

A photograph of Willen Church, a red brick building with a prominent square tower. The tower has arched windows with shutters and a circular window on the lower level. The church is surrounded by a green lawn, with a large evergreen tree on the left and bare trees in the background. A wooden bench is in the foreground, and a small patch of yellow daffodils is visible near its base. The sky is overcast.

Happy New Year

Willen Church Newsheet
The Second Sunday of Christmas



**Stantonbury Ecumenical Partnership
St Mary Magdalene Willen
Sunday 4th January 2026
The Second Sunday of Christmas**



Today: The Second Sunday of Christmas

9.30am All Age Morning Worship led by Margaret Moakes

Thank you Margaret for leading us this morning

11.00am Signed Holy Communion Led by Rev Peter Green at Cross & Stable

Service details for SEP churches are on SEP website and in monthly newsletter

This week

St Mary Magdalene church is open for private prayer or quiet reflection on Mondays from 9.30am until c.3.00pm. Also open on Sunday until 4.00pm if volunteer available to close church – please sign rota in church foyer.

ChatterboxMK at Cross & Stable each Wednesday 10.30am to 12.30pm. All Welcome - tea - coffee - cakes - chat. Come and meet others. **10.30 – 12.30**

The monthly communion service at **Oaktree Court, Portland Drive** will be at **2.30 pm on January 8th**. Anyone who would like to join us, would be welcome. Please speak to Margaret Moakes.

Next week January 11^h The First Sunday of Epiphany, The Baptism of Christ

9.30am Holy Communion led by Revd Dr Sam Muthuveloe

BURNS EVENING Saturday 31ST January 2026, 18:00 to 21:00 at **WILLEN PAVILION**
Once again we are offering a Burns Evening at Willen Pavilion on 31st January. The menu will include home made vegetarian soup with Maria's speciality breads; haggis neeps and tatties and a dessert. Tickets will be £15 as before and £5 for schoolchildren. Please book early and let us know if you want vegetarian or any other dietary option. Please contact David Preston for tickets or queries t. 07538 498 061 e. davidgwpreston@gmail.com

Pastoral contact: Revd Dr Sam Muthuveloe <i>Email: sam@willenchurch.org</i> Churchwarden: Janet Hawkins <i>Email: warden@willenchurch.org</i>	Margaret Moakes Licensed Lay Minister <i>Telephone: 01908 237915</i> <i>Margaret@willenchurch.org</i> <i>Church website: www.willenchurch.org</i>
Enquiries: To contact about weddings funerals and baptisms or other enquiries please call 01908 382458; or E. sburyepadm@gmail.com or contact a churchwarden.	
Stantonbury Ecumenical Partnership: www.stantonbury.net and Facebook Please email short succinct notices to notices@willenchurch.org by 5pm on the preceding Thursday	

Collect of the Second Sunday of Christmas

God our Father,
in love you sent your Son
that the world may have life:
lead us to seek him among the outcast
and to find him in those in need,
for Jesus Christ's sake. *Amen*

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 60: 1 – 6 (NRSV)

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

² For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;

but the LORD will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.

³ Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

⁴ Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.

⁵ Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

⁶ A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.

They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

PSALM Psalm 72: 1 – 2 and 10 – 15 (NRSVA)

¹ Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to a king's son.

² **May he judge your people with righteousness,
and your poor with justice.**

The Collect of the Epiphany

Creator of the heavens,
who led the Magi by a star
to worship the Christ-child:
guide and sustain us,
that we may find our journey's end
in Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*



¹⁰ May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles render him tribute,
may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts.

¹¹ **May all kings fall down before him,
all nations give him service.**

¹² For he delivers the needy when they call,
the poor and those who have no helper.

¹³ **He has pity on the weak and the needy,
and saves the lives of the needy.**

¹⁴ From oppression and violence he redeems their life;
and precious is their blood in his sight.

¹⁵ **Long may he live! May gold of Sheba be given to him.
May prayer be made for him continually,
and blessings invoked for him all day long.**

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 2:1 – 12 (NRSV)

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew

Glory to you, O Lord

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, ‘Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.’ ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, ‘In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶ “And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.” ’

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, ‘Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.’ ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

This is the gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ



NOTICES

Tuesday 6th January 2026 at 19:00 at St Andrews Church, Great Linford. **‘An evening for the SEP with Bishop Dave’** The Bishop's visit is open to all parishioners and questions for him should be submitted in advance, so we can organise the meeting around themes that people want to discuss. Please email your questions to Helen at sburyepadm@gmail.com or pass your question to a church warden to pass to Helen. Over 100 people attended the last SEP wide service at St Andrews on 30th November, thank you to all who attended

BEING WITH If you find yourself wondering about your spiritual life, its meaning, or have questions you would like to explore, we will be running a course beginning in February. We will meet in a relaxed setting, with plenty of space for conversation. The course is called 'Being With'. It is a welcoming journey for those new to faith or simply curious about Christianity. Together, we will explore themes such as who God is, the life of Jesus, prayer, and the resurrection, through shared conversations where every voice matters. No prior knowledge is needed, and there are no right or wrong answers. The course will be led by Revd Peterson Feital and Revd Phil Dunning. If you would like more information about the course please email Peterson at revpfeital@gmail.com or visit being-with.org.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

- all those who work in the retail sector - from local shops and high streets to shopping centres and supermarkets. It would also be good to remember the thousands of people who visit our city each week.
- For God to equip us as a church with all we need to serve and worship him
- **Toybox**, a MK-based charity working with partners in seven countries to prevent children living or working on the streets. See toybox.org.uk

Sick: Louise Folley, Mark & Janice Earls, Fr Edmund Wheat SSM, Alison Read, Cindy Williams, Liz Halliwell, Lynda Phillips, Rosie Fletcher, Warwick Newton, Gwen McNulty

World Prayers May the coming year bring peace where there is conflict, hope where there is despair, and compassion where there is division. Guide us to care for one another, to protect the vulnerable, and to cherish the earth we share. May kindness grow stronger than fear, and may we walk into the New Year with courage, wisdom, and love for all. January 4: World Braille Day

And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year: 'Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown.' And he replied: 'Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God. That shall be to you better than light, and safer than a known way

HYMNS - Complete Anglican Hymns Old and New

- 282** Hills of the north, rejoice
- 359** Jesus shall reign
- 729** What child is this
- 724** We three kings of Orient are

