



St Andrew's Psalter Lane Church

Open Hearts, Open Minds -
Exploring the Mystery of God

Sunday 19th January

Fourth Sunday before Lent

10.30 am

Holy Communion

Rev Naomi Cooke

Collect Living 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 our Lord.

Hymns StF 42 O sing to the Lord
StF 397 The Spirit lives to set us free (verse 1)
StF 603 Come to a wedding
StF 594 Lord Jesus Christ
StF 455 All my hope on God is founded

Readings Psalm 36.5-10
John 2.1-11

NEXT SUNDAY

Sunday 26th January

Third Sunday before Lent

10.30 am

All Age Holy Communion

Rev Cheryl Collins

Please note there will be NO 9.15 am service this morning.

Please remember all those who are in need of our prayers

We pray for those with health concerns: Pam Frost, Q Ackom-Mensah, Helen Mannion (Barbara and John Booter's daughter), Tom Reavey, Hilary Jowett, Mark Stone, Blanca and Fiona, Trevor Mann, Maggie and Pete, Luke, May, Jan Birch, Janet Clarke, Peter Roberts

We are sad to hear of the death of Leon, the son of our friend May Swaby.

Please hold May and all who love Leon in your thoughts and prayers.

Please continue to pray for the people of Gaza and for the West Bank.

Please read the attached statement from the coordinating group of humanitarian work in Gaza, including Christian Aid, Oxfam, MAP and Amos Trust. As you will see while there is joy and relief that a ceasefire is coming into effect on Sunday 19th, it is tempered with many concerns that the agreement will proceed through not one, but three stages.

<https://www.amostrust.org/blog/joint-statement-on-the-temporary-cessation-of-hostilities-between-hamas-and-israel-in-gaza/>

But also, please take a moment and think of some of those who have lost their lives, lost their loved ones, lost their homes, their schools, their livelihoods. To think of the 100,000 plus who have been seriously injured and those who have worked tirelessly through the last 15 months at enormous risk to themselves and in appalling conditions.

For many friends and colleagues, now will mark the moment when they can finally start to mourn. The impact of the war will be felt for years and years — and there is a very long road ahead of us. But for today, we welcome this glimmer of light in so much darkness.

Many of you will also be aware of the arrest and detention of a young Christian woman from Bethlehem, Layan Nazire, on 6th April last year. There was international condemnation of the detention including from the then Archbishop of Canterbury. Amos will hold a webinar on Tuesday next in which Layan and Tala Masir, a lawyer at Addameer Palestinian Prisoner Support and Human Rights Association, will join us to discuss Layan's experience and that of thousands of other Palestinians in the Israeli judicial system. They will discuss the appalling conditions in Israeli jails and the widespread hunger, physical, sexual and psychological abuse of Palestinian prisoners — including children, as well as Tala's work at Addameer. Please join us by registering at <https://www.amostrust.org/held-without-charge-webinar>

And from our dear friend Bahzad: Great relief, he was able to post a picture of himself for the first time since the genocide. Sadly his grandmother died following a stroke just one week before the ceasefire. His application to study for a PhD exploring resilience in front line workers during the genocide has been submitted to a university not so far from here and he hopes to meet you before too long - inshallah, as he says. But please continue to pray for him, Rana and Mohammed as the situation unfolds. **Anne Hollows**

NEXT WEEK

Monday 10.00 am – 12 noon - Knit and Natter Group in Room 1, Shirley House

Everyone welcome to come and knit, sew, craft or just chat and enjoy a drink and a slice of cake.

7.30 pm Eco Group Meeting in the interfaith Room

Tuesday 2.00 to 4.00 pm The Tuesday Café in Room 1, Shirley House

The café is for those living at home with memory loss and their carers, and older people living alone. Hot drinks and cakes, music, games, crafts and more. For further information ring the church office (0114 2678289) or email office@standrewspalterlane.org.uk

Wednesday 10.30 am Wednesday service in Church

SAPLC NOTICES

Changes to Service

Sunday 9th February - The 10.30 am service will be a Local Arrangement service led by Mary Mitchell and Jan Owen.

Hospitality Sunday

On **Sunday 9th February 2025** members of the congregation will share lunch with one another in their homes. If you would like to take part in Hospitality Sunday, sharing lunch with other members of the congregation, either as a host or a guest, please complete one of the paper forms available in church or by following this link and completing online:

<https://forms.office.com/r/EmW0M126X7>

Thanks, Alastair

Thank You!

The collections at Christmas raised the following amounts:

Christian Aid (Carol Service 22nd December) £470.24

The Children's Society (Christingle Service 24th December) £586.84

Action for Children (Christmas Eve and 29th December) £154

Many thanks to everyone who gave so generously

Sacred Space at SAPL

This service, offered on the last Thursday of the month could also be described as 'church at the edge'. An invitation not only for our regular churchgoers but for those who may not usually walk through the doors of this building for a variety of reasons.

Many of us find sustenance within a 'space' where we can be still, breathe and remember the love which holds us all.

A small, dedicated team plan a themed service for all of us to experience a quiet contemplative hour, being guided to reflect with some meditative self-inquiry, readings, poetry and music. A sacred space to help us reconnect with the inner wisdom of our hearts and cultivate both a sense of calm and self-care for body, mind and soul.

When we nurture ourselves with gentleness, we are revived and feel safely held. As a result, we ultimately have greater capacity to love and give to others in all the ways we feel called to.

Please feel warmly welcome to join us on the last Thursday of each month, keeping a check on dates via SAPL newsletter/website. To express your interest, or for further info: please contact Fiona Watson at wildgustfiona@gmail.com or Nessa Hargraves at nessahargraves@gmail.com

Our first dates: Thursday **30th January**, Thursday **27th February**, Thursday **24th April** at 7:30pm

Giving Envelopes 2025

The envelopes are available in the narthex for those already signed up to the scheme. If you would like to join the giving envelope scheme please speak to Janet Loughridge (0114 258 4164). If you do not give to the church through the envelope scheme or by bank standing order, please have a word with Rodney Godber (tel 0114 266 3893) who will explain how this makes your giving to the church easier and more beneficial.

Stamp collection

Pat Rogers is still collecting stamps for Cancer Research – please put your stamps **with a 1 cm margin** in the box in the narthex.

Christmas Cards

If you received any Christmas cards with a religious theme and do not want to keep them, please save them for the Tuesday Café by giving them to Christine Hisom. Thank You!

Green Box

Seven proven ways to help the planet in 2025

Slowing down climate change is an immense task, but small individual actions can add up to help reduce emissions. In 2024, the critical 1.5C threshold was breached for a full year for the first time, highlighting the urgent need to rapidly cut global emissions. Much of the work needed to curb climate change goes beyond the remit of individuals – from scaling up renewable energy to stopping the production of oil, gas and coal. But research shows that individual actions can add up too.

For information on how you can make a meaningful difference, go to

<https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20241231-seven-proven-ways-to-help-the-planet>

[With thanks to Bill Atherton for sending this in]

Eco Tip - At Home

Refresh your air filters

Clean — by vacuuming or rinsing with water — or replace your HVAC filters every three months. Your heater or air conditioning will blow more efficiently and draw less power.

OTHER NOTICES

Online Information Session: Hosting Refugees

Wednesday 22nd January 2025 7 - 8 pm Join Refugees at Home, Malcolm Chamberlain (Archdeacon) and Huw Thomas (DDE) for an online information session to find out about hosting refugees and how you can get involved. [Refugees at Home](#) is a charity that connects refugees and people seeking asylum with hosts across the UK. The vision is for every refugee and every person seeking asylum to have a safe place to stay. Register at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1l88mqNdX_4-XVslPhNEqebWE2QDydneyfSdRprk0sfU/viewform?edit_requested=true&pli=1

New Community Energy Projects in Sheffield and area: A Call to Action!

Saturday 25 January 2025 at 2pm-5pm, Cemetery Road Baptist Church (Napier Street entrance) Hosted by Sheffield Community Energy. The event is aimed at individuals and groups who are now willing and ready to start setting up their own community energy projects in the Sheffield area that can take advantage of new government support for community energy.

On the day, you will have the chance to:

- Meet with others who are interested in similar projects
- Find out about the key first steps in setting up your own project
- Find out about useful sources of support, locally and nationally
- Find out about possible ways your project could be funded
- See how others have set up similar projects
- 'Sign up' to either already existing or potential new projects

There will be stalls to visit on the day covering set-ups including for Places of worship projects, Schools projects, Insulation advice projects. There will also be general advice on fund raising and on working with Sheffield City Council. This event is FREE to attend, however, we welcome donations, which will go towards the hire of the venue. Donations will be administered by South Yorkshire Climate Alliance. There is just over 2 weeks to go and there is still time to sign up and get more information, via this link <https://buytickets.at/sheffieldcommunityenergy/1479042>

All We Canuary

The idea is simple: do all the *something* you can in January 2025, and fundraise for All We Can in the process! Whether it be running all the miles you can, reading all the books you can, or knitting all the hats you can – it's up to you what challenge you set yourself, because only you know what you need to fulfil your potential.

In the process, you'll have the chance to learn and share inspiring stories from All We Can's local partners in Liberia. As they fulfil their potential, journey with them as you seek to fulfil yours! Find out more here: <https://www.allwecan.org.uk/get-involved/fundraise/all-we-canuary/>

Church of Sanctuary Award Service

Sunday 9 February at 6pm – Victoria Hall, Sheffield - All are invited to a service to celebrate the awarding of Church of Sanctuary status for Victoria Hall Methodist Church on Sunday 9th February 2025 at 6pm, followed by food provided by the City of Sanctuary. The President of the Methodist Conference will take part in the service, along with Rev Inderjit Bhogal.

It would help with the planning/catering if you can RSVP to Jonathan Haigh, revjhaigh@gmail.com, stating your name and office and how many people will be attending with you.

Service of Thanksgiving and Celebration
Saturday 1 March at 11.30am at Sheffield Cathedral

There will be a service of Thanksgiving and Celebration to mark the five years in which Bishop Sophie has served as the Bishop of Doncaster. This is an opportunity for the Diocese to come together to celebrate Bishop Sophie and to share our appreciation for all that she has achieved during her time with us. Following the service refreshments will be provided. You are most warmly invited to attend – families and children all welcome. For administrative purposes, can you please register your attendance here - pa@bishopofsheffield.org.uk

There will be a presentation to Bishop Sophie at the end of the service and if you would like to contribute to a gift, please contact Wendy Whitfield at Bishops Croft (pa@bishopofsheffield.org.uk) or make a BACS transfer, marked 'Bishop Sophie' to the Discretionary Fund, details are as follows: Account Name: The Bishop of Sheffield Discretion Fund - Sortcode: 40-41-18 - Account Number: 90166847. With every blessing,

The Rt Revd Dr Pete Wilcox Bishop of Sheffield

Methodist Church Eco Community Network

Is a network for people passionate about faith and the environment; for those exploring climate justice, and those already taking action. SAPLC is a member of this network so invites you join in a free two hour zoom conference taking place on **Monday February 10** at 7:00pm or **Tuesday 13 May** at 7pm. Ticket available via Eventbrite at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/methodist-church-eco-community-network-tickets-1113977429479>

Foodbank and Baby Basics

The Foodbank at Firvale really appreciate us and tell us what a difference we make.

Please bring your badly-needed donations to Church on Sunday mornings from 10.30 am, or to the Church Office on Thursday mornings. If you would like to give money, it can be sent online via <https://localgiving.org/charity/firvalefoodbank/>. Or, Joe Dey can pass on a cheque made out to St Cuthbert's (write Fir Vale Food Bank on the back of the envelope) when he and Liz deliver donations.

Baby Basics Donations can be left in Church on Sunday mornings, or in the Church Office on Thursday mornings. See a full list of what is required at <https://www.facebook.com/babybasicssheffield/>

If you are worried, isolated or just need to chat to someone from the church, Naomi Cooke (Tel. 0114 250 8251) and Judith Roberts (Tel. 0114 236 1531) are available