

Worship at home for Christmas

We look forward to coming together to worship all year round but how much more do we enjoy it at Christmas time. Unfortunately, this year is asking us to consider alternative ways to worship. We want to encourage everyone to find a way to worship in this season when we celebrate Christ's birth.

This week we have included a list of Minster church services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, but a lot more is available:

An on-line Christingle service will be **available from 2 pm on Friday 11 December**. The link is <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXQ2-PqzbIlo9X7gsZ6yNgQ>

Alcester Churches Together is organising an on-line Carol service at **2 pm on Sunday 13 December**. Enjoy singing carols in your own home and as everyone will be muted you can sing out the carols to your hearts delight. To receive an invitation email: administrator@alcesterminster.org Booking is essential.

Why not join in Doorstep Carols, a community carol sing-along, by singing outside your front door on **Wednesday 16 December at 6 pm** www.doorstepcarols.co.uk

The Church of England will be streaming 'Worship at Home' advent services each Sunday at 9 am. Available on the Church of England YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/thechurchofengland> and Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/thechurchofengland>.

At **11.30 pm on Christmas Eve** there will also be a 'Worship at Home: Midnight Mass' on both the YouTube and Facebook links give above.

There will be a special Christmas on-line service from Alcester Minster available on the Minster website Welcome page **from Christmas Eve** www.alcesterminster.org .

Also a reminder that Julie and Beth are arranging a 'Drive-in' Crib service for Christmas Eve at the Greig Hall Car Park at 4.30 pm. Booking is essential – e-mail alcestercribservice@gmail.com to reserve your place.



Please don't forget The Daily Hope telephone line. A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers. Especially helpful for those who are unable to access on-line worship.



Welcome to the Alcester Minster Group of Churches Sunday 13 December 2020

Advent 3 Purple

"They asked him, 'Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?'"

John 1 v 24

Collect

O Lord Jesus Christ,
who at your first coming sent your messenger
to prepare your way before you:
grant that the ministers and
stewards of your mysteries
may likewise so prepare and make
ready your way
by turning the hearts of the
disobedient to the wisdom of the
just,
that at your second coming to judge
the world
we may be found an acceptable
people in your sight;
for you are alive and reign with the
Father
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Alternative Collect

God for whom we watch
and wait,
you sent John the Baptist
to prepare the way of
your Son:
give us courage to speak
the truth,
to hunger for justice,
and to suffer for the cause
of right,
with Jesus Christ our Lord.

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Ministry Team:

Rector: Vacancy
Revd Sue Henwood: Kinwarton Rectory, Sernal Lane, Great Alne
Alcester B49 6HY Tel: 01789 488 344 email: sue.henwood@live.co.uk
Revd Julian Davey: The Field House, Allimore Lane
Alcester, B49 5PR Tel: 01789 764 640 email: jw.davey@yahoo.com

Children & Family Worker:

Beth Clarke email: Beth.Clarke@Coventry.Anglican.org Tel: 0749 432 9638

Administrator:

Tricia Berry (Monday – Friday 10.00am – 1.30 pm) Tel: 0784 028 4294
email: administrator@alcesterminster.org Alcester Minster Office is currently closed, (Working Hours 10.30 – 12.30pm)

Alcester Minster website: www.alcesterminster.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/AlcesterMinster

Next week's services and events

Sunday 13 December **Advent 3** *Purple*
Alcester 10.00 am Holy Communion
Arrow 10.00 am Christingle
Sambourne 4.00 pm Evening Prayer

Tuesday 15 December
Via Zoom 12.00 noon Prayer Gathering

Sunday 20 December **Advent 4** *Purple*
Alcester 10.00 am Holy Communion
Great Alne 10.00 am Morning Worship
Weethley 3.00 pm Holy Communion

Please remember to reserve a place at ALL Minster services in advance through the Administrator Tel: 0784 028 4294 or email: administrator@alcesterminster.org

It is not too soon to reserve your places at Christmas services. Please reserve places for the following before Wednesday 23 December

Thursday 24 December **Christmas Eve** *Purple*
Coughton 3.00 pm Holy Communion
Weethley 3.00 pm Holy Communion
Greig Hall 4.30 pm 'Drive-in' Crib Service
Alcester 11.00 pm Holy Communion
Great Alne 11.15 pm Midnight Holy Communion

Friday 25 December **Christmas Day** *White/Gold*
Arrow 9.00 am Holy Communion
Haselor 9.00 am Holy Communion
Kinwarton 9.00 am Holy Communion
Sambourne 9.00 am Holy Communion
Alcester 11.00 am Holy Communion

Sunday 27 December **Christmas 1** *White*
Alcester 10.00 am Minster Holy Communion

The on-line service is continuing and can be accessed on the Welcome page of the Alcester Minster website. www.alcesterminster.org

Contact Administrator if you have any difficulties accessing the service.

Alcester Minster churches will be open as usual for private prayer during the week

Please remember to contact Gail Laband if you wish to pray in Sambourne church.

Readings for the week

Today Isaiah 61 v 1 – 4 & 8 - 11
John 1 v 6 – 8 & 19 – 28
Monday 1 Thessalonians 5 v 1 – 11
Tuesday 1 Thessalonians 5 v 12 – 28
Wednesday 2 Thessalonians 1 v 1 – 12
Thursday 2 Thessalonians 2 v 1 – 17
Friday 2 Thessalonians 3 v 1 – 18
Saturday Jude



Prayer

The Ministry Leadership Team would like you to pray for the following topics:

1. Give thanks to God that we (in normal times) are able to worship freely in this country, and pray that he may give us patience to continue to cope with the current restrictions.
2. Pray for Christians in countries or situations where they are persecuted for their faith. Pray especially that they may be able to celebrate Christmas in safety.

Please ensure all mobile phones are switched OFF during church services. Visitors are invited to Gift Aid their offerings in the envelopes provided.

Contact Tricia Berry (01789 509 278 or 07840 284 294 or administrator@alcesterminster.org) by 6 pm on Tuesday to add notices of church activities to next week's notice sheet

Check out the website calendar for further details on events/services coming up and help to worship at home



Did you know that you can now 'LIKE' Alcester Minster on Facebook? Find details and pictures of events at www.facebook.com/AlcesterMinster If you would like to submit event notices or photos to be published on the page then please email administrator@alcesterminster.org