

St. Peter's Church, Swettenham



NOTICE SHEET 14TH DECEMBER 2014 EVENSONG 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



A very warm welcome to the community here at St. Peter's where worship has been offered on this site since Saxon times. The present Church building has its origins in the late 13th Century and has been the place of worship for the village of Swettenham since then. Please ensure that mobile phones, cellular phones and pagers are switched off.

There will be a collection taken during the Offertory Hymn for the Ministry, Mission and upkeep of this beautiful Church building that costs £2,417 month to maintain. Please use one of the Gift Aid envelopes in the pews as this adds 25% to the value of your offering, thank you.

As the Advent candles are lit, we sing the candle lighting song (A&M 163 tune)

1 Advent candles tell the story
As we watch and pray,
Longing for the day of glory,
"Come, Lord, soon" we say.
Pain and sorrow, tears and sadness
changed for gladness,
on that day.

2 Prophet voices loudly crying,
Making pathways clear.
Glimpsing glory, self-denying,
Calling all to hear.
Through their message – challenged,
shaken
Hearts awaken: God is near!

3 John The Baptist, by his preaching
and by water poured,
brought to those who heard his teaching
news of hope restored:
"Keep your vision strong and steady
and be ready for the Lord".

Our Hymns for today:

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN:	30 Hark the glad sound the saviour comes
PSALM	126
GRADUAL:	139 Rejoice the Lord is King
OFFERTORY HYMN:	422 Tell out my soul
RECESSIONAL HYMN:	31 Come thou long expected Jesus

THE COLLECT

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn; To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he might be glorified. And they shall build the old wastes, they shall raise up the former desolations, and they shall repair the waste cities, the desolations of many generations.

OLD TESTAMENT (HEBREW BIBLE): Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

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I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels. For as the earth bringeth forth her bud, and as the garden causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth; so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations.

NEW TESTAMENT READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. Quench not the Spirit. Despise not prophesyings. Prove all things; hold fast that which is good. Abstain from all appearance of evil. And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it.

GOSPEL: John 1: 6 – 8; 19 – 28

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. And this is the record of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, who art thou? And he confessed, and denied not; but confessed, I am not the Christ. And they asked him, what then? Art thou Elias? And he saith, I am not. Art thou that prophet? And he answered, no. Then said they unto him, who art thou? That we may give an answer to them that sent us. What sayest thou of thyself? He said, I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness, Make straight the way of the Lord, as said the prophet Esaias. And they which were sent were of the Pharisees. And they asked him, and said unto him, Why baptizest thou then, if thou be not that Christ, nor Elias, neither that prophet? John answered them, saying, I baptize with water: but there standeth one among you, whom ye know not; He it is, who coming after me is preferred before me, whose shoe's latchet I am not worthy to unloose. These things were done in Bethabara beyond Jordan, where John was baptizing.

ADDRESS Revd Pamela Soult

POST COMMUNION

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Next Week at St. Peter's
6.30PM FESTIVAL OF LESSONS & CAROLS

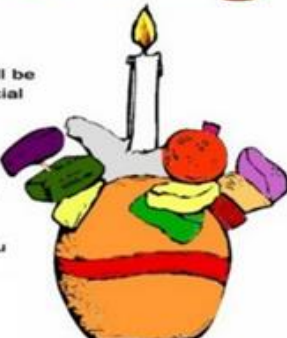



**Festival
of
Lessons
& Carols**
6.30pm
Sunday
21st
December



Christingle

Our church will be holding a special Christingle celebration for vulnerable children helped by The Children's Society. We really hope you will join us



All proceeds go to The Children's Society 

St. Peter's Church, Swettenham
Christmas Eve at 6.00pm



**Our Services this
Christmas are:**


Sunday 21st December
Festival of Lessons & Carols 6.30pm

Christmas Eve
Christingle Service 6.00pm

Christmas Morning
Family Communion 11.15am

Sunday 28th December
Morning Prayer with Carols 11.15am

st. Peter's Church



Plough Service on
Sunday 25th January 2015
Evensong 6.30pm