

Greetings and love to all friends at Beckminster. Thanks for your love and care which have been much appreciated over recent months. May peace and joy be with you all. Janet Rushton.

Happy Christmas to everyone at Beckminster with love and best wishes from Connie Owen.

The members of Luncheon Club send Christmas greetings to everyone. We have appreciated the love and care given to us by Luncheon Club volunteers and the whole of Beckminster throughout the year. We wish you all a Happy New Year and look forward to better times in 2021 when we hope to be able to meet again.

Abby Burgess, the Chair of Wolverhampton Gateway's Members' Forum would like to send this message to our friends at Beckminster:

Hello everyone at Beckminster. The Gateway Group have done a performance for you. We did it with dance and Makaton to 'Love Shine a Light'. Although we are not able to share the video with our friends at Beckminster we hope to show it to you in the Spring. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Stay safe.

As mentioned in the Nativity Service, we last met 'face to face' in March just before 'lockdown' although we have seen each other on 'Zoom' and will continue to do so yet long to be back when some sort of normality arrives. We miss seeing the faces of everyone! We wish all our Sunday Club families a very Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year. We wish the same to everyone at Beckminster as well. Love from all at Sunday Club.

Sending love and best wishes to all my friends at Beckminster. Doreen Morgan.

*Worship... Service ... Witness ... in the name of Jesus*

# Beckminster Welcomes You

Check Out Our Website @ [www.beckminsterchurch.co.uk](http://www.beckminsterchurch.co.uk)

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## What's On This Week....

<b>Monday 21 December</b> 9.30am - 11.30pm Office Open 9.30am - 12.30pm Art Group 5.00 - 7.00pm Dinky Divas
<b>Tuesday 22 December</b> 9.30am - 12.30pm Office Closed
<b>Wednesday 23 December</b> 9.30am - 12.30pm Office Open 9.00am Zoom Prayer Meeting (See Notices)
<b>Thursday 24 December</b> 2.00 - 5.00pm Office Closed 4.30pm Christmas Communion Service
<b>Friday 25 December</b> 9.30am - 12.30pm Office Closed 10.00am Christmas Day Service
<b>Saturday 26 December</b>

## Worship and Fellowship

### 20 December 2020

#### 4th Sunday in Advent

Collect for the Day

To ponder and pray .....  
God our Redeemer, you chose the Virgin Mary, to be the mother of our Lord and Saviour. Fill us with your grace that in all things we may embrace your holy will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**



**We Welcome You to Worship Today**

If you are here for the first time, please make yourself known to those around you, or to one of the Stewards or Minister. You may like to sign the visitors book in the foyer.

### Christmas Services

**Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> at 4.30pm:**  
Christmas Eve Communion led by  
Rev. Ivor Sperring  
(Retiring Collection for Action for Children)

**Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> December at 10.00am:**  
Christmas Day Service led by  
Rev. Dr. Paul Nzacahayo  
(Retiring Collection for Christian Aid)

**There will be no service on Sunday, 27 December**

**10.30am Carol Service  
led by Rev. Dr. Paul Nzacahayo**



Welcome & Notices

Introduction to the Service

**Advent 4: Love**

On this fourth Sunday of Advent, we light a candle for love.

**All: We light a candle for love. May it light the way**

*The first, second, third and fourth candles are lit and this response is used:  
Jesus is the light of the world.*

**A light no darkness can ever put out.**

**Reflection**

God of the poor in spirit, born in a stable, open our ears to your prophets today, who call for repentance and change. Grant us the faithfulness never to give up on the world's poor. **Amen**

**Prayer**

Let your light shine.

Let your spirit soar.

Throw open your mind.

Hand over your heart. Here it comes – love.

It shines in the darkness.

It sings in the shadows.

It will not cower and cannot be contained.

It was the hope of the saints, the call of the prophets.

It was the fire in the belly of the Baptist and the courage of Mother Mary

Lamp in the window, beacon on the hill, star in the night sky.

Love, you lead us home.

**We Sing StF 165:**

**Advent candles tell their story**

**as we watch and pray,**

**longing for the Day of Glory,**

**'Come, Lord, soon,' we say.**

**Pain and sorrow, tears and sadness**

**changed for gladness**

**on that Day**

**Prophet voices loudly crying,**

**making pathways clear;**

**glimpsing glory, self-denying,**

**calling all to hear.**

**Through their message - challenged, shaken –**

**hearts awaken:**

**God is near!**

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS



Margaret Phazey wishes to send Christmas Joy and Blessings to everyone at Beckminster.

We last met in March just before 'lockdown' and we haven't met since. It has been good to 'bump' into some of our families when we're out on our many walks and to hear that they are keeping well and safe. We are delivering a Christingle treats bag to our families before Christmas. We wish all our Messy Church families a very Happy Christmas and a much healthier and Happy New Year. We're sure our families would wish everyone at Beckminster a Happy Christmas too. The Messy Church Team.

The Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Leaders of the 15th Wolverhampton Scout Group would like to send Christmas wishes to everyone at Beckminster Church and hope that in 2021 we will be able to worship together again. Keep Safe. Sheila White (Group Scout Leader of the 15th Wolverhampton Scout Group).

Wishing all past members of Beckminster Toddler Group a Happy Christmas and sending Best Wishes for 2021.

Wishing all friends at Beckminster a safe and peaceful Christmas. Thinking particularly of those who are unable to meet up with family and friends. Thanks for your support throughout the year. David Jones (Take a Break).

Monday Afternoon Art Group would like to send a Christmas wish to everyone who attends Beckminster Church this Christmas. We hope to continue our Art Class early in 2021 when restrictions allow us.

**Christmas Poem....by Elissa**

Christmas is here  
The children will cheer, but will it be the same this year?  
The Nativity is cancelled and the Christingle too  
Christmas isn't the same, it's true.

Tree lights will sparkle, decorations shine  
Santa's sleigh bells will ring and chime.  
All will remember the babe that was born  
In the manger, in Bethlehem, on that Christmas morn.

Family and friends might be apart  
But that doesn't mean they're not in our hearts.  
Remember this Christmas to spread the Love  
That always comes from God above.

**John the Baptist, by his preaching  
and by water poured,  
brought to those who heard his teaching  
news of hope restored:  
'Keep your vision strong and steady,  
and be ready  
for the Lord.'**

**Mary's gift, beyond all telling,  
was to give Christ room.  
She gave God a human dwelling  
in a mother's womb.  
Who could guess the final story?  
cross and glory;  
empty tomb!**

Mark Earey (1965)

**StF 214: Once in royal David's city**

Prayer

1st lesson: Isaiah 7: 10 - 14 read by Phil Healey

**StF 180: O come, O come, Immanuel,**

2nd lesson: Luke 1: 26 - 38 read by Stephanie Wilkes

**StF 222: Who would think**

3rd lesson: Luke 2: 1 - 16 read by Ann Holt

**StF 187: The Angel Gabriel**

Reflections

Remembering those who cannot be with us because of Covid and those who have died this year.

**StF 210: Love came down at Christmas,**

Prayer and Lord's Prayer

4th lesson: Revelation 21: 1 - 4 read by Wendy Bate

Offertory Dedication and of our Gifts to Acorn

**StF 212: O come, all ye faithful,**

Benediction

**HILARY BROSTER.** Our thoughts and prayers are with Christine, David and the family following the death of Hilary on Sunday, 22 November 2020. Hilary passed away peacefully in The Cedar Grange Nursing Home. Hilary's funeral will take place on Thursday, 24 December 2020 at 12noon at Bushbury Crematorium. Any donations gratefully received for The Cedar Grange Nursing Home.

**FRED DUDLEY.** Our thoughts and prayer are with Sylvia and the family following the death of Fred on Tuesday, 8 December 2020. Fred's funeral will take place at Lower Gornal Crematorium on Wednesday, 6 January 2021 at 12noon.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the families at this difficult time. As you will appreciate, only family members are allowed at the funerals but we will have them in our thoughts especially on the days of the funerals.

**CHRISTIAN AID** very much values the support of the congregation at Beckminster and sends greetings at Christmas. As you will realise, funds are very much depleted this year - but the need is still great and any donations would be most gratefully received. Envelopes for cash or cheques are available at the back of the church or you could contact John Bate directly on 01902 750663.

**CHURCHES TOGETHER IN GRAISELEY AND PENN FIELDS CHRISTMAS 2020.** As we are unable to Carol sing for local charities at Waitrose this year, we have asked if they will extend their 'Give a little Love' charity programme to the food banks that three of our churches have. They are already supporting the Adventist Food Bank which St Chad and St Mark's support and now they have also agreed to support the Lea Road Food project and Jubilee Compassion Food Bank. All these charities provide meals and gifts of food to the needy local residents of Penn Fields. Already these charities have each received two trolley loads of food - as soon as we asked! If you shop at Waitrose please support. Janet Anderson.

**COVID-19 VACCINATION PROGRAMME VOLUNTEERS.** You may have seen in the recent news that the vaccination programme is going to begin on 14th December. For the South Staffordshire areas, there are two locations offering the vaccine: Stafford showground, and Trinity Codsall. In order to deliver this programme, the NHS are recruiting people to volunteer as Marshalls and vaccinators. Follow this link for more details: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/RLKTTSP>

**Stratton Street.** Sunday Service on zoom at 11.00am with Rev. Christopher Collins. For Zoom details please contact Rev. Chris Collins

24 December 7.00pm Christmas Eve Spiritual Communion. Zoom details as for Sunday.

25 December 10.30am Christmas Day Service. Zoom details as for Sunday.

27 December 11.00am Zoom Service. Zoom details as for Sunday.

**Upper Ettingshall.** Sunday Service on zoom at 11.00am. Zoom link available on request from Rev Steve Jackson.

20 December Zoom Carol Service 4.00pm. Zoom link available on request from Rev Steve Jackson.

25 December Christmas Day Zoom Service 10.30am. Zoom link available on request from Rev Steve Jackson.

**Wombourne.** Sunday Service on Zoom at 10.30am. Zoom link available on request from Janet Fenney or Rev Teddy Siwila.

24 December Christmas Eve Service at 6.00pm on You Tube.

25 December Christmas Day Service on zoom at 10.00am. Zoom link available on request from Janet Fenney or Rev Teddy Siwila.

**Beckminster Methodist  
Church  
Birches Barn Road,  
Penn Fields,  
Wolverhampton  
WV3 7BQ  
Tel. 01902 344910**

**Fallings Park.** Sunday Service on zoom at 11.00am. Zoom link available from Revd Sam Hagerman  
20 December Drive-in-Carols in the car park 3.30pm. Booking required  
24 December 11.30pm Midnight Holy Communion.

**Fordhouses.** Sunday Service on zoom at 11.00am. Zoom link available from Rev. Sam Hagerman.

**Hurst Hill.** Sunday Service on zoom at 11.00am. Zoom link available on request from Rev Steve Jackson.  
20 December Zoom Carol Service 4.00pm. Zoom link available on request from Rev Steve Jackson.  
25 December Christmas Day Zoom Service 10.30am. Zoom link available on request from Rev Steve Jackson.

**Lanesfield.** Open for worship at 10.30am.

**Rakegate.** Open for worship at 10.30am.  
27 December, No Service.

**St. Andrew's.** 10.30am there is a simple weekly YouTube service that is recorded and lasts about 30 minutes. The YouTube channel is "ST ANDREWS CHURCH SEDGLEY" and is accessible during the week.  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=grwvypBKFcY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=grwvypBKFcY)  
20 December The Carol Service will be at 4.00pm  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=qpASSaMSeN4](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qpASSaMSeN4)  
25 December Christmas Day Service 10.00am

**St. John's.** Sunday Service on zoom at 11.00am. Zoom link available on request from Rev Steve Jackson.  
20 December Zoom Carol Service 4.00pm. Zoom link available on request from Rev Steve Jackson.  
25 December Christmas Day Zoom Service 10.30am. Zoom link available on request from Rev Steve Jackson.

**Springdale.** Sunday Service on zoom at 10.30am. Zoom link available from Janet Fenney or Rev Teddy Siwila.  
24 December Christmas Eve Service at 6.00pm on You Tube  
25 December Christmas Day Service on zoom at 10.00am. Zoom link available on request from Janet Fenney or Rev Teddy Siwila.

**Stowlawn.** The church is currently not open. Folk are invited to join in with other acts of worship around the Circuit.

**ZOOM PRAYER MEETINGS** are still taking place on a Wednesday morning at 9.00am and all are welcome to join. For further details please contact Sue.

**CHURCH OFFICE.** The Church Office will close on Wednesday, 23 December 2020 at 12.30pm and will reopen on Monday, 4 January 2021 at 9.30am. If you need to make contact at all during this time either telephone on my home number or send an email in the normal way. Sue.

**Can anyone help please.** One of our Luncheon Club members is no longer able to look after her cat and is anxious to find a good home for him. Dave is a small black very friendly cat. If you or you know someone who could give Dave a home, please contact Wendy on 01902 831637.

**JOHN COPE.** Members will be sorry to read that John Cope died recently. John was a keen member of Questors in the 50's. Marlies and John retired to Craven Arms, both being involved in the church and community there. John Pearson.

**THANK YOU** to everyone who has donated to JMA through the Christmas Post either by cash or cheque or directly on line. To anyone who has donated directly on line could you please let me know to add your donation to our final total please. To date JMA post this year has raised £365 - including on line donations I have already been made aware of. There will also be some further Gift Aid to be added on by Methodist Head office. Thank you all for your support. Val Pollard JMA Secretary.

**THANK YOU.** Once again I must thank the Leadership Team and the Luncheon Club Team for a lovely goody bag for Christmas and wasn't it lovely to get the Beckoner, well done Keith and all who put in the articles. I can't think of another Church that has done so much for the members in these difficult times. We do appreciate it particularly the members who can't get to Church. Thank you. Nora.

**THANK YOU.** I would like to thank all my friends at Beckminster for their support whilst I was in hospital. It meant a great deal to me. The cards also were very welcome. I wish you all a very peaceful Christmas. Jean Ordidge.

**"SOUL SPACE"** is a new Sunday evening gathering for quiet and reflective worship lasting about forty minutes. We will share simple prayers, readings, poetry, quietness and reflective music. We meet on Zoom at 6.30pm. For Zoom details please contact Revd Chris Collins.

**Opportunities for worship and prayer around the Circuit**

*If you need help accessing information for on-line worship, please contact Revd Christopher Collins:*

**Midweek opportunities**

**Circuit Morning Prayer**

Available on the Circuit Facebook page at 8.00am each morning Monday - Saturday.

**Brewood.** Evening prayer on a Tuesday and Friday at 7.45pm, online or by phone. Details from Helen Share.

**Codsall.** Evening prayer on a Tuesday and Friday at 7.45pm, online or by phone. Details from Helen Share.

**Coven.** Evening prayer on a Tuesday and Friday at 7.45pm, online or by phone. Details from Helen Share.

**Cranmer.** Cranmer is open for private prayer on Tuesdays from 10am - 12noon.

**Worship on Sunday, 20 December 2020**

**Beckminster.** Sunday Service in church and on zoom at 10.30am Carol Service with Rev Paul Nzacahayo. Zoom link available on request from Sue Lorimer.

24 December 4.30pm, Christmas Eve Communion Service with Rev Ivor Sperring in church and on zoom.

25 December 10.00am, Christmas Day Service with Rev Paul Nzacahayo in church and on zoom.

27 December, No service.

**Bilston.** Christingle Carol Service 6.00pm on audio.

**Bradley.** Open for Worship at 10.45am.

**Brewood.** Sunday Service on zoom at 10.30am with Miss Hannah Wilkinson. Zoom link available on request from Helen Share.

21 December 4.00pm. An Evening of Solace for the Longest Night – Christmas when the season is hard. Resources can be emailed if you would like to participate, but would like to do so from home. (Booking through Helen Share essential).

24 December 3.00pm. Christmas Eve Service with Alan Eccles and Naomi Fearnley (please pre book with Helen Share).

25 December 10.00am. Zoom Service of Celebration.

**Codsall.** Sunday Service on zoom at 10.30am with Miss Hannah Wilkinson. Zoom link available on request from Helen Share.

21 December 4.00pm. An Evening of Solace for the Longest Night – Christmas when the season is hard. Resources can be emailed if you would like to participate, but would like to do so from home. (Booking through Helen Share essential).

24 December 3.00pm. Christmas Eve Service with Alan Eccles and Naomi Fearnley (please pre book with Helen Share).

25 December 10.00am. Zoom Service of Celebration

Sunday, 27 December 10.30am with Alan Eccles. Zoom link available on request from Helen Share

**Coven.** Sunday Service on zoom at 10.30am with Miss Hannah Wilkinson. Zoom link available on request from Helen Share.

21 December 4.00pm. An Evening of Solace for the Longest Night – Christmas when the season is hard. Resources can be emailed if you would like to participate, but would like to do so from home. (Booking through Helen Share essential).

24 December 3.00pm. Christmas Eve Service with Alan Eccles and Naomi Fearnley (please pre book with Helen Share).

25 December 9.30am. Christmas Day Service with Wendy Gould (booking essential).

**Cranmer.** Sunday Service on zoom at 11.00am. Zoom link available from Rev. Sam Hagerman.

**East Park.** Sunday Service on zoom at 11.00am with Rev. Christopher Collins. For zoom details please contact Rev. Chris Collins.

24 December 7.00pm Christmas Eve Spiritual Communion. Zoom details as for Sunday.

25 December 10.30am Christmas Day Service. Zoom details as for Sunday.

27 December 11.00am Zoom Service. Details as for Sunday.