

ST PETER AT GOWTS CHURCH

DECEMBER 2ND 2018

ADVENT SUNDAY

10AM SUNG EUCHARIST

2.30PM THE CRIB SERVICE

Readings (Year C begins)

First reading; Jeremiah ch33 v 14-16

Second Reading; 1 Thessalonians ch 3 v 9
-end

Gospel; Luke ch21v 25-36

Hymns

Introit; **EH 14**
The Advent of our God

Gradual; **EH 3**
Come thou long expected Jesus

Offertory; **EH 9 v 1,2,4**
Lo, He comes with clouds descending

Communion; **EH v 1,2,6 (tune 128)**
O, heavenly word

Post Communion **EH 466**
Thou whose almighty word

Collect

Almighty God,
give us grace to cast away the works of
darkness and to put on the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life,
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in
great humility;
that on the last day,
when he shall come again in his glorious
majesty to judge the living and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who is alive and reigns with
you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Please pray for;

the sick; Fred Bowskill, Kathy
Cullimore, Pam Goodman, Elizabeth
Graham, Joy Gray, Mandy North, Mary
Rose, Stuart Rose, Tim Wheeldon.

Years Mind;

2 Winifred Lusty, Kathleen Houtby, Rich-
ard Quincey
4 Alma Read
5 Edith Scatcliffe, Doris Wingell
6 Fred Crowe, John Ramsay
7 Arthur Crowe

- The abolition of slavery(2nd).
- The Christians in Asia. (Francis Xavi-
er, 3rd)
- Families who cannot afford Christ-
mas. (St Nicholas, 6th)
- Those visiting and those working at
the Christmas market (6th-9th)

Priest in charge:

Revd Jeremy Cullimore.

The Vicarage,

Sibthorp St, Lincoln.

tel 01522 542908

email; jscullimore@btinternet.com.

Lay ministry Mrs Mary Rose

Church Wardens

Mrs Mary Rose, Tony Frecklington

Hall bookings & baptisms

01522 874685 sue.freck@ntlworld.com

Events this week

4th	Tuesday	10am	Women's social group	church hall
5th	Wednesday	10am	Keep fit	church hall
		7.30pm	P.C.C.	Church hall
9th	Sunday	10am	Sung Eucharist	church

Regular monthly events

1st Thursday	2pm	Women's Fellowship	church hall
1st Saturday	10am	Coffee Morning	church hall
3rd Monday	7pm	CAMEO (social games evening)	church hall

REMINDERS

2nd	Sunday	2.30pm	Blessing of the crib	church
16th	Sunday	2.30pm	Service of 9 lessons and Carols	church
25th	Sunday	10am	Christmas Eucharist	church

Geoffrey Studdert Kennedy was an army chaplain who earned the nickname Woodbine Willie for handing out cigarettes to the troops at the same time as copies of the New Testament. Woodbine Willie insisted on being on the front line with the troops whenever he could. Those battlefield experiences forced him to confront depths of evil and suffering which few of us will ever see.

Having entered the war with a secure faith in God and an abstract notion of evil, he ended it being absolutely certain of the existence of evil as a real force at work in the world. The challenge, then, was to find a way to reconcile all that he had seen in the trenches with the existence of a God who was worth believing in.

For Woodbine Willie, hope came with an understanding that God was no longer the almighty force of his pre-war understanding, able to prevent humans from harming one another if he so chose. Instead, God was present in the heat of battle, suffering along with humanity, in the intolerable conditions of the trenches, in the endless slaughter of young lives. God was characterised not by force and power, but by love; no longer remote from all that was going on, but intimately connected with it and suffering through it.

God has planted in each one of us the greatest potential for love; and yet, evil exists and because evil often expresses itself in violence it has to be confronted with force and violence, whether between nations or within a nation.

After the war, despite everything he had seen, Woodbine Willie was able to write, 'The universe is as an "unfinished movement" in which the underlying melody is love.'

The God we believe in brings love out of hate; light out of darkness; justice out of oppression; good out of evil; life out of death. This is our God, and his name is Love. Our acts of remembrance during November helped us to prepare for the season of advent as we remember the first coming of Christ and prepare for his second coming. To remember helps us to be mindful of what it means for Christ to be born in us today.

With every blessing, +Christopher
(an extract)