



November/December 2021 – into a new Church Year (Year C)

As we draw towards the end of another year, we find ourselves reflecting on the year of 2021 which, for many of us, has been a year of tremendous challenge and difficulty. Through it all we trust that God's great love and faithfulness has remained steadfast.

So, as we journey towards the promise of a new day and yet another new year of 2022, let us hope and pray the Spirit will lead us each step of the New Year and ask that God will guide our decision making.

Lamentations 3:22-23 NLT - "The faithful love of the LORD never ends! His mercies never cease. Great is His faithfulness; His mercies begin afresh each morning."

The choir has maintained sung services for much of the year with the minimum of disruption and it is my hope that this will continue and we have been able to re-introduce a sung Evensong & Benediction but on the 3rd Sunday of the month. The 'Friends' are once again able to organise concerts and events and the first two have been extremely successful

Choral Music for the Autumn will include works by **Faure, Vaughan-Williams and Bach/Mendelssohn** together with new anthems by **David Terry** – 'They shall not grow old' and 'To Christ the Sovereign King' based on an old German chorale Ich Glaub an Gott with text by Martin Hellreigal (1981)

Similarly, Organ voluntaries will be a mix of old **stalwarts (Brahms, Mendelssohn and Bach)** together with new items including **Aces High**, originally composed by **Ron Goodwin** for the film **Battle of Britain** and **Dyson's 'Forth in thy Name'** from his collection of Chorale preludes based on old Psalm Tunes

Advent begins on Sunday November 28th and the service setting will revert to **White's unison setting in E flat** and many Advent favourite hymns and anthems

Organist & Director of Music – Barry Whitfield