

Please remember in your prayers : Teresa Allan, Pauline McManus, Steve Lemming, Trish Sizer, Frances Bratcher, Andy Langley, Piers Black-Hawkins, Andrew Seabrook, Grant Williams, Rosemary Morgan. *If someone would like a visit or a prayer tell Stephen the Rector (709740)*

Church Notices

Wednesday 9.45am Holy Communion @ Melchbourne

February 2020

Sunday 16th February 2nd before Lent

9.15am Café Sunday @ Yelden Village Hall
10.30am *Said* Holy Communion (CW) @ Dean
6.00pm Evening Prayer @ Shelton

Sunday 23rd February Sunday next before Lent

9.00am Holy Communion (BCP) @ Yelden
10.30am Holy Communion @ Melchbourne
No evening service – please note change

Ash Wednesday: 7.30pm Holy Communion @ Shelton

LENT LUNCHESES BEGIN ON THURSDAY 27TH OF FEBRUARY

The 1st Lunch will be at Pertenhall at Julie Botterill's house

USE OUR WEBSITE We do have a website for THE STODDEN CHURCHES. If you are looking for service information you will find it there. Please make use of it, and it is somewhere you can suggest people look for information who are new to the area or the congregation

The Stodden Churches **Morning Worship on Sunday 2nd February 2020** **The Presentation of Christ in the Temple**

Our Vision Statement:

As the Stodden Churches we seek to move forward together in love and service, sharing the good news of Christ with our neighbours

Today's Hymns are from Hymns Old and New

158 Glorious things of thee
395 Of the Father's love begotten
34 Angles from the realms of glory
288 King of glory, king of peace

Today's Collect: Lord Jesus Christ, light of the nations and glory of Israel: make your home among us, and present us pure and holy to your heavenly Father, your God and our God. **Amen**

The Stodden Prayer for Growth: Lord Jesus Christ, who calls us to sow the seeds of faith in the communities that make up the Stodden Churches we ask you to come and fill us with your Spirit so that our lives may show signs of new life and joy in you; and make us bold in word and deed so that others may be drawn to faith in you. Lord Jesus we ask you to bless the Stodden Church so that it may grow in numbers and in knowledge and love of you. Lord Jesus Christ, we ask this in your name. Amen

The Nunc Dimittis

**Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace :
according to thy word
For mine eyes have seen: thy salvation;
Which thou hast prepared: before the face of all people;
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles :and to be the glory of thy
people Israel.**

***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.***

The First Reading: Hebrews 2:14-18

Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

The Second Reading: Luke 2:22-40:

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.'

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word;
for my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel.'

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.