
CHURCH SERVICES IN NOVEMBER 2020

in the Benefice of Launditch & the Upper Nar

1st SUNDAY - 1st November - All Saints Day

10:00am - Group Zoom Service - Link in weekly email

ALL SOULS SERVICES

Sunday 1st November - 3pm at Gressenhall with Julia Hemp

Monday 2nd November - 7pm at St Peter's Weasenham
with Heather, Shawn and Miriam

A quiet and moving service for all who wish to remember loved ones, where candles are lit and names read. Please ring Julia 01362 861380 or Heather 01328 700071 to book as we have to ensure social distancing.

2nd SUNDAY - 8th November - Remembrance Sunday

This year will be different, many parades have been cancelled.

Everyone coming to church has to wear a mask and be socially distanced so we are restricted as to numbers.

Outside services are restricted to 30 people

**PLEASE HELP US TO LIMIT NUMBERS BY WATCHING
THE ZOOM REMEMBRANCE SERVICE AT 10:50am.**

To obtain the zoom code please

email Miriam Fife at miriam.fife@btinternet.com

**10:50am - Beeston Church and American War Memorial
led by Heather Butcher**

A service for representatives of organisations, numbers limited to 30
Beginning at the memorial at Beeston Church and moving
to the American memorial at approximately 11.20am

Other Remembrance Services

10:50am	Little Dunham	Kevin Blogg
10:50am	Longham	Malcolm Wood
10:50am	Little Fransham	John Blore
10:50am	Weasenham St Peter	Peter Brown
10:50am	Litcham	Church Wardens

10:50am	Tittleshall	Philip Butcher
10:50am	Mileham	
	Remembrance in Village Hall with Tom Butler Stoney	
10:50am	Gressenhall	Julia Hemp
6:30pm	Mileham Evening Prayer with Remembrance Tom Butler Stoney	

WEDNESDAY 11th November - Remembrance Day

10:50am - Weasenham St Peter

Service at war memorial with school children

3rd SUNDAY - 15th November

2nd Sunday before Advent - Trinity 23 (Red or White)

Zephaniah 1. 7 & 12 to end | 1 Thessalonians 5. 1-11

Psalm 90 | Matthew 25. 14-30

9:15am	Stanfield	Iona Communion	Julia Hemp
9:15am	East Lexham	Holy Communion	Kevin Blogg
9:15am	Rougham	Holy Communion	Heather Butcher
10:00am	Zoom Service: link in weekly email or contact		Miriam Fife
10:15am	Litcham	Mattins	Church Wardens
10:30am	Weasenham St Peter	Communion	Kevin Blogg
10:30am	Longham Holy	Communion	Julia Hemp

4th SUNDAY - 22nd November - Christ The King

Sunday next before Advent (Red or White)

Ezekiel 34. 11-18 & 20-24 | Ephesians 1. 15 to end

Psalm 95. 1-7 | Matthew 25. 31 to end

9am	Little Dunham	Holy Communion	Julia Hemp
10am	Zoom Service - link in weekly email or contact		Miriam Fife
10:15am	Litcham	Mattins	Church Wardens
10:30am	Tittleshall	Morning Prayer	John Blore
10:30am	Weasenham St Peter	Mattins	Peter Brown
10:30am	West Lexham	Holy Communion	Heather Butcher
11:15am	Gressenhall	Holy Communion	Julia Hemp

5th SUNDAY - 29th November Advent Sunday

10am Zoom Service - Farewell for Heather and Philip Butcher

Link in weekly email or contact Miriam Fife

Readings are taken from the Common Worship Lectionary

A full list of all the services for the Upper Nar and Launditch group of parishes can be viewed or downloaded from the Litcham website, visit www.litcham.org and click on 'Services' link at the top of the page. (www.litcham.org/Litcham/Services.html)

All enquiries should be directed to:

The Priest in Charge, Upper Nar and Launditch Group of Parishes

Canon Heather Butcher (Rector)

The Rectory, Pound Lane, Litcham, PE32 2QR

Phone: (01328) 700 071 or e-mail: canonhdb@gmail.com

or **Revd Julia Hemp** (Vicar)

The Vicarage, 4 Lodge Farm Meadows, Gressenhall, NR20 4TN

Phone 01362 861380 or email: reverendjulia@gmail.com

or **Revd Miriam Fife** (Curate)

Phone: 01328 700765 or email: miriam.fife@btinternet.com

'GOODBYE' OR IN LONG HAND - GOD BE WITH YOU.

This feels like a very strange time in life. I have always worked at least part time and now at the end of this month, I shall be retired. Isn't that what old people do? It's a bit of a shock. What is ahead? I scanned the bible to read what it has to say about the future.

Here's a favourite passage from Jeremiah.

"I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future" Jeremiah didn't live a comfortable life, he is branded a traitor, was imprisoned and often in danger of his life. He didn't hold back in prophesying doom for the people if they didn't mend their ways. Yet always hope runs through his prophecies, God, the God who can't help himself loving them will restore them.

Our own Julian of Norwich lived in a time of plague and dreadful poverty and suffering for many ordinary people. She was able to say "All shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well"

This is not wishful thinking on the part of Jeremiah and Julian, it is a sign of their faith in an ever loving God, who like a parent will always be there, always

wills the best for them, who in the end will bring them home. This is hope, not that there will be no difficulties but that God will bring us through.

The Psalm most familiar to me, because in my 22 years of ministry it has been read or sung at almost every funeral, is psalm 23. It speaks of God's constancy, watching over us like a shepherd, leading us to lush pastures, being alongside in times of darkness and bringing comfort, anointing us with the oil of blessing and following us with goodness and love all our days.

I leave with a mixture of emotions not knowing what retirement will bring but trusting in the God who loves me like a father and will never leave me.

I am looking forward to a rest and leisure time with no deadlines. But I know there will be much I shall miss. Most of all of course will be the people. To all of you, thank you so much for your friendship, your kind words so often spoken or written to me, for your support and encouragement. This time in my ministry has been great, I have loved working with all the different parishes and the variety of church buildings. I have loved all the different people, it has been such an interesting time.

May God be with You.

Deep peace of the running wave to you.

Deep peace of the flowing air to you.

Deep peace of the quiet earth to you.

Deep peace of the shining stars to you.

Deep peace of the gent night to you.

Moon and star pour their healing light on you.

Deep peace of Christ to you.

With every blessing Heather

CHURCH SERVICES IN DECEMBER 2020

in the Benefice of the Launditch & Upper Nar

CCWM = Christmas Celebration in Words and Music

1st SUNDAY - 6th December - Advent II (Purple)

Isaiah 40:1-11 | Psalm 85:8-end | 2 Peter 3:8-15a | Mark 1:1-8

10.00am - Group ZOOM with Miriam Fife

2nd SUNDAY 13th December - Advent III (Purple)

Isaiah 61:1-4 & 8-end | Psalm 126 | 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 | John 1:6-8 & 19-28

10.00am - Group ZOOM with Miriam Fife

9.00am Little Dunham

CCWM

Julia Hemp

10.15am	Wendling	CCWM	Julia Hemp
10.15am	Litcham	Matins	Church Wardens
10.30am	Weasenham St. Peter	Matins	Peter Brown
10.30am	Greatt Fransham	CCWM	Shawn Tomlinson
11.00am	Mileham	CCWM	Tom Butler Stoney
11.15am	Gressenhall	Morning Worship	Julia Hemp

3rd SUNDAY 20th December - Advent IV (Purple)

2 Samuel 7:1-11 & 16 | Magnificat | Romans 16:25-end | Luke 1: 26-38

9.15am	Rougham	CCWM	Shawn Tomlinson
9.15am	Stanfield	CCWM	Julia Hemp
9.15am	West & East Lexham at West Lexham	CCWM	John Blore
10.15am	Litcham	Matins	Wardens
10.30am	Greatt Dunham	CCWM	Miriam Fife
10.30am	Longham	CCWM	Julia Hemp
10.30am	Weasenham St. Peter	CCWM	Peter Brown
11.00am	Tittleshall	CCWM	Shawn Tomlinson
11.00am	Mileham	Morning Worship	Tom Butler Stoney
3.00pm	ZOOM	Carol Service	Miriam Fife

THURSDAY 24th December - Christmas Eve (White)

Isaiah 9:2-7 | Psalm 96 | Titus 2:11-14 | Luke 2:1-14

11.30pm	Little Dunham	Midnight Mass	Bishop Jonathan Meyrick
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FRIDAY 25th December - Christmas Day (White)

Isaiah 9:2-7 | Psalm 96 | Titus 2:11-14 | Luke 2:1-14

11.15am - Christmas Day ZOOM with Miriam & Shawn

9.00am	Litcham	Holy communion	Archdeacon of Lynn
10.00am	East Lexham	Family Service	Peter Brown
10.00am	Great Dunham	Family Communion	Archdeacon of Lynn
10.00am	Gressenhall	Family Service	Julia Hemp
11.00am	Mileham	Family Service	Tom Butler Stoney

4th SUNDAY - 27th December - 1st After Christmas (White)

Isaiah 61:10-62.3 | Psalm 148 | Galatians 4:4-7 | Luke 2:15-21

10.00am - Group ZOOM with Miriam Fife

10.30am	Weasenham St. Peter	Matins	Peter Brown
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Readings are taken from the Common Worship Lectionary

We sincerely hope that we will be able to deliver all the above service as scheduled but we have to abide by the government guidelines in force at the time, please keep your eye on village websites. The Church rota is available from the Worship/Services menu on the Litcham Website at litcham.org.

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REVEREND JULIA WRITES

November is a month associated with remembering and loss. We begin with All Souls when we remember those we have loved and lost and on the 11th we remember the casualties of war and so many lives scarred by loss.

This year every area of life has been affected by the pandemic and we have had to become more accustomed to loss: the tragic loss of life, jobs, businesses, holidays, education, sport and entertainment, freedoms we took for granted and the loss of so much we used to enjoy without thinking, perhaps the most important of which is spending time with the people we love.

The next big loss we are about to face is Christmas. Christmas will be very different this year. Our churches have been grappling with what we can safely offer our parishes this Christmas. Our Carol Services and Christingle Services are times when our churches are packed but you will see from our list of services that we have had to strike a balance between celebrating the birth of Christ, keeping people safe and following government guidelines. This has hit our ministry team very hard as we love to welcome you to our churches at any time of year but particularly at Christmas when we can sing carols, hear the Christmas story and be full of Christmas cheer, excitement and hope.

But Christmas is definitely not cancelled this year! The birth of Jesus has been celebrated every year for 2,000 years and this year the message of Christmas of love, light and hope is more needed than ever. We may have to pare down Christmas this year but that's a good thing as it gives us a chance to hit the reset button. It often feels as if we have lost sight of the message of Christmas which is one of love coming on earth in the form of a vulnerable baby. It has become obscured by frenzy and commercialism so maybe a simpler, quieter Christmas will give us time and space to think about the true meaning of Christmas and what really matters in our lives. After all is said and done is there anything more important, more cherished, more needed than love?

What is Christmas?

It is tenderness for the past,
courage for the present

and hope for the future.

I wish you a very Happy and Blessed Christmas and a brighter, happier 2021!
Reverend Julia