

# Goring United Reformed Church.

*A Joint Pastorate with Sompting United Reformed Church.*



Minister:

Rev. Andrew Sellwood Tel: 01903 248259

Church Secretary

Mrs Val Gill Tel: 01903 531069

Pastoral Secretary

Mrs Hilary Redman Tel: 260568

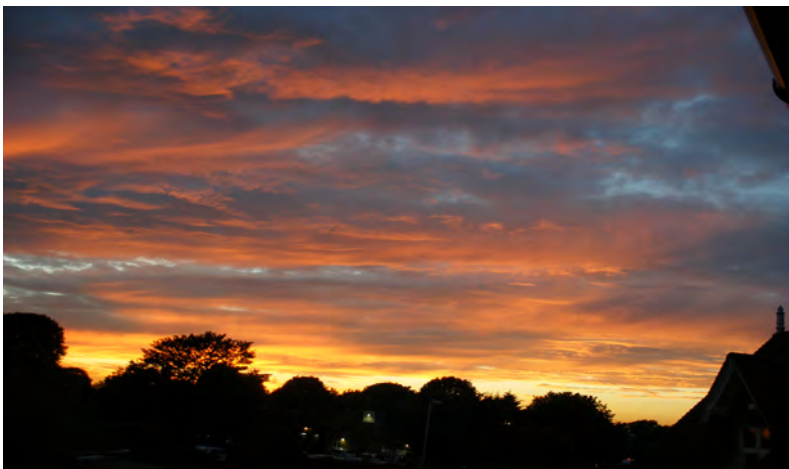
# WELCOME

We are here to worship God and  
proclaim the love of Jesus Christ to all Sunday  
13th December 2020  
Third Sunday in Advent

**10.30 am Morning Worship:** Rev Andrew Sellwood

**Today's Theme: JOY**

**Duty Elder:** Mrs Bobby Hitchin



## DAILY PRAYERS

**Sunday:** Let us pray for our service this morning, conducted by our own Minister, Andrew, though to an empty church, yet to all our people by means of the Internet.

**Monday:** There's a spirit in the air, telling Christians everywhere: "Praise the love that Christ revealed, living, working in our world" May his Spirit fill our praise, guide our thoughts and change our ways. God in Christ has come to stay. We can see his power today.

**Tuesday:** Open my eyes O Lord I pray, that they may see the deepest needs of men and women. Move my hands that they may feed the hungry; touch my heart that it may bring warmth to the disparting.

**Wednesday:** Our Bible Study this evening is on Luke 2. Pray for our Leader Andrew as he takes us through this, that we will learn and discuss afresh.

**Thursday:** Let us pray for Little Fishes, functioning throughout the pandemic. Pray for all the staff as they continue their dedicated work and pray for Elouise as she leaves to take up fresh work.

**Friday:** We are your people: Lord, by your grace you dare to make us Christ to our neighbours of every nation and race. Lord as we minister in different ways, may all we are doing show that you are living, meeting your love with our praise.

**Saturday:** Oh Father God, when we are inclined to panic, or to act hastily help us to rest in the shadow of your love. Keep us cool and calm in the heat of the world's busyness, and in the grip of the virus. Give us the spirit of humility, and keep us from all harshness, intolerance and pride.

## Church Family Prayers

Throughout the year we remember in our prayers all those in our Church Family. This week let us remember :-

Mrs Cath Findlay; Mrs Joan Finlay;  
Mrs Freda Flint.

**Don't forget :** to read the Property-Finance Report and the special invitation to the Nativity Service

## NOTICES

The service next Sunday 20th December will be conducted by Mr Wilfred Rhodes

We are continuing to remain closed in church. Our Elders' Meeting on Thursday last week has decided that we should open on Christmas Day but close December 27<sup>th</sup>. The latter is a day when families and others gather together and so the danger of spreading the virus might be increased. The Elders have also decided that we should open the church from 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2021 unless a new lock-down period is declared.

It has been the Elders' decision to remain closed. However, services will continue to be streamed on line, and new equipment has been obtained so that the quality of streaming is now very much improved. Graham sends e-mails to everyone with the link to our streaming:-

<https://www.gurc.net/about-sunday-worship>

At the Elders' Meeting it was learned that as few as 10 people only 'tune in' to our services and this is very saddening. Great effort has been put in to preparing and streaming the services. Is there a reason why so few are interested in joining in our services in spirit? Please let the Elders know your views – pass this note to those who do not read Welcome! Do keep in contact by telephone and email, don't hesitate to let someone know if you need help or support.

The Elders want to thank everyone who responded to the Questionnaire at the beginning of lock-down. Every response was valued, and full consideration will be given to each point as and when time permits. We have had to operate within Government legislation and Synod advice for much longer than we might have anticipated. We look forward to a time when we can meet again and move forward together.

*Val Gill: Church Secretary*

## LITTLE FISHES

Elouise, manager of L.F. has decided it's time to move on from childcare and this weekend has left to embark on a new career with Openreach. She was given an amazing send off on Friday with cards, gifts and a lunch time party. She will be missed by staff, children and parents but feels confident that the Team will survive without her at the helm. Little Fishes will welcome your prayers as they finish this term and look forward to a much deserved Christmas break before a new start in January.

*Val Gill: Little Fishes.*

## WINTER CHRONICLE

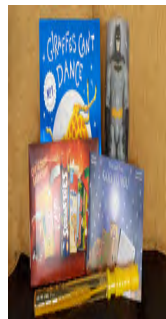
The Winter Chronicle is due for publication this weekend; both online and as a printed booklet.

If you would like a printed magazine, please let me know and I will make sure you get your copy or copies.

*Graham Redman*

## SAFE IN SUSSEX

For the past few years, we as a church have supported the work of Safe in Sussex women's refuge. This year, to make our donations COVID safe, I have purchased and wrapped presents on behalf of the congregation.



These have now been delivered to Safe in Sussex. If you would like to donate, please send a monetary donation towards one of the presents. This can be done as cash in an envelope marked "Safe in Sussex" when we reopen church, or online with the reference "SIS".

This year, we will be giving Christmas gifts to 8 women and 6 children, ranging in age from 8 months to 16 years. ~ Thank you,

*Mary Redman - Outreach Team*

## THROUGH ADVENT

The candles we light each Sunday represent HOPE, LOVE, JOY, PEACE. This, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent our theme is JOY. Light a candle at home to be part of our family.

## BIBLE STUDY

Will continue every Wednesday at 7.00 pm. Wednesday 16th we shall study Luke, Chapter 2. Please make sure you have informed Jonathan so that he will send the Zoom link to you. This will be our last Bible Study before Christmas.

Contributions for **Welcome**: E-mail: [welcome@gurc.org.uk](mailto:welcome@gurc.org.uk)

During December Editor will be Wilf Rhodes.

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