

FIRST READING

Nehemiah 8: 1-3, 5-6, 8-10

All the people of Israel gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

THE GOSPEL READING

Luke 4: 14-21

All: Glory to Christ our Saviour

Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,

because he has anointed me

to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the

captives

and recovery of sight to the blind,

to let the oppressed go free,

to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

Reader: This is the Gospel of Christ

All: Praise to Christ our Lord

INTERCESSION

Please continue to pray for all who are sick and in our hearts especially:

Eileen Pidgeon, Jackie Morley, Logan Matthews, Sheila Gilbert, Louise Osborne, Mark West, Peggy O'Neill, Dawn Tavener, Shirley Foster, Sue Vaness, Iris White, Chris McGrath, Gregory Thomas, Valerie Pratt, Cathy Cox, Alan Gaywood, Betty Hunt, Peggy James

Please pray for these church members at home: Gwen Wells, Joyce Dyson, Joan Jackson, Joan Hopkins, Chloe Attwell, Betty Horniblew.

We remember before God those who have died:

Terence Haestier, June Clark, Mollie Walker, Valerie Langouroux-Fay, Doris Whinnett Mildred Toole, Erica Swallow, Mary Johnson, Tony Foster, Gwen Lewis, Gwen Harris, Eileen Abrahams.

THE WEEK AHEAD

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| Sunday Epiphany 3 | 24th January | 9.30am 11.15am 6.30pm | Parish Communion Parish Centre Service I Youth Club Baking |
| Tuesday | 26th January | 10.15am | Buggy Group |
| Wednesday | 27th January | 10.15am | Parish Centre Communion |
| Thursday | 28th January | 10.00am | Coffee morning –Parish Centre |
| Sunday Epiphany 4 | 31st January | 8.00am 9.30am 11.15am 6.30pm | BCP Communion Parish Communion Parish Centre Service Youth Club Scrap Heap Challenge |

NOTICES

Church Coffee during January, February and March 2016 will support the local Happy days out Childrens charity providing respite breaks, residential trips, days out, and theatre trips for some of the most vulnerable children

Future dates for your diary

6th February 2016 – 7.00pm Pancake Party – Parish Centre Adults £7 Children £3.50 under 3 free. Tickets from Committee members.

Lent Courses begin week commencing the 15th February – see the leaflet.

Vicar – Steve Wood 01525 876197 Mob 07704922984 (Day off Monday)
Website – www.stmargaret-streatley.org.uk
See us on St Margaret's Church Facebook



Welcome to St Margaret's Church, Streatley

Epiphany 3

24th January

Leader Teresa Dales

Preacher Steve Wood

We extend a very warm welcome to all visitors and those new to the Church. Please make yourselves known to the vicar Steve Wood, reader Teresa Dales or our Churchwardens John Weedon and John Farrent. After the service we serve coffee and we invite you to join us. We welcome all ages and for the very young there is also a children's area.

 There is a loop system and large print hymn books are available from the sidesmen.

You are all invited to come to the altar at the time of the Communion. Members of other churches who would receive at their own church are welcome to take the bread and wine with us. If you do not receive communion, please come up to receive a blessing keeping your hands down. If you would like communion brought to you please tell one of the sidesmen.

Hymns Old & New 18 – 318 – 198 – 310 - 281

COLLECT

**Almighty God,
whose Son revealed in signs and miracles
the wonder of your saving presence;
renew your people with your heavenly grace
and in all our weakness
sustain us by your mighty power;
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**