

## BLESSING

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

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## Christmas 2021 The Courage

**PRAY:** Who would you like to share the good news of Jesus with this Christmas? Pray for them daily.

**TAKE** several *Christmas in Denham* flyers.

**INVITE:** Early bird sign-up for our carol services if you bring a guest. Email or call our office with details by Sunday 28 November.

**HOST:** Invite friends and neighbours to a *carols party* and watch one of our streamed services at your home. Let the office know and we will provide some tips and *Why Christmas* booklets.

## WANTED: Camera and Sound

Do you enjoy using tech? We need to grow our team operating the sound and the camera at our 10.30am service at St Mary's. Full training will be provided.

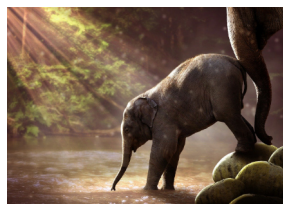
**Interested? Talk to Christoph**

**CHRISTMAS CARDS** are now on sale on the Bookstall at the back of church.

**DENHAM MANOR** are inviting us to make green handprints with Christmas messages for all the residents. They will be making a Christmas tree design with these to help decorate the home. **Drop off your handprint at the church office.**

### Let's pray together ...

- For joyful courage as we live out the good news of Jesus..
- For care of God's creation and our efforts to combat the effects of climate change
- For the vulnerable and the sick.
- For the families and friends of Robert Dell, Maurice Parfitt and all those who have lost loved ones



**Welcome to St Mary's Church!** We are so glad you are here – whether you are in the church building or watching online. If you are here for the first time or visiting, please say hello (in the chat feature online, or to the service leader or a member of the welcome team in church). You can find out more about our church on our website ([www.denhamparish.church](http://www.denhamparish.church)) or Facebook page ([facebook.com/denhamparish.church](https://facebook.com/denhamparish.church)).

*Christoph Lindner, Rector*

## WELCOME

### HYMN

**All for Jesus! All for Jesus!**

This our song shall ever be;  
for we have no hope nor Saviour  
if we have not hope in thee.

All for Jesus! Thou wilt give us  
strength to serve thee hour by hour:  
none can move us from thy presence  
while we trust thy love and pow'r.

All for Jesus! Thou has loved us,  
all for Jesus! Thou hast died,  
all for Jesus! Thou art with us,  
All for Jesus, glorified!

All for Jesus! All for Jesus!  
This the Church's song shall be,  
till at last the flock is gathered  
one in love, and one in thee.

### CONFESSION

**Lord our God, in our sin we have  
avoided your call. Our love for you  
is like a morning cloud, like the dew  
that goes away early.  
Have mercy on us; deliver us from  
judgement;  
bind up our wounds and revive us;  
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

# Service Sheet

**21<sup>st</sup> November 2021, 10.30am, St Mary's**  
The Sunday Next before Advent (Christ The King)  
**The Courage to Heal**

May the God of love and power  
forgive you and free you from your  
sins, heal and strengthen you by his  
Spirit, and raise you to new life in  
Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### COLLECT

God the Father, help us to hear the call  
of Christ the King and to follow in his  
service, whose kingdom has no end; for  
he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, one glory. **Amen**

### SONG

**Be strong and courageous**

Do not be afraid  
Don't be discouraged  
For the Lord your God will be with you  
Oh be strong and courageous  
Do not be afraid  
Don't be discouraged  
For the Lord your God will be with you  
Wherever you go  
Wherever you go  
When troubles come  
The Lord your God is with you  
He will always be there by your side  
He is strong  
when you feel small and frightened  
You will never, ever be alone

## An Evening with Christy Wimber

*international guest speaker*

**Weds 1 Dec, 7:30–9:30pm**  
**at The Hub (Church Lane, Chalfont St Peter, SL9 9RF)**

*Light refreshments, a short time of  
worship, the Christy sharing on:*

**How is the Holy Spirit asking us to  
move forward following the recent  
months of general disruption?**

*Organised by the local joint churches 'Prayer Together' group*



email: [office@denhamparish.church](mailto:office@denhamparish.church)

phone: 01895 832771

[www.denhamparish.church](http://www.denhamparish.church)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*(Children leave for Sunday Club)*

### FIRST READING: Mark 2.1-12

When he returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. So many gathered around that there was no longer room for them, not even in front of the door; and he was speaking the word to them. Then some people came, bringing to him a paralysed man, carried by four of them. And when they could not bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him; and after having dug through it, they let down the mat on which the paralytic lay. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, 'Son, your sins are forgiven.' Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, 'Why does this fellow speak in this way? It is blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?' At once Jesus perceived in his spirit that they were discussing these questions among themselves; and he said to them, 'Why do you raise such questions in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, "Your sins are forgiven", or to say, "Stand up and take your mat and walk"? But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins'— he said to the paralytic— 'I say to you, stand up, take your mat and go to your home.' And he stood up, and immediately took the mat and went out before all of them; so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, 'We have never seen anything like this!'

*This is the Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

### SECOND READING: Eph 2. 4-14

But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness towards us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

So then, remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called 'the uncircumcision' by those who are called 'the circumcision'—a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands— remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us.,

*This is the word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

### SERMON

*Human need moved these four men to 'intercede' (which literally means 'standing in the gap') for their friend. Let this story move you to compassionate action. The friends of the paralytic had to destroy the roof to achieve their aim. God is more*

*interested in our completeness that in our correctness. Most times we are more concerned consciously or unconsciously to be correct in our own eyes or the eyes of others around us. Being in Christ makes us complete not just correct - complete in spirit, soul and body. Today we are being encouraged to come to Jesus, our great healer for our spiritual, physical and relational healing; and to pray that we will be agents of God's healing just as the men were who brought their friend to Jesus.*

### HYMN

Amazing grace how sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me  
I once was lost but now I'm found  
Was blind but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear  
And grace my fears relieved  
How precious did that grace appear  
The hour I first believed

**My chains are gone I've been set free  
My God my Saviour has ransomed me  
And like a flood His mercy rains  
Unending love amazing grace**

Through many dangers toils and snares  
I have already come  
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far  
And grace will lead me home

When we've been there  
ten thousand years  
Bright shining as the sun  
We've no less days  
to sing God's praise  
Than when we've first begun

### PRAYERS

Merciful Father, **accept these prayers for the sake of your son our saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**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.  
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.**

*(Children return from Sunday Club)*

### HYMN

And can it be that I should gain  
an in'trest in the Saviour's blood?  
Died he for me, who caused his pain?  
For me, who him to death pursued?  
Amazing love! How can it be  
that thou, my God,  
shouldst die for me?

'He left his Father's throne above  
so free, so infinite his grace;  
emptied himself of all but love,  
and bled for Adam's helpless race;  
'tis mercy all, immense and free;  
for, O my God, it found out me.

Long my imprisoned spirit lay  
fast bound in sin and nature's night;  
Thine eye diffused a quick'ning ray,  
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;  
my chains fell off, my heart was free;  
I rose, went forth, and followed thee.

No condemnation now I dread;  
Jesus, and all in him, is mine!  
Alive in him, my living Head,  
And clothed in righteousness divine,  
bold I approach the eternal throne,  
and claim the crown,  
through Christ my own.