

Grapevine

The Sunday bulletin for Holy Trinity, Bradford on Avon

Sunday 22 November 2026
The Feast of Christ the King

Rooted – Growing – Fruitful
Life in all its fullness

I have come that you may have life
and have it in all its fullness

John 10.10

TODAY

08:00	**Holy Communion (BCP)**
09:30	**Sung Eucharist on the Feast of Christ the King**

HYMNS

Introit:	**563**	**Rejoice, the Lord is King!**
Gradual:	**589**	**The King of love my shepherd is**
Offertory:	**601**	**Thou didst leave thy throne**
Post Communion:	**398**	**Christ triumphant, ever reigning**

COLLECT for the Feast of Christ the King

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.

OLD TESTAMENT 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.'

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may by you be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

CHOIR AND ORGAN MUSIC

Before the service:
The Prince of Denmark's March – Jeremiah Clarke arr. Harvey Grace
Prelude on a theme by Edward Elgar – Christopher Tambling
Fantasie on the chorale: 'Lobet den herren' – Niels Gade
Prelude on 'Gopsal' – Stanley Vann

At the Communion:

Organ:	Prelude on 'St Columba' – Richard Knight
Choir:	Psalm 93 – chant by George Macfarren
Organ:	Prelude on 'Gwalchmai' – Robert Jones

Voluntary:
Coronation March 'The Crown Imperial' – William Walton

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

THIS WEEK: 22nd - 29th NOVEMBER

TUESDAY 24th NOVEMBER
08:30 Morning Prayer

WEDNESDAY 25th NOVEMBER
08:30 Morning Prayer

THURSDAY 26th NOVEMBER
08:30 Morning Prayer

SUNDAY SERVICES – NOVEMBER & DECEMBER

SUNDAY 29th NOVEMBER (Advent Sunday)

08:00 Holy Communion (BCP)
09:30 Sung Eucharist for Advent Sunday
18:00 Advent Carol Service

SUNDAY 6th DECEMBER (The Second Sunday of Advent)

08:00 Holy Communion (BCP)
09:30 Sung Eucharist

SUNDAY 13th DECEMBER (The Third Sunday of Advent)

08:00 Holy Communion (BCP)
09:30 In the Round Carols
15:30 Carols Around the Trees

SUNDAY 20th DECEMBER (The Fourth Sunday of Advent)

08:00 Holy Communion (BCP)
09:30 Sung Eucharist
18:00 Service of Nine Lessons & Carols

SUNDAY 27th DECEMBER (John, Apostle & Evangelist)

08:00 Holy Communion (BCP)
09:30 Sung Eucharist

NOTICES FOR THE GRAPEVINE

Please send requests for the new Grapevine *by Wednesday 12:00* to Annie at: beneficeoffice@htboa.org

THANK YOU

Thank you to Revd Tim Hawkings for presiding and preaching for the 8:00 Holy Communion, and to Bishop John for presiding and preaching for today's eucharist on the Feast of Christ the King.

THANK YOU

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed so generously to our 'Shoeboxes for Ukraine' campaign including the funds you donated for its forward distribution to Ukraine. So far we have received donations approaching £200. We expect everything will be collected this week and sent by road to various distribution points across Ukraine. It should therefore reach families in time for Christmas. Thank you again. David Hare

PASTORAL NETWORK

Warm thanks to Sally, Simon, Judy, Julia, Marilyn, Graham and Marlene who are beginning to explore how our pastoral network will evolve in visiting, pastoral reflection and the possibility of training as Lay Pastoral Assistants. It is much appreciated.

CONFIRMATION AT HOLY TRINITY

If you would like to be confirmed by Bishop Robert at Holy Trinity on 17th January 2027, please be in touch with the Rector who has begun confirmation preparation. All welcome. Please pray for Anniemay, Brenda, Janet, Mark, Paul and Sophie.

NEW GREETINGS CARDS

We are very thankful for Allan Clifford sharing his newly painted greetings card and we thank him for gifting us with the first set of prints. The card can be purchased here in Holy Trinity at the Community Café, Wednesdays 10:00–12:00, and again on Sundays by the kitchen, costing £2.50 each or 5 for £10. All proceeds are for church funds.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

This year's Tree Festival will run from Tuesday 8th until Sunday 13th December with set up on Sunday 6th and clear away on Monday 14th. I would be very grateful for volunteers to: Put up banners and posters, help collect stuff on Friday 4th, set up tables etc on Sunday 6th after church, act as stewards and help with refreshments during the week and help clear away on Monday 14th. I'll put some lists on the welcome desk and do hope that you will be able to help make our festival a success. John Cox — 864270. Sue Woods will be raffling a quilt and would like help selling tickets. Her number is 863298

NEW HOUSE GROUPS

'Big Issues':

The new Big Issues course will begin in January. If you would like to find out more about this course, its evening sessions, or how to sign up, please contact Dr Simon Walker: email: spw762@gmail.com

Thank you to Simon for introducing the Big Issues course in last week's Notices and for leading the course.

'The Missionary Journeys of St Paul':

Hugh Wright will be leading a new house group, beginning in January, exploring the missionary journeys of St Paul. This daytime course will take place at home and will follow St Paul's travels, exploring the places he visited and the chronology of his journeys. It will draw on relevant chapters in the Acts of the Apostles, together with Paul's pastoral letters (epistles). For further information, please contact Hugh directly: email: hughwright38@gmail.com

We are thankful to Hugh and Jill for hosting the group.

CHURCH COMMUNITY

MAINLY MUSIC

Tuesdays at 10:30 – 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 14:30 – Fellowship and various activities for seniors.

COMMUNITY CAFÉ

Wednesdays from 10:00 –12:00. 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 12:00. From Darkness towards the Light. All welcome!

CREATIVE MAKERS MARKET

Saturday, 28th November, 10:00–15:00

FUTURE EVENTS

TRIO PARADIS CAFÉ CONCERT

Thursday 3rd December at 10:45. This month's programme features plenty of ice and snow, with sleigh rides and musical evocations of wintry landscapes: music by Purcell, Schubert, Delius, Tchaikovsky, Glazunov, Debussy and Palmgren.

BATH CAMERATA CONCERT

Saturday 5th December at 19:30. Our joyful Christmas concert promises to be an uplifting and moving showcase of music for the advent and Christmas season.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

Tuesday 8th - Sunday 13th December from 10:00–18:00.

BRADFORD ON AVON CHORAL SOCIETY CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Friday 11th December at 19:00.

CANTAMUS CONCERT

Tuesday 15th December at 19:30. A selection of seasonal music wrapped up with readings and a flurry of favourite carols celebrating the magic of Christmas.

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 sick, remembering especially: Tony Bruun, Celia Milne, Alison Penny, Geneviève Roberts, Edward Shaw, Malcolm Walsh, James Wright, Tony Haffenden, Ken Holloway, Sue Lavis, Mavis Linstrum & Candice Wong

We also pray for those who have recently died, and all who mourn them: Chris Giles

And we also pray for all those whose anniversary of death is at this time, especially: Barbara Benjamin & Bill Matthews

Please let Revd Jenny, Marlene Haffenden (LPA) and Graham Dove (LLM) 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.

CONTACT DETAILS

Website:	www.htboa.org
Benefice Office Tel:	01225 864444 – Annie
Benefice Office Email:	beneficeoffice@htboa.org

The Rector, The Reverend Jenny Nelson:

Home Office Tel:	01225 680808
Email:	revjennynelson@outlook.com

[The Rector's usual weekly day off is a Friday]