

Reading: Luke 3:1-18

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar—when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and Traconitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene—² during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³ He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁴ As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet:

“A voice of one calling in the wilderness,

‘Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.

⁵ Every valley shall be filled in,
every mountain and hill made low.

The crooked roads shall become straight,
the rough ways smooth.

⁶ And all people will see God’s salvation.”

⁷ John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸ Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. ⁹ The axe is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.”

¹⁰ “What should we do then?” the crowd asked.

¹¹ John answered, “Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same.”

¹² Even tax collectors came to be baptized. “Teacher,” they asked, “what should we do?”

¹³ “Don’t collect any more than you are required to,” he told them.

¹⁴ Then some soldiers asked him, “And what should we do?”

He replied, “Don’t extort money and don’t accuse people falsely—be content with your pay.”

¹⁵ The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah. ¹⁶ John answered them all, “I baptize you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.” ¹⁸ And with many other words John exhorted the people and proclaimed the good news to them.

Financial Giving

If you would like to give to the work of Holy Trinity, do join the Planned Giving Scheme, please pick up a form from the Foyer. If you wish to make a cash contribution and are a taxpayer, please ask for a Gift Aid envelope.

Staff contacts

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Holy Trinity welcome
TEWKESBURY
to Holy Trinity
MEET GOD • FIND LIFE • MAKE FRIENDS

Welcome to Holy Trinity. If this is your first visit to Holy Trinity, or if you have recently joined us, we’d just like to say how great it is to have you with us. We are a church full of people who are trying to live lives that reflect Jesus and would be so pleased if you would consider joining with us. Please don’t go away today without touching base. You can do that by filling in one of the ‘Welcome Cards’ in the foyer and joining us for refreshments after the service in the Hall. All the information on our church family life is on our website:

www.trinitytewkesbury.org.uk

We look forward to getting to know you.

With our blessing, Stephen and Sharon Walker



Sunday 16th December
10am Morning Worship

6.30pm Carols by Candlelight

Sunday 23rd December
10am Holy Communion

3pm Sunday @ 3
Christmas Special

Core Values

**ALL INVOLVED,
BECOMING DISCIPLES,
CREATING COMMUNITY,
DOING EVANGELISM,
ENCOUNTERING GOD**

Looking for a Life Group?

Speak to Alison Cirel to find your nearest group for friendship, fellowship and discipleship during the week

PARENTS

Kindly please note, once the church service and **TJC** have finished, you are responsible for your children's supervision and safety. Thanks

The office is open Mondays-Thursdays 9am - 2.30pm, Fridays closed

Email: office@trinitytewkesbury.org.uk

Twitter: @HolyTewkesbury Facebook: HolyTrinityChurchTewkesbury

Wi-Fi is available upon request



Weekly Events

Mondays	Life Group	10.30am
Tuesdays	Youth Life Groups, Sch Yrs 7-13 (Term time only)	7.00-9.00pm
	Music & Movement Group	10.30-11.30am
Wednesdays	Coffee Morning	10.00am
	Holy Communion	10.30am
	Life Groups	7.30pm
Thursdays	Smarties - for parents & carers of pre-school Children (Term time only)	10.15- 11.45am
	Life Groups	7.30pm
Fridays	Life Group	10.30am

Stay Connected with us during the week

Stay connected with Holy Trinity on Twitter @HolyTewkesbury and Facebook HolyTrinityChurchTewkesbury as well as through our website, trinitytewkesbury.org.uk. Link to previous services and see what's coming up through your preferred platform.



Our Mission Partners at Christmas

Don't forget to pray for our Mission partners at Christmas – some will be involved in special events - and send them Christmas greetings. You don't need to know them personally. Contact details on the Mission Board (don't forget to say you are from HT Tewkesbury!)

Giant Church Christmas Card

Consider signing the giant Christmas Card in the Foyer to fellow Church Members and make a donation, in lieu of cards, in the box to Embrace the Middle East, in support of Syrian Refugees.



12 Days of Giving Campaign

Ecclesiastical insurance is giving £120,000 to good causes as part of its annual 12 Days of Giving Christmas campaign. Ecclesiastical is inviting people to nominate a registered charity close to their hearts to benefit from this festive boost. Nominations are open now, and you can vote for your charity at www.ecclesiastical.com/12days



Our Mission Partners for December are Chris and Suzy Wilson and student Ochalla Omot Cham

See the Mission Board for more news and prayer points for this month.

Old Mission Hall Update

Things are progressing well, but we need to remind you not to visit the OMH as it is a building site and is therefore closed to visitors. If you have any comments/questions/input would you please address them to 'our man of the spot' David Rogers. Thanks and keep praying, The OMH Project Team

Mulled wine and Mince Pies

If you are able to donate any mulled wine or mince pies for the Carol Service this evening, 16th December, do get in touch with Sharon Walker.



Alpha Course Wednesday 16th January 7.30pm

The next Alpha course will run for 9 weeks from Wednesday 16th January, 7.30 – 9.30pm in Room 2. Please pray about who you might be able to invite to come along to this course.

Christmas Sale for Bras Not Bombs

Visit the stall in the Hall after the service to purchase handmade gifts, perfect for Christmas. This is raising money for [Bras Not Bombs](http://brasnotbombs.org)



Christingle needs animals and angels!

To help make our Christingle Services extra special, we invite your children to come dressed as angels or animals from the Nativity story.

Ceilidh (Barn Dance)

Date for your diary! The Church Ceilidh is on Friday 1st February, tickets will be on sale in the New Year in support of the children's ICE Residential.

Smarties



Smarties has finished for 2018. Join us on Thursday 3rd January when we'd love to see your big Smarties at the 'bring your sibling' session on Thursday 3rd, 10.15-11.45am in the Hall.

Christmas Sunday @ 3

Everyone is welcome to this special Sunday @ 3. A mix of traditional Christmas Carols will be sung so if you miss Carols by Candlelight, this is a great alternative.