

St Andrew's Garrison Church, Aldershot



Advent Sunday & Gift Service

3rd December 2023, 11am

All Welcome



Church Service (inc Zoom Service)

Sunday 3rd December 2023, at 11am

(Zoom login possible from around 10:45am onwards)

Minister: Revd Dr Jim Francis, CF

Organist: Ian Crisp

Bible Reading: Heather Johnson

We gather as the people of God...

Welcome and Call to Worship, with opening responses (see separate sheet)

Hymn CH4 – 273 “O come, O come Emmanuel”

Veni Emmanuel

Prayers of Approach and Confession

Lighting of the Advent Candle (see separate sheet)

Hymn CH4 – 275 “Come now, O prince of peace”

O So So

We listen to stories of faith and hope...

Reading: Isaiah Chapter 64 Verses 1 - 9

Gospel Reading: St Mark Chapter 13 Verses 24 - 37

Hymn CH4 – 88 “Up from the depths I cry to God”

MacPherson’s Rant

Sermon

We respond in faith and hope...

Hymn CH4 – 193 “God is love his the care”

Personent Hodie

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Hymn CH4 – 477 “Lo! He comes with clouds descending”

Helmsley

We leave with God’s blessing...

Blessing, with responses (see separate sheet), **followed by Three Fold Amen**

Voluntary: Festal Postlude, *Guy H. Eldridge*

Isaiah 64 vv 1 – 9: Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains would tremble before you! ² As when fire sets twigs ablaze and causes water to boil, come down to make your name known to your enemies and cause the nations to quake before you! ³ For when you did awesome things that we did not expect, you came down, and the mountains trembled before you. ⁴ Since ancient times no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who acts on behalf of those who wait for him. ⁵ You come to the help of those who gladly do right, who remember your ways. But when we continued to sin against them, you were angry. How then can we be saved? ⁶ All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away. ⁷ No one calls on your name or strives to lay hold of you; or you have hidden your face from us and have given us over to our sins. ⁸ Yet you, Lord, are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand. ⁹ Do not be angry beyond measure, Lord; do not remember our sins for ever. Oh, look upon us we pray, for we are all your people.

St Mark 13 vv 24 – 37: But in those days, following that distress, “the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; ²⁵ the stars will fall from the sky, and the heavenly bodies will be shaken.” ²⁶ ‘At that time people will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. ²⁷ And he will send his angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of the heavens. ²⁸ ‘Now learn this lesson from the fig-tree: as soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. ²⁹ Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that it is near, right at the door. ³⁰ Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. ³¹ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away. ³² ‘But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³ Be on guard! Be alert! You do not know when that time will come. ³⁴ It’s like a man going away: he leaves his house and puts his servants in charge, each with their assigned task, and tells the one at the door to keep watch. ³⁵ ‘Therefore keep watch because you do not know when the owner of the house will come back – whether in the evening, or at midnight, or when the cock crows, or at dawn. ³⁶ If he comes suddenly, do not let him find you sleeping. ³⁷ What I say to you, I say to everyone: “Watch!”’

Tea, Coffee and Biscuits are served in the Church Hall, after this service. Our thanks to Mary and Elizabeth Law for serving this week.

Hampshire Constabulary Band concert will take place in the church this evening, at 6.30pm.

Bible Study The next monthly Bible study gathering will take place in the church at 7pm this Tuesday 5 December.

The RMSM Christmas Celebration Concert will take place this Wednesday 6 December at 7pm. Tickets are free but can be booked at the following link on Eventbrite [Christmas Celebration Concert Tickets, Wed 6 Dec 2023 at 19:00 | Eventbrite](#). Richard Begg has some tickets available for those who prefer not to deal with the internet

The Garrison Combined Carol Service of lessons and carols will take place next Sunday, 10 December, at 6pm in St Andrews Church. Please bring along any savoury or sweet food items for the tea after the service on the morning that day; Liz Crisp can advise on which items to provide.

Gift Aiding Money to St Andrew's Church – If you are looking to make gift aid donations to St Andrew's Garrison Church please speak to Bob Megarry for details as to how to arrange this.

Life and Work is the monthly magazine of the Church of Scotland. Copies of the December edition are now available for purchase, for £1, near the main entrance to the church.

Flowers List The 2024 list for those signing up to provide flowers (or pay for flowers) is now at the back of the church.

For Weddings, Baptisms, Funerals or to Otherwise Contact the Church, please use the address, telephone number or email below:

Church Office -

St Andrew's Garrison Church, Queens Avenue, Aldershot. GU11 2BY
01252 328581 (with answer-phone)

standrewsgc@btconnect.com

www.standrewsaldershot.co.uk