



# COMMON WORSHIP

The Parishes of Great Gransden  
and Little Gransden  
**FAMILY SERVICE—ALL AGE WORSHIP**  
**A Service of The Word**

Advent Sunday

Sunday 2nd December 2018

**CONTACTS DURING INTERREGNUM**—all enquiries re Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals or any other church matters should be made to the Churchwardens (*full details in Roundabout*).

**PRAYER LIST** - If you would like anyone to be included by name in our prayers each Sunday (sick, departed etc.) please contact Tony Bevens LLM.

**STAMPS FOR MOGGERHANGER**—The boxes for used postage stamps for Moggerhanger will be in our churches from now until the end of January.

**WINTERCOMFORT**— There will be collection of items for this charity during our Group Service NEXT Sunday, 9th December at 10.00am at GG Church.

**NEW SAFETY ARRANGEMENTS** - At normal services there are now 3 emergency exits showing a green/white sign. In the event of an emergency you will be directed to leave the church by these exits and proceed to the Assembly Point in the churchyard. A 'Safety Buddy' system is in place for those with reduced mobility. More information available from the Sidesmen, Nick Walton or Stephen Sullivan.

### CHURCH DIARY

Tue	4th	2pm	Mothers Union	
		7.30pm	Revellers Rehearsal	GG Church
Wed	5th	6.30pm	Choir Practice	GG Church
Thu	6th	7.30pm	Bellringing Practice	GG Church
Fri	7th	7.30pm	Revellers Rehearsal	GG Church

**PLEASE TAKE THIS SHEET HOME WITH YOU**

### **SUNDAY SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE IN THE NEXT FORTNIGHT**

<b>Sunday 9th December</b>		<b>Sunday 16th December</b>	
<b>Group Service</b>		9.30 am	Family Communion CW GG
10am	Family Communion CW GG		With Sunday School & Baptism
		11am	Morning Prayer BCP W

A = Abbotsley, GG = Great Gransden, LG = Little Gransden, W = Wareley  
BCP = Book of Common Prayer, CW = Common Worship

### CONTACTS

Priest in Charge: *In Interregnum*

LLM: Tony Bevens 677643  
 ALM Music: Sheila George 677553 ALM Youthwork: Angela Steele 07711 285165  
 Churchwardens: Great Gransden Rob Chignell 677322 Iain Strath 679911  
 Little Gransden Nick Wareham 677555 Betty Bates 677257

Church Web page : [thegransdens.btck.co.uk](http://thegransdens.btck.co.uk)

Find us on Facebook Great and Little Gransden Churches



## **WELCOME**

We welcome you to Great Gransden Parish Church.  
The Leader of today's service is Rachel Fogg.

**THEME – Can you see the signs?**

## **THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT RING**

*This year we are following an Advent Resource from the Royal School of Church Music*

### **Advent I – the Advent hope**

Jesus said, 'Keep awake,  
for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.'

**Amen. Come soon, Lord Jesus!**

*The first candle is lit and this response is used*

Jesus is the light of the world.

**A light no darkness can ever put out.**

*We sing:*

Advent candles tell their story  
as we watch and pray,  
longing for the Day of Glory,  
'Come, Lord, soon,' we say.  
Pain and sorrow, tears and sadness,  
changed for gladness on that Day.

*Mark Earey Copyright © 2002 Mark Earey*

## **PRAYER OF APPROACH:**

God of Advent:  
where there is light, there is your kingdom;  
where there is hope, there is your kingdom;  
where there is community, there is your kingdom.  
Week by week, as the Advent candles burn,  
may we discern signs of your kingdom among us,  
and share them with others. **Amen.**

**Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.**

## **CONCLUSION** *Please stand for*

**HYMN 449** Mine eyes have seen the glory  
*During this hymn the collection will be taken.*

*Please remain standing for*

## **SENDING OUT PRAYER**

Go in the light of faith and shine brightly.  
Go in the strength of faith and be bold.  
Go in the love of God the Father,  
the peace of Jesus the Son,  
and the power of the Holy Spirit –  
be blessed this Advent and always.  
**Amen.**

## **THE BLESSING**

May the love of the Lord Jesus draw us to himself,  
the power of the Lord Jesus strengthen us in his service,  
the joy of the Lord Jesus fill our hearts;  
and may the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son,  
and the Holy Spirit, be among us and remain with us always.  
**Amen**

Leader: Let us go in peace and walk in love,  
serving the Lord in all we do.

**All: In the name of Christ. Amen**

## **NOTICES**

**APPOINTMENT ANNOUNCEMENT:** The Bishop of Ely is pleased to announce that the Revd Rachel Blanchflower, formerly curate of The Good Shepherd, Chesterton, is to take up the post of half time Priest-in-Charge of the Benefice of Great Gransden and Abbotsley and Little Gransden and Waresley.

**The licensing service will be held at 7pm on Thursday 31st January 2019 at Great Gransden Church. All welcome.**

**HYMN 438** Make way

Please sit for the **ADDRESS**

Please stand for **AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Leader: Let us declare our faith in God.

**All: We believe in God the Father,  
from whom every family  
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,  
who lives in our hearts through faith,  
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
who strengthens us  
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**THE PRAYERS**

*Please sit for prayers of intercession and thanksgiving followed by the Lord's Prayer.*

Leader: Lord, show us how to live:

**All: And give us the courage to go forward.**

Leader: Merciful Father,

**All Accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen**

Leader: As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**All: Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**HYMN** In Christ alone

In Christ alone my hope is found,  
He is my light, my strength, my song;  
This cornerstone, this solid ground,  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace,  
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!  
My comforter, my all in all,  
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! - who took on flesh,  
Fullness of God in helpless babe!  
This gift of love and righteousness,  
Scorned by the ones He came to save;  
Till on that cross as Jesus died,  
The wrath of God was satisfied -  
For every sin on Him was laid;  
Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay,  
Light of the world by darkness slain;  
Then bursting forth in glorious day  
Up from the grave He rose again!  
And as He stands in victory  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,  
For I am His and He is mine -  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,  
This is the power of Christ in me;  
From life's first cry to final breath,  
Jesus commands my destiny.  
No power of hell, no scheme of man,  
Can ever pluck me from His hand;  
Till He returns or calls me home,  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

*Songwriters: Keith Getty / Stuart Townend*

*Remain standing*

## **CONFESSION**

Lord of heaven and earth,  
sometimes we don't recognise your signs of love and  
compassion among us:

**forgive and enrich us.**

Sometimes we don't recognise your signs of change  
and challenge:

**forgive and enlighten us.**

Sometimes we don't recognise your signs of reconciliation  
and healing:

**forgive and encourage us.**

Sometimes we do recognise your signs of opportunity,  
but lack the confidence to act on them:

**forgive and empower us.**

In the name and strength of Jesus, we pray.

**Amen.**

Leader     May the God of love bring us back to himself,  
              forgive us our sins,  
              and assure us of his eternal love  
              in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Please remain standing for the* **COLLECT** *for today*

Almighty God,  
as your kingdom dawns,  
turn us from the darkness of sin to the  
light of holiness,  
that we may be ready to meet you  
in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. **Amen**

*Please sit for*

## **THE GOSPEL READING**

Luke 21.25-36 (not announced) *read by Debbie Black*

Hear the Gospel according to Luke.

“There will be strange things happening to the sun, the moon, and the stars. On earth whole countries will be in despair, afraid of the roar of the sea and the raging tides. People will faint from fear as they wait for what is coming over the whole earth, for the powers in space will be driven from their courses. Then the Son of Man will appear, coming in a cloud with great power and glory. When these things begin to happen, stand up and raise your heads, because your salvation is near.”

Then Jesus told them this parable: “Think of the fig tree and all the other trees. When you see their leaves beginning to appear, you know that summer is near. In the same way, when you see these things happening, you will know that the Kingdom of God is about to come. “Remember that all these things will take place before the people now living have all died. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

“Be on your guard! Don't let yourselves become occupied with too much feasting and drinking and with the worries of this life, or that Day may suddenly catch you like a trap. For it will come upon all people everywhere on earth. Be on the alert and pray always that you will have the strength to go safely through all those things that will happen and to stand before the Son of Man.” GNB

Reader: This is the word of the Lord     **All: Thanks be to God**

*Please stand for*

## **THE PEACE**

Leader:     The peace of the Lord be always with you

**All:            and also with you.**

Leader:     Let us offer one another a sign of peace

*All may exchange a sign of peace by shaking hands with those around you.*