

**GORDON CHAPEL**  
**Scottish Episcopal Church**  
(Charity number SC001009)  
***Fochabers***

Priest	Rev Michael Last	tel: 01542 882782
Retired Clergy	Rev Roy Vincent	tel: 01542 834705
Lay Reader	Jeff Lowndes	tel: 01343 821448
Eucharistic Ministers	Janet Philpott	tel: 01343 820196
	Daphne Stevens	tel: 01343 821731
	Margaret Forsyth	tel: 01343 821808
	Moira Middleton	tel: 01343 842985

**All are invited to receive communion, we have an open altar here. If you prefer you may come forward for a blessing from the Priest. We welcome all visitors and invite you to sign the visitor's book and then join us for coffee in the Parish Room after the service.**

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December Advent 3 Year B**

10.00am                      Reserved Sacrament

Today's Readings      Isaiah **61** v 1-4, 8-11  
1 Thessalonians **5** v 16-24

Today's Gospel        John **1** v 6-8, 19-28

Today's Readers      Gillian Hood  
Angus Gordon Lennox  
Jeff Lowndes

**Readings for 24<sup>th</sup> December Advent 4**      2 Samuel **7** v 1-11, 16  
Romans **16** v 25-27  
Luke **1** v 26-38

## **For your diary**

Next Vestry meeting 10<sup>th</sup> January at 7.30pm

### **Afternoon Communion**

1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday in the month at 2.30pm followed by afternoon tea.

### **Evensong**

Second Sunday in the month at 6.30pm

### **Diocesan cycle of Prayer**

In the Diocesan cycle we pray for the congregations of Christ Church, Huntly; Holy Trinity, Keith; Gordon Chapel, Fochabers; St Marnan's, Aberchirder: Michael Last, Lay Reader Jacqueline Kemp.

### **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December Advent Bible Study in Keith Rectory at 2.00pm. Preparing for Christmas**

### **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 7.00pm Carol Service at Gordon Chapel**

### **Please save your Blue Tesco Tokens to help Christ Church Huntly receive funds to help with their new Church Garden.**

The more tokens they collect the more 'votes' they get.

A plastic bag to put them in is on the notice board in the Parish Room and Rev Michael will pick them up. Thank you for your help.

### **Today Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December. Friends of Gordon Chapel December Draw after the service.**

### **January 7<sup>th</sup> 2018 in Gordon Chapel**

**3.00pm.** An Ecumenical Christingle Service. Everyone welcome.

## **First Reading Isaiah 61 v 1-4, 8-11**

*A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.*

The servant of the LORD said: The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion – to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.

They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

For I the LORD love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed. I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

This is the Word of the Lord      **Thanks be to God**

## **Psalm 126**

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, then were we like those who dream.

**Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy.**

Then they said among the nations, 'The Lord has done great things for them.'

**The Lord has done great things for us, and we are glad indeed.**

Restore our fortunes, O Lord like the watercourses of the Negev.

**Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy.**

Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit

**As it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen**

**Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 5 v 16-24**

*A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.*

My brothers and sisters, Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

Do not quench the Spirit.

Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil. May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

This is the Word of the Lord      **Thanks be to God**



**Third Sunday *of* Advent**

**Website: [www.gordonchapelfochabers.uk](http://www.gordonchapelfochabers.uk)**

**Please notify Brenda Shepherd [01343 842179](tel:01343842179) or email [brenda02@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:brenda02@tiscali.co.uk) by Thursday of any items you would like included in the Sunday notice sheet.**