



# This † Week

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## 22<sup>nd</sup> December – Fourth 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.*

22 <sup>nd</sup> December  4 <sup>th</sup> 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
24 <sup>th</sup> December  Christmas Eve	2.00pm	Around The Crib – Family Service
	11.30pm	First Communion Of Christmas – Readings: Isaiah 9: 1-7; Luke 2: 1-14 (AH)
25 <sup>th</sup> December Christmas Day	9.00am	BCP Communion – Readings: Hebrews 1; 1-12; John 1; 1-14 Pg54 (AH)
29 <sup>th</sup> December 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas	10.30am	Holy Communion – Readings: 1 Samuel 2.18-20,26; Colossians 3.12-17 (LH); Luke 2.41-52 (Lay Assistant DH) (Followed by refreshments & drawing of the Lucky Lotto)

## 29<sup>th</sup> December – First Sunday Of Christmas

29 <sup>th</sup> December 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas	10.30am	Holy Communion - Readings: 1 Samuel 2.18-20,26; Colossians 3.12-17 (LH); Luke 2.41-52 (Lay Assistant DH) (Followed by refreshments & drawing of the Lucky Lotto)
5 <sup>th</sup> January Epiphany  (White)	10.30am	Holy Communion – Readings: Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:1-12 (JJ); Matthew 2:1-12 (Lay Assistant CH)
	6.30pm	BCP Evening Prayer – Readings: Ephesians 3; 1-12; Matthew 2; 1-12 (Pg65) Psalm 147; 13-21 Pg535

### Please hold in your prayers:

**Our Local Community:** Residents of Greenside.

**The sick:** All who are ill; 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 Jane Lord, 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:** Edward Sharples – 23/12/1994; George Derek Wood – 24/12/1990; Ian Taylor – 25/12/1998; Edward Atherton – 25/12/2015, Nora Jean Martin – 28/12/1993.

*“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](mailto:ainsworthnewsletter2023@gmail.com) with 'send pew sheet' in the subject; otherwise download from <http://www.ainsworthparish.org.uk/pewsheets.html>

## 22<sup>nd</sup> December

- **Acknowledgement** – A huge thank you to everyone who sent cards, flowers, messages of sympathy & support following Ian's death; your kindness is very much appreciated – from Valerie Watts.

## Christ Church Ainsworth

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

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- **Holly Wreaths** - Many thanks to everyone who ordered Holly wreaths from the Churchyard Team, the total amount raised was £134-00; thank you for your support.
- **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. As we come to the end of Advent, we're asking you to donate something which is 'a little extra'; this could be sweets, chocolates, toiletries, or anything else that would make Christmas a little bit special, for someone in need. Thanking you in advance!
- **Radcliffe & Whitefield Mission Community Carbon Literacy Training** – Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:alisonhartleyhorse@gmail.com)
- **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 13<sup>th</sup> 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 next Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> December; £1 / entry, payment by cash or bank transfer, for more info contact [ainsworthparishinfo@gmail.com](mailto: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:

- Praying for Christians all around the world who are preparing to celebrate Christmas.
- Giving thanks that we are able to celebrate Christmas, and worship in our Churches, without fear of reprisals or persecution.
- Giving thanks for the wide variety of Christmas Services offered by our individual Churches.
- Giving thanks for the many opportunities that Christmas offers our Churches, to engage with and reach out to our wider communities.
- Praying that some of those with whom we connect at this time, may be inspired by the Holy Spirit, and that they might feel called to explore their faith further, or return to faith.

*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](mailto:ainsworthnewsletter2023@gmail.com)*

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**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.  
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