



St John's, Stoneleigh

Weekly Newsletter

21st November 2021

A MESSAGE FROM REV. KEN HOBBS

Welcome to our worship today here in the church and at home. It was great to see the church full for Remembrance Sunday last week with the participation of our uniformed groups. Next Sunday sees the start of Advent.

You will see below the details for our Christmas services and there will be a delivery of the church Christmas card in early December to the parish. Do join in and support us in every way you can.

This week sees the start of the St John's café!

We are nearing the end of our sermon series on the Old Testament character Nehemiah and this morning we are thinking about "Rebuilding Worship"

God bless you

Ken

MY LICENCE

The Diocese of Guildford has just renewed my licence as Priest In Charge of St John's for a further year.

I have discussed this with the Bishop of Guildford and Archdeacon Martin and in consultation with Geoff and our Church Wardens have agreed that after this current year (2022) I will step down as your minister. By the end of next year I will be pushing 76!

Transitional arrangements will be put in place to enable Geoff to continue as Curate/Associate Minister and effectively "Priest in Charge Designate." I will endeavour over these months to continue to further establish and develop our collective ministry at St John's.

Rev. Ken Hobbs

THURSDAY COFFEE MORNING

Thursday morning coffee via Zoom at 10:30am is still taking place. For the Zoom link, please email the office.

Rev. Ken Hobbs

KEEPING IN TOUCH AND PRAYERS

The WhatsApp group, Facebook and website will continue to be updated so please keep in touch. Any prayer requests for the prayer board can still be submitted to Jean Tutton.

Rev. Ken Hobbs

SUNDAY SERVICES

Our 9:30am service is being streamed via <https://stoneleigh.tv>. Any problems, please let us know.

For those joining manually the code you need is 9655 8696378.

To join using the telephone, please dial 020 3051 2874

You will be asked to enter the meeting ID followed by # (hash).

Key in: 96558696378#. You will be asked for a personal ID,

just press # again and you will be connected to the Service.

Tim Rogers

ROTA

If you are able to help with any of the duties on the rota, please speak with me. Thank you.

Janis Forder

RUSH

We are pleased to say that we will have some visitors from RUSH joining us at our services on Sunday 28th November.

Rev. Ken Hobbs

WINDOW CLEANER

Can anyone recommend a window cleaner to give us a quote for regular cleaning of windows in and outside of church. Thank you.

Janis Forder

CHRISTMAS PLANNING MEETING

As you will see in this newsletter we have a full schedule of Christmas services this year. In order to make sure everything gets done, we will be holding a planning meeting on December 6th at 11am in the Parish Centre. This is an open invitation to anyone who would like to get involved to come and join us.

Rev. Geoff Andrew

CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT

I have spoken to various people about this year's Carol Concert on Sunday, 19th December and have had a very encouraging response. I am planning to hold five rehearsals in advance. Because there is not one particular day of the week that suits everyone and because I have a number of Council meetings during November and December on a Thursday evening, rehearsals will take place on the following dates:

- Wednesday, 24th November 7.00pm until 8.30pm
- Friday, 3rd December 7.00pm until 8.30pm
- Wednesday, 8th December 7.00pm until 8.30pm
- Friday, 17th December 7.00pm until 8.30pm
- Sunday, 19th December 3pm until 5pm (the Carol Concert will start at 6pm)

If you haven't already signed up and you wish to participate, would you please add your name to the list in church.

Chris Webb

CAROL SINGING ON THE BROADWAY

We are planning to join with Stoneleigh Baptist church on Saturday December 4th to sing carols on the Broadway at 5.30pm. Please can you let me know if you are able to come. This has been an annual event for many years. Thanks.

Janis Forder

CHURCHES TOGETHER AT CHRISTMAS

This year due to the ongoing Covid situation, we will not be holding our usual Christmas lunch event. Nonetheless we are providing Goodie Boxes to those who will be alone on Christmas Day, as we did last year. Please can we ask that you let us know of anyone in such a position who would appreciate a Goodie box. Also could we be informed of any changes in circumstances of anyone known to you who is one of our regular guests. In each case please contact Sally Barnes on 0208 393 3011. Thank you,

The Together at Christmas Team

CHRISTINGLE

We will need some help making the Christingle's on the morning of the 24th December. If anyone can help, please let me know. Thank you.
Janis Forder

CHRISTMAS CARD DISTRIBUTION

St John's will be sending Christmas cards to the parish again this year. Please can you sign up for deliveries. There is a list at the front of church. Thank you.
Kerrie Winter

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Sunday December 19th

9:30am Holy Communion

11:00am Worship for Everyone (both on a Christmas theme)

6:00pm Carol Service

Christmas Eve

4.00pm Crib and Christingle Service

11.30pm Midnight Communion

Christmas Day

10 am Family Worship followed by a short Holy Communion

Sunday Decemcber 26th Boxing Day

10:00am - Diocesan Service livestreamed in church (or at home)

Please note there will be no midweek services on Monday and Wednesday during the week before and after Christmas.
Rev. Ken Hobbs

CAFÉ

St John's Café will open this Thursday! The café will run every Thursday from 1:30pm until 3:30pm. The café is open to all and is a place to come and meet others, where you're guaranteed a warm welcome and a friendly chat.
Rev. Geoff Andrew

GREEN ARM CHAIR

Would anyone like to have the green armchair which is currently in the atrium? It is in good condition but, with the opening of the cafe in that space, we need to find a new home for it. If you are interested let me know.
Jean Tutton 020 8393 3687
jean.tutton@ntlworld.com

ENGLISH LESSONS

Every Monday from 9:30am until 11am at Stoneleigh Baptist Church, there are ESOL English lessons. There is a small creche area for preschool children. For more information call 07743 484291 or visit stonechurch.org.uk.
Diana Kay

FOODBANK

The Foodbank are still collecting for the Christmas goodie bags. They would appreciate Christmas selection boxes, Christmas napkins, tablecloths, tea towels, Christmas puddings, Savoury snacks, Tinned ham, Christmas biscuits, Festive chocolate, sweets and treats, Mince pies, Packet stuffing, Packet trifle mix .

Please make sure items do not contain alcohol as they are unable to give these out. Please donate by Friday 3rd December. Thank you.
Polly Elder

Order of Service – 9:30am

Theme “ Rebuilding Worship”

“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path”(Psalm 119 v105)

Hymn Thou whose Almighty Word (MP 699)

Confession p7

Collect

God the Father, help us to hear the call of Christ the King and to follow in his service, whose kingdom has no end; for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, one glory.
Amen

Hymn As we are gathered Jesus is here (MP 38)

1st Reading Nehemiah 8 1-18 read by Margaret Hobbs

All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. The scribe Ezra stood on a wooden platform that had been made for the purpose; and beside him stood Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Uriah, Hilkiah, and Maaseiah on his right hand; and Pedaiah, Mishael, Malchijah, Hashum, Hash-baddanah, Zechariah, and Meshullam on his left hand. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, ‘Amen, Amen’, lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshipped the LORD with their faces to the ground. Also Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah, the Levites, helped the people to understand the law, while the people remained in their places. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, ‘This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep.’ For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, ‘Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.’ So the Levites stilled all the people, saying, ‘Be quiet, for this day is holy; do not be grieved.’ And all the people went their way to eat and drink and to send portions and to make great rejoicing, because they had understood the words that were declared to them.

On the second day the heads of ancestral houses of all the people, with the priests and the Levites, came together to the scribe Ezra in order to study the words of the law. And they found it written in the law, which the LORD had commanded by Moses, that the people of Israel should live in booths during the festival of the seventh month, and that they should publish and proclaim in all their towns and in Jerusalem as follows, ‘Go out to the hills and bring branches of olive, wild olive, myrtle, palm, and other leafy trees to make booths, as it is written.’ So the people went out and brought them, and made booths for themselves, each on the roofs of their houses, and in their courts and in the courts of the house of God, and in the square at the Water Gate and in the square at the Gate of Ephraim. And all the assembly of those who had returned from the captivity made booths and lived in them; for from the days of Jeshua son of Nun to that day the people of Israel had not done so. And there was very great rejoicing. And day by day, from the first day to the last day, he read from the book of the law of

God. They kept the festival for seven days; and on the eighth day there was a solemn assembly, according to the ordinance.

Gospel Reading John 17 1-5 read by Margaret Hobbs

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

Sermon Rev. Ken Hobbs

Creed p13

Hymn Seek ye first the Kingdom of God (MP590)

Prayers Chris Redrup

Peace p17

Hymn Break Thou the bread of Life (MP 64)

Communion Prayer p 33

Lords Prayer p 18

Prayer of Humble Access p20

Distribution of Communion (music may be played)

Prayer after Communion p22

Hymn Name of All Majesty (MP 481)

Blessing p23

Book of Remembrance

Mavis Audrey Wright, Elizabeth Browning Pavey

Doris Jeffries

Katherine Theresa Margaret Mary Hamilton