



This † Week

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15th December – Third Sunday Of Advent

A very warm welcome to everyone joining in worship.

Large print versions of the Order of Service are available at the back of church.

A loop system is provided for the benefit of hearing aid users. Please switch it to 'T'. Please switch off mobile phones.

15 th December 3 rd Sunday Of Advent (Purple)	10.30am	All Age Christmas Service
	6.30pm	Be Still – a time of contemplative prayer & reflection
Monday	7.30pm	Advent Course on Zoom
Wednesday	2.30-4pm	Time To Reflect - Church open for quiet prayer
	6.30pm	Midweek Praise
Thursday	10.30am	Celtic Advent
Friday	9.30am	School Christmas Service
22 nd December 4 th Sunday Of Advent (Purple)	8.00am	BCP Communion – Readings: Pg 53; Philippians 4; 4-7; John 1; 19-28
	10.30am	Holy Communion & Carol Requests – Readings: Micah 5.2-5a; Hebrews 10.5-10 (JJ); Luke 1.39-45 (Lay Assistant ... JB) (Followed by mince pies & mulled wine)
	6.00pm	Joint Carol Service – Ainsworth Methodist Church

Please hold in your prayers:

Our Local Community: Residents of Ainsworth Hall Road.

The sick: All who are ill; Jane Lord, Moira Gilmore, Barry Hardman, Father Chaminda, Mr. Fernando, members of our families, our congregation, and our wider community.

The bereaved: All who have lost loved ones, especially the family & friends of Ian Watts & Alan Sparke; may they find healing, peace, strength, and courage to face the future.

We remember with thanks, the lives of those recorded in our Book Of Remembrance, whose anniversary falls within the coming week: Lilian Waldram – 15/12/2000; Revd Kenneth Poyser Bullock – 19/12/2015; Ethel Carrington – 20/12/1990; Marion Hampson – 20/12/2015.

“The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.” (James 5:16)

If you wish to receive the Pew Sheet by e-mail, send an e-mail to ainsworthnewsletter2023@gmail.com with 'send pew sheet' in the subject; otherwise download from <http://www.ainsworthparish.org.uk/pewsheets.html>

15th December

- **Candlelit Christmas Concert** – A huge thank you to members of Farnworth & Walkden Band & also to everyone who supported this event. The total amount raised (before the Band's fee) was an incredible £1,104-00!!
- **Christmas Carol Requests** – At the 10.30am Service on Sunday 22nd December we'll be having mince pies, mulled wine & Carol requests; if you have a favourite Christmas Carol, please add it to the list which will be in Church this week.
- **Many Thanks** to everyone who has donated mince pies for our Christmas events & activities; we now have plenty!

Christ Church Ainsworth

**‘Celebrating, encouraging, proclaiming and supporting faith, hope and love
in Jesus Christ our Lord...’**

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- **Christmas Meal Appeal** – Many thanks to everyone who has already donated goods for our annual 'Christmas Meal Appeal' to support 'Porch Boxes'; each week throughout Advent we're asking you to bring an item which will be part of a Christmas meal for someone who is in need. During the third week in Advent (15th – 21st Dec) we're asking folk to donate things that could be eaten as a dessert eg tins of fruit, rice pudding, tinned sponge pudding, or something similar. Thanking you in advance!
- **Radcliffe & Whitefield Mission Community Carbon Literacy Training** – Saturday 11th Jan 2025, 10 – 12.30pm @ Christ Church Walshaw; find out more about climate change; how our lifestyles affect this, what's happening locally & nationally & what we can do to improve things. For more info or to book your place email alisonhartleyhorse@gmail.com
- **Mission Community Advent Zoom Prayers Are Back** – Monday to Friday, 6pm for 10 minutes. Simply click the link below to join in:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88510585974?pwd=QUdYYjN6bDFoakxpZnBoY2ZDMUFoZz09>
- **Authorised Lay Ministry** - Authorised Lay Ministers (ALMs) are lay people active in church life, who have been identified by their parish as having a particular gifting, vocation or calling to lay leadership, i.e. those called to work collaboratively alongside their incumbent and wider ministry teams with a distinct focus on growing, nurturing and serving the wider parish community. Check out the following link for more info [ALM Leaflet 2025](#) Applications for 2025 courses close on 13th January 2025.
- **New Year, New You?** If you're looking for a new challenge / interest for 2025, why not consider volunteering within one of our Church teams. The Churchyard Team meet on a Wednesday morning & work in our lovely Churchyard; the Pew Polishers meet alternate Thursday mornings & do a fabulous job of cleaning & tidying in Church. Both of these teams would appreciate additional volunteers; if you have a couple of hours to spare even once a month, they would love to hear from you. For Churchyard team enquiries contact Janet Hayes (01204 796404); for Pew Polishing enquiries speak to 1 of the Churchwardens.
- **Christ Church Ainsworth 50:50 Lucky Lotto** – The December Lucky Lotto will be drawn in Church following the morning Service on Sunday, 29th December; £1 / entry, payment by cash or bank transfer, for more info contact ainsworthparishinfo@gmail.com & remember – you have to be in it to win it!!

Praying Together: Each week, all the Churches within our Mission Community will pray for our future together; in the coming week we will be:

- Giving thanks for the many opportunities which exist for our Churches to connect with our wider communities at this time of year – Carol Services, Christmas Concerts & Crib Services to name but a few.
- Giving thanks for those who welcome and interact with visitors to our Churches; praying that people will always feel welcome & valued when they come through our doors.
- Praying that some of those who come to our Christmas Services & events will be inspired & want to find out more.
- Praying that we will be guided and inspired by the Holy Spirit as we look for new ways to connect within our local communities in meaningful ways.

If you would like to include a notice on the pew sheet about your organisation or a specific event that's happening, please email ainsworthnewsletter2023@gmail.com

If you pay tax, please Gift Aid your offering(s). This enables us to claim back the tax paid on offerings. Envelopes for occasional givers are in the pews and forms for regular givers are in the porch. **The only details that need to be given,** are your **full** name, address and post code and an acknowledgement that you pay tax to the value of the amount to be claimed. Bank Standing Order forms are also available in the Church porch. Completed forms can be put on the collection plate with your offering.