



St Martin's Church, Welton

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Epiphany 2

15 January 2017

WELCOME! Please stay for tea or coffee after the service — we would love to chat with you. If you don't normally take communion but would like God's blessing, please come up to the altar rail holding your service booklet.

**This morning we welcome Revd John Stevenson
and thank him for leading our worship today.**

Collect

Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new: transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Reading Isaiah 49.1-7

Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away!

The Lord called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me.

He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away. And he said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.' But I said, 'I have laboured in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the Lord, and my reward with my God.'

And now the Lord says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honoured in the sight of the Lord, and my God has become my strength— he says, 'It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.'

Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, 'Kings shall see and stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the Lord, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.'

Gospel Reading John 1. 29 - 42

The next day he saw Jesus coming towards him and declared, 'Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, "After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me." I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.' And John testified, 'I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, "He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit." And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.' The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, 'Look, here is the Lamb of God!' The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, 'What are you looking for?' They said to him, 'Rabbi' (which translated means Teacher), 'where are you staying?' He said to them, 'Come and see.' They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas' (which is translated Peter).

All commence at 11.00 a.m., unless otherwise stated

ROTAS	<i>Today</i>	<i>22 January</i>	<i>29 January</i>
Chalice	Val Hamblin	Morning Prayer	Val Hamblin
Reader	Jackie Hibbert		Charles Broadhead
Sidesperson	Roslyn Loades	Harold Thompson	Pam Broadhead
Prayers	Vicar	Gill Beardmore	Vicar



Revd Sarah writes:

I'd like to say a big thank you to all of you who have already been so welcoming. I'm already enjoying visiting church members and beginning to get to know you all.

Obviously my appointment changes things quite a lot. As I said in my sermon last Sunday, the biggest change is that Welton no longer has one vicar to itself and that therefore a big challenge has to be to work out how best to divide up my time between the three villages. The bit that everyone notices is the time of services but actually that is just the hour or two of a week. It's just the bit everyone sees! There is also the time devoted to pastoral care, church governance, schools work, mission and evangelism.

I'm sorry that I cannot be with you at most of the 11am services- though I am very determined that you shall continue to have your 11am as long as you want it and will ensure that that service remains of a high standard- but I am very excited by the additional proposal for something later in the day that some may find more convenient. I'm meeting with the PCC next week to discuss times and possibilities but already I've had suggestions ranging from the Book of Common Prayer to informal worship to grow our congregation of young families. Whatever we decide, it will be subject to trial periods until we find the right thing and I will be there most Sundays of the year to welcome and serve whoever comes even if it starts very small indeed!

In the meantime you will every day have my love, my presence in your homes, school and businesses if you want me (a great excuse for going to the pub!) and my prayers. You will also have my enthusiasm and passion to see Christ's church in this place grow and thrive under outstanding Christian witness. I look forward to working with you in the coming months and years. Every blessing, Sarah.



John Isom would like to thank Revd Sarah for planning such a thoughtful service for Stella, Val for the floral decorations and reading, Cliff for playing, and all who attended the service and contributed towards the collection.

ANNIE BRITAIN

As you are all probably aware by now, Annie died last week. Please continue to remember her family and friends in your prayers as they prepare to celebrate her life and say their farewells.

**The funeral service will take place at 12-30pm on Friday 20 January 2017
at St Martin's Church.**

There is a **PCC meeting** on Wednesday 18th January at 7.00pm, to be held at Chris Heatherington's home.

**If you have any news or forthcoming events: email ros@rosirius.co.uk.
Please let me know if you would like your name adding to the email list to receive pew leaflets.
Thank you. Roslyn.**