ST MARY THE VIRGIN, WESTWOOD

www.htboa.org

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The Rector's usual weekly day off is a Friday

22 NOVEMBER 2026
The Grapevine



THE FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING

Welcome to our Service today and welcome if you are reading this at home

11.15am - Morning Praise

HYMNS FOR TODAY'S SERVICE

186 - Great is thy Faithfulness
103 - Crown Him with Many Crowns
500 - There is a redeemer
81 - Christ Triumphant

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.

Psalm 95. 1 - 7

1 O come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us heartily rejoice in the rock of our salvation.
2 Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving
and be glad in him with psalms.
3 For the Lord is a great God
and a great king above all gods.
4 In his hand are the depths of the earth
and the heights of the mountains are his also.
5 The sea is his, for he made it,
and his hands have moulded the dry land.
6 Come, let us worship and bow down
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
7 For he is our God;
we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

FIRST READING
Ezekiel 34. 11-16, 20-24

For thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

GOSPEL READING
Matthew 25. 31-end

'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." Then he will say to those at his left hand, "You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me." Then they also will answer, "Lord, when was it that we saw you

hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?" Then he will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me." And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.'

CHRIST THE KING
In our reading from Ezekiel, we hear God's promise to seek out the scattered sheep, bring back those who have wandered, bind up the injured and strengthen the weak. Ezekiel describes a time when those responsible for caring for others have put their own interests first. The shepherds have failed their flock and the people have become divided. Yet, even in such troubled times, God offers a promise of hope:
"I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out." On the Feast of Christ the King, we are reminded that the kingdom of God is very different from the kingdoms of this world. It is not about power or position, but about love, service and care for others. Christ is the shepherd who knows the flock, seeks out those who are lost and does not abandon those who are struggling. There is something comforting in these words, especially when so much in the world feels uncertain. We cannot always put things right, however much we might wish to. And neither do we have all the answers. But we can place our trust in God, whose love and faithfulness remain constant. We most need to remember that wherever life takes us, and however far we may have wandered, we are never forgotten. God is always seeking us out! The heart of Christ's kingship is not about power for its own sake, but about love that seeks, restores, and never gives up on us.

Yours, Jenny

BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION -
If you would like to be baptised and confirmed please could you get in touch directly with Jenny, who will begin preparations soon for the confirmation service on January 17th, 2027. All welcome.

WEEKDAY BENEFICE SERVICES *at Holy Trinity*

MORNING PRAYER -
Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays, 8.30am

WEDNESDAY HOLY COMMUNION –
At 10am *will restart during Advent.*

GLUTEN FREE WAFERS – these are available for those who need them. Please let the welcomers know when you arrive and inform the priest when you come to receive Communion.

NOTICES

NOTICES FOR WEEKLY GRAPEVINE – please send all messages for the Grapevine by Wednesday 12pm to Annie on: beneficeoffice@htboa.org

COPYING, PRINTING, POSTERS – please send to Annie on: beneficeoffice@htboa.org

THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY FOR THE BENEFICE

MAINLY MUSIC
Tuesdays at 10.30am – fun & friendship for pre-school families (contact Marlene on 864412 / marlene.haffenden@googlemail.com if you'd like to come along).

SAXON CLUB
Tuesdays at 2.30pm – Fellowship and various activities for seniors.

COMMUNITY CAFÉ
Wednesdays from 10am –12noon. Weekly community café – coffee/tea and biscuits will be provided on a donation basis.

CLARINET & PIANO RECITAL with THE REVD JENNY NELSON (CLARINET) and DAVID ARKELL (PIANO)
Thursday 26th November at 12noon. From Darkness towards the Light. All welcome**!**

CREATIVE MAKERS MARKET
Saturday, 28th November, 10am – 3pm

FUTURE EVENTS AROUND THE BENEFICE

TRIO PARADIS CAFÉ CONCERT
Thursday 3rd December at 10.45am.

BATH CAMERATA CONCERT
Saturday 5th December at 7.30pm.

PRAYER DIARY

A Prayer for Christ the King

Loving God, you are the shepherd who seeks the lost, gathers the scattered and cares for the weak. When we are uncertain or have lost our way, draw us close to your loving presence.

Almighty God, whose kingdom is revealed in Christ through love, compassion and service, guide those who care for others. Guide the leaders of nations. Bring peace where there is conflict, hope where there is despair and unity where there is division.

Faithful God, guide us to put our trust in you rather than in our own strength. Help us care for one another, seek those who are lost, and share the love we receive. May we follow Christ, our Shepherd and King, today and always.

Amen.

FOR OUR PRAYERS

Please pray for all who are unwell, remembering especially: David Chalmers, Betty & Doug Hancock.

Pray for the recently departed and all who mourn them, especially:
Please *always* let Revd Jenny know of any pastoral need, including prayer.

SAFEGUARDING

The Benefice of Bradford on Avon Holy Trinity, Westwood and Wingfield takes its responsibilities surrounding the safeguarding of children, young people, and adults who may be at risk, very seriously. We work in partnership with the Diocese of Salisbury to ensure that we work in accordance with best practices at all times.

If you have any Safeguarding concerns please speak to the clergy or our Benefice Safeguarding Officer:
Andrea Unwin – Tel: 07553161654
Email: safeguarding@htboa.org

Advice is also available from: safeguarding@salisbury.anglican.org. To speak to a caseworker, or the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor 01722 438651, option 3

NEXT WEEK – 29 NOVEMBER
ADVENT SUNDAY

11.15am - Advent Sunday Holy Communion

Readings:
Isaiah 64. 1- 9
Mark 13. 24 - end

