

**Let us pray this week for Christians in North Korea,
Number One on the World Watch List**

Sunday 2 February North Korea has released a new song called 'Our Father,' which praises Kim Jong-un as a benevolent father who cares for his children. Pray that believers will keep their focus on Jesus and not be worn down by increasing propaganda and indoctrination.

Monday 3 February Open Doors estimates there are between 300,000-500,000 believers in North Korea.

Many are in labour camps. Pray that Christ's power will give them great endurance (Colossians 1:11), and pray for the release of all political prisoners.

Tuesday 4 February China has warned North Korean refugees within its borders not to cause 'social unrest'. This includes not participating in Bible studies or church services. Ask God to protect His children from discovery and repatriation.

Wednesday 5 February Christians are rarely able to meet with other believers. Despite the risks, they secretly listen to Christian radio programmes at night. Open Doors plans to increase its radio broadcasts into the country this year. Pray that these programmes will build up the church.

Thursday 6 February Open Doors has trained many North Korean Christians who have returned to their homeland to disciple the underground church. Ask God to protect these courageous believers and equip them to build up His body.

Friday 7 February "We can endure because we have inherited the faith from our ancestors, who lived by Queen Esther's creed: 'If I perish, I perish,'" says one believer. Praise God for the faith of our North Korean family and pray that their spiritual strength remains unbroken.

Saturday 8 February "There still is a large underground church," says one North Korean believer. "Because you pray, many people are miraculously healed and experience God's power." Pray for more people to come to faith in Jesus.

Source: www.opendoorsuk.org



Ringstone in Aveland News Sheet

2 February 2025
Candlemas



We welcome Revd Sylvia Rice-Oxley, and thank her for leading our Eucharist service

Collect for this Sunday

O God, who by the leading of a star manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: mercifully grant that we, who know you now by faith, may at last behold your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Psalm 24: Entrance into the Temple

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it;
for he has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers.

Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place?
Those who have clean hands and pure hearts, who do not lift up their souls to what is false, and do not swear deceitfully.

They will receive blessing from the Lord, and vindication from the God of their salvation.

Such is the company of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors!
that the King of glory may come in.

Who is the King of glory?

The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle.

Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors!
that the King of glory may come in.

Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.

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

Safeguarding & Contact Information

Group Safeguarding Officer - Janice Hill

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Group Administrator and for entries to news sheet (by Tuesday please)

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Please pray for...

Eben Atkinson, Sheila Bates, Margaret Brumby, Marie Rose Cubacub, Christine Evans, Sue Grainge, Annie Hall, Clive Hall, Robert Hitchens, Jane Knight, Imogen Matthews, Pat Reid, John Rowntree, Maggie Sharman, Amanda Thomson, Clive Walker, Judy Watson, 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 Ivan Spencer, Peter Ashton, Astrid Kuhn, 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: Shirley Dawson, Peter Chubbuck (1 year); Evelyn Bates, Margaret King, Arthur Branch, Caroline Creasey, Patricia Gray (2 years)

From today's Psalm

"Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord."

Reflection:

Those who are faithful and vigilant in prayer are well-prepared to recognize God's presence in ordinary people and events. Today's Psalm is right: "Who is this king of glory?" What will help us recognize God's entrance into our lives? Simeon and Anna teach us the answer: watchfulness and prayerful attentiveness.

So, we ask ourselves:

- ✚ Do I look for God in the daily events of my life?
- ✚ Do I have a regular pattern of prayer that helps me be alert to God's presence in my daily life?



Can you help?

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.

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

Sunday and regular weekday Services in the Group

2 February	11am	Eucharist	Morton
	3pm	Evening Prayer	Kirkby Underwood
9 February	9am	Eucharist	Haconby
	3pm	Evening Prayer	Morton
16 February	11am	Eucharist	Morton
23 February	11am	Eucharist	Kirkby Underwood
	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? Please speak with your church warden, or email ringstoneoffice@gmail.com

Post Communion Prayer for this Sunday

Lord God, the bright splendour whom the nations seek: may we who with the wise men have been drawn by your light discern the glory of your presence in your Son, the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Readings for this Sunday



Malachi 3.1-5; Hebrews 2.14-18; Luke 2.22-40



Lent Course 2025 Now Available On Learn-Grow-Share

The Diocese of Lincoln's Lent Course for 2025 is now available to read and download (and its free!). This Lent Course is designed for individual and group study. It explores prayer through the lens of some of the simplest things we ever learn to say: please; wow; sorry; and ouch.

You will learn how each of these words opens up a different way of thinking about prayer, and different practical approaches to praying. **Go to the Diocese of Lincoln website for more details.**

<https://www.lincoln.anglican.org/news/lent-course-2025-now-available-on-learn-grow-share/>

