

Weekly News

3RD DECEMBER 2025

Peace is Coming...

We're into the first full week of advent, and the church looks absolutely beautiful this year. Thanks to everyone who helped decorate and set up for Advent. It really does help us enter into the season properly.

This week we're lighting the candle of peace, and I've been thinking about what that actually means through the lens of Narnia.

When the Pevensie children first arrive in Narnia, they discover a land where it's "always winter, never Christmas." But it's not just the cold that's the problem - there's fear everywhere. The creatures can't speak freely. Everyone's constantly looking over their shoulders. Mr Tumnus is terrified just for having tea with Lucy. There's no peace.

WHAT'S ON

FIRST THURSDAY

4TH DECEMBER, 12 NOON

MEN'S BREAKFAST

6TH DECEMBER, 8am

[BOOK HERE](#)

FAMILY CRAFT MORNING

13TH DECEMBER, 10-12

CHRISTMAS DRINKS AT THE MANSE

14TH DECEMBER, 2-5pm

CAROLS BY LAMPLIGHT 21ST DECEMBER 7PM

CHRISTINGLE 24TH DECEMBER 4PM

CHRISTMAS DAY CELEBRATION 25TH DECEMBER 10am

Then comes the whisper: "Aslan is on the move." And suddenly things start to shift. The snow begins to melt. Father Christmas shows up, declaring that the Witch's power is crumbling.

That's what happens when the Prince of Peace arrives.

The peace of Advent isn't just about everything being calm. It's about restoration. Wholeness. Things becoming what they were meant to be.

Lewis calls it the "deep magic" - truth that runs deeper than the Witch could understand. When Aslan lays down his life on the Stone Table and rises again, he defeats death itself and establishes lasting peace.

Advent reminds us that we're living between the "already" and the "not yet."

Christ has come - the snow is melting, Christmas has broken into our winter. But we're still waiting for the full flowering of his kingdom.

Like the Narnians who trusted Aslan would return, we hold fast to the promise that our Prince of Peace reigns.

I wonder whether there are parts of your life where there is a lack of peace at the moment? Perhaps difficult or broken relationships. Tensions in the workplace. Neighbourly disputes.

What might it mean for the Prince of Peace to break through into those situations? Be encouraged by the reminder that Jesus reigns in those moments, and that today is not the end. Jesus is on the move!

Notice Board

Christmas Choir

Rehearsals for our Christmas Choir continue on Sundays after the service. We will be singing "Noel" at the Carol Service on 21st December, and all are welcome to join us. Listen to the song [on YouTube here](#). For more information speak to Hannah or Claire T.

Family Craft Morning

We still have room for more people to help at the Family Craft morning on 13th December. If you're able to set up/pack down, serve refreshments, welcome people or just chat to those who come along, please let Emma in the Church Office know.

Please do invite family and friends along to this event. It's a great outreach opportunity for us to welcome people into church and for them to hear the Christmas Story - without coming to a service. There will be plenty for children to do, and tea, coffee cake and chat to share too.

First Thursday

Jonathan will lead the First Thursday service this Thursday, 4th December at 12 noon and then we'll enjoy a Christmas lunch together to round off the year. The meal is just £4 per person, Online booking has now closed, but if you'd like to come, please call the church office.

Men's Breakfast

Graham will be our speaker and quiz-master at the next Men's Breakfast, taking place on Saturday 6th at 8am in the church hall. Wear your Christmas Jumper and join in the fun by [booking your place here](#)

Invitations for Christmas Services

Please take a couple of invitations to invite friends and neighbours to our services and events in "Narnia" at NBC over Christmas - there's plenty to go around!

Christmas Drinks Invitation

Peter and Claire invite you to join them for Christmas drinks and nibbles at the manse on **Sunday 14th December**.

Feel free to drop in at the manse any time from **2-5pm**, and enjoy a drink or two, plus Peter's carefully curated Christmas playlist!



Prayers

PRAYING WITH CHRISTMAS CARDS

Thank you to Judith and Kelvin who have shared this great idea about how they use Christmas Cards to pray:

“As Christmas cards start arriving, we pray that we can enjoy receiving them and then lift a prayer for the sender that day.

Then, after Christmas, we keep them all in a box and at random pick one out each day to include the sender(s) in our prayers. We then stand the card where we can see it for the rest of the day.

As we have been away a lot this year, it took us till September to work our way through!

This idea can be used in many ways, you could just read the card, stand it somewhere that day and put up an “arrow prayer” or something a little more . It’s really adaptable.

As we move into Advent and the pressures of commercialised Christmas, this is one way we can reset our thinking”

Dear Lord,

Sometimes our world feels like the eternal winter forced upon Narnia. So much hurt, so little love and joy. People paralysed by their grief, fear, loneliness, and pain. Heavy burdens of hopelessness pressing down.

We see the horrors of war and devastation on our televisions and in our papers. We long for the thaw, for the return of the true King.

You entered our world at Christmas as the Prince of Peace. Fill us with a deep and lasting peace that "doesn't make sense" to the world, the peace that guards our hearts and mends our brokenness.

Help us to be messengers of Your peace in the world and to let go of the things that keep us from You. Lord, in the midst of our struggles, we ask You to make it clear that we are not alone, that You are with us, and that You are bigger than our fear.

In your name we pray, Amen.

