

### Revd Neil's final service in the Group

Neils' final service will be the Eucharist service on Sunday 29 December at 11am. It was felt that this occasion couldn't go unmarked, so a goodbye party after the service has been arranged. As everyone is so busy at this time of year, it was agreed by the PCCs that holding this at the Five Bells, Morton was a sensible option. Therefore, there will be a buffet lunch there from 12.30. The cost of this is £8 per person.

If you would like to come to this party, please would you either let your church warden know, or email ringstoneoffice@gmail.com. Payment needs to be made at the same time - please give the money to the church warden, or use the card machine at the back of Morton church, or email ringstoneoffice@gmail.com for the bank details.

We need final numbers by **Sunday 15 December**.

### Follow the Star: Calm and Bright

December can feel like chaos – lots of social events, services, Christmas presents to buy, never-ending to-do lists and the pressure to create the perfect Christmas. But in the midst of this chaos, our churches can offer an opportunity to find peace during this busy time.

The Church of England's theme for Advent and Christmas 2024, Follow the Star: Calm and Bright, draws on the world-famous carol, Silent Night:

*"Silent Night! Holy Night!  
All is calm, all is bright..."*

One of the reasons that this carol is so universally loved is the way it invites us into the still centre of the Christmas story, to contemplate Mary holding the new-born Jesus, the Light of the World.

The angelic messages we encounter in the biblical story of Jesus' birth typically hold together the need for calm in the present ("Do not be afraid" ... "Fear not") with the hope of a bright future ("for you have found favour with God" ... "for behold I bring you tidings of great joy").



The Church of England has provided an online Advent calendar: Find daily reflections for all ages, as well as audio versions so you can take a moment to reflect, even on the move. Follow along this December. <https://www.churchofengland.org/faith-life/what-we-believe/advent-and-christmas/advent-calendar>

# Ringstone in Aveland News Sheet



**15 December 2024  
Third Sunday of Advent**

### Collect for this Sunday

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.

**Amen**

### Isaiah 12.2-6\*

Surely God is my salvation;  
I will trust, and will not be afraid,  
for the Lord God is my strength and my might;  
he has become my salvation.

**With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.**

And you will say on that day:

Give thanks to the Lord,  
call on his name;  
make known his deeds among the nations;  
proclaim that his name is exalted.

**Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously;  
let this be known in all the earth.**

Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion,  
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and for evermore, Amen**

### Readings for this Sunday

**Zephaniah 3.14-20  
Philippians 4.4-7  
Luke 3.7-18**



### Post Communion Prayer for this Sunday

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts; kindle in us the fire of your Spirit that when your Christ comes again we may shine as lights before his face; who is alive and reigns now and for ever. **Amen**

### Please pray for...

Eben Atkinson, Sheila Bates, Margaret Brumby, Marie Rose Cubacub, Christine Evans, Sue Grainge, Annie Hall, Clive Hall, Robert Hitchens, Jane Knight, Judy Long, Imogen Matthews, Pat Reid, John Rowntree, Maggie Sharman, Ivan Spencer, Amanda Thomson, Clive Walker, Kevin Whitfield, King Charles III, and for any others whom we name in the silence of our hearts.

We give thanks for those on the road to recovery.

We remember Ann Woodward, Carol Godfrey, Jo Honniball and the souls of all the faithful departed. May they rest in peace and rise in glory; and we pray for those who mourn their loss.

Funeral anniversaries: Walter Baxter (6 months); Maurice Brooker (1 year); Roy Machin (2 years); Barbara Jeffreys (13 years)

### From today's Gospel reading

*John said, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming.... He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire."*

#### Reflection:

While the advertising world around us has been ramping up the Christmas season for weeks with "holiday specials," let's keep this Advent time "special" by focusing on Jesus' coming into our lives. John the Baptist isn't talking about the infant Jesus but points our attention towards the adult Christ. He calls us to prepare for Christ's coming by making changes in our everyday behaviour.

#### So, we ask ourselves:

- ✝ What change can I make in my daily behaviour that will show my readiness to receive Christ into my life?
- ✝ What Advent gift am I praying for that will help me make that change?

### .Can you help?



Here is a **new** list of items that are running low, but feel free to donate any in-date, non-perishable food at any of our **Donation Points**

Milk (UHT cartons)	Fruit juice / squash	Coffee
Tinned meat	Jam	Deserts
Custard	Snacks—pot noodles, rice etc	
Laundry powder / liquid	Washing up liquid	Toothbrushes
Toilet roll	Razors and shaving foam	

**There is a collection box in St John the Baptist Church, on the left at the back of the church. Please be as generous as possible.**

### Sunday and regular weekday Services in the Group

15 December	11am	Eucharist	Morton
22 December	11am	Eucharist	Kirkby Underwood
	3pm	Evening Prayer	Morton
29 December	11am	Eucharist	Morton
5 January	9am	Eucharist	Morton
	3pm	Evening Prayer	Haconby
12 January	9am	Eucharist	Haconby
	3pm	Evening Prayer	Morton
Wednesday	10 am	See below	Morton

From 1 January, the Wednesday service will be Morning Prayer.

**Do you know anyone who is unable to get to church but who would like to receive Holy Communion?** Contact Revd Neil on 01778 219626

### Safeguarding & Contact Information

Safeguarding: We take your welfare and safety very seriously!

Revd Neil (Rector): revdneil@yahoo.com, 01778 219626 or  
Janice Hill (Group Safeguarding Officer): janicethreetun\_s@hotmail.co.uk,  
01778 440733 and 07972 211936

Group Administrator and for entries to news sheet (by Tuesday please)  
Sue O'Riordan: ringstoneoffice@gmail.com

### Advent and Christmas services in the Ringstone in Aveland Group

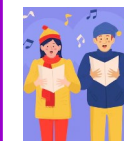


#### Christingle Services:

Sunday 8 December at 3pm	Morton
Sunday 15 December at 3pm	Haconby

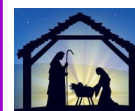
#### Carol Services:

Wednesday 18 December at 7pm	Kirby Underwood
Sunday 22 December at 5pm	Rippingale



#### Carols by Candlelight

Tuesday 24 December at 5pm	Morton
Tuesday 24 December at 7pm	Dunsby



#### Eucharist Services:

Tuesday 24 December at 11.30pm	Morton
Wednesday 25 December at 10am	Kirkby Underwood