. The axe has been laid to the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.'

'What should we do then?' the crowd asked.

John answered, 'Anvone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and

anyone who has food should do the same.'

Even tax collectors came to be baptised. 'Teacher,' they asked, 'what should we do?'

'Don't collect any more than you are required to,' he told them.

Then some soldiers asked him, 'And what should we do?'

He replied, 'Don't extort money and don't accuse people falsely – be content with your pay.'

The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah. John answered them all, 'I baptise you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.' And with many other words John exhorted the people and proclaimed the good news to them.



Christmas Services

Carol services

15th December 22nd December 3pm – Calstone 4pm – Compton Bassett 6pm – Cherhill 4pm – Yatesbury

24th December

Crib services 22nd December

24th December

5pm 5.30pm - Cherhill

Christmas Day

24th December

25th December

- Compton Bassett 4pm - Heddington

- Heddington 9pm 11.30pm – Cherhill 9.45am – Calstone 10am – Heddington 10am – Compton Bassett 11.15am – Cherhill