



St Margaret's Church

Together we aim to: Worship God, Proclaim Jesus, Grow in the Spirit and Serve the World

In Contact

15TH DECEMBER 2024

HEBREWS 1. 1-14

ADVENT 3 - The Angels ADORE



We know that Christmas is near when we talk about angels and sing angelic carols, (which is what we will be doing this week).

We should talk about angels more often because they get so many mentions in the Bible. St Peter is mentioned in the Bible 178 times, which is more than all the gospel writers, St Paul, the Virgin Mary and John the Baptist put together, but angels are mentioned 273 times! So perhaps angels, who they are and what they do, deserve more study.

The word angel comes from a Greek word 'angelos' that literally means 'messenger' and the Bible angels are the messengers of God. The Bible also tells us that angels are not alike: the Seraphim have six wings, and the Cherubim have two wings. Some are senior angels like the archangels, and some have very specific tasks like the four living creatures (Revelation 4:6), angels who continually worship around the throne of God.

In art, angels are depicted as being a bit feminine or like chubby infants, but in the Bible, they are quite terrifying, and some are fearsome warriors and protectors with unsheathed swords and ringed with fire. We see this in Genesis 3:24 where the cherubim stand with a flaming, turning sword to guard the garden of Eden against anyone who might want to try getting back in after Adam and Eve's expulsion.

Some angels have no wings and look like humans. Hebrews 13:2 ***"...show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it."***

Angels appear at Jesus' birth, and after He was tempted in the desert, and at His resurrection. When Jesus had ascended, two angels appeared to the disciples. Angels break people out of prisons, they point people in the right direction, and they appear in people's dreams, but most of the time they are invisible to us.

Angels are amazing, but the writer to the Hebrews sets out to show that Jesus is greater still. Verses 5 to 13 have been lifted, word for word, from other parts of the Bible, as if to say, 'look at what the Scriptures say about Jesus!'

In Isaiah 6 we are given a picture of the Seraphim angels calling out and encouraging one another: **'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory'** like chanting at a football match, their voices reverberating around the throne of God. And directly around the throne are the four living creatures who since the beginning of creation have worshipped God. Then in Revelation 5, the four living creatures fall down and worship Jesus, the Lamb of God.

Rev 5: 13, ***'To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honour and glory and might for ever and ever.'*** Amen!

So, as we celebrate Christmas, let's join the angels in praise, worship and adoration of Jesus our God.



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Peter Miller

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Bible Verse for 2024: 1 Peter 2:5

“..You also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house... acceptable to God” .

This Week– Sunday 15th December 2024:

Family Communion Service at 10.30am. Peter Miller will be preaching from Hebrews 1. 1-14. on the theme: **The Angels ADORE.**

Tuesday group Carols- 17th Dec at about 1.45pm.

Carols at Dahlia - 18th December 6.30pm. Singers needed. Sign up in Church.

Next Week 22nd December 2024:

Morning Worship at 10.30am. Tony Hardy will be preaching from Luke 1. 46-55 on the theme: **Mary ADORES.**

Carols by Candlelight Service at 6.30pm

December 15th to 21st, Please Pray for: .

- People living in Lansdale Gardens, Holmdale Gardens & Eastville Gardens.
- Enjoyable Tuesday Group Christmas lunch and following Carol Service.
- Good support & an enjoyable carol service at Dahlia House on Wednesday.
- Good fun at the Kids and Youth Christmas parties on Thursday.
- Isolated believers in Somalia to have opportunities for fellowship over Christmas.
- Good conversations about Christmas at Message Community Groceries.
- An enthusiastic welcome to everyone arriving at Christmas events.
- Worshipful Carol Service next Sunday (22nd) with good outreach opportunities.

Looking Ahead:

Christmas Eve: 24th, Family Special at **3pm**, Carols and Quiet Communion at **7pm.**

Christmas Day: 25th, Family Communion: at **10.30am**

New Year Prayer Service: 1st January at **12pm.** Pray your way into the new year.

Cake Stands: Do you have any fancy cake stands suitable for using at our Launch Party afternoon tea on 4th January? If so please let Jane Franklin know.

Rockets: Can you save your kitchen roll tubes so we can use them to make rockets? Please bring them to church and give them to Jane Franklin, Sheila Brown or Susan Whittaker.

If you are visiting St Margaret's for the first time we hope you will enjoy worshipping with us today.

For more information please visit our website: www.stmargaretsburnage.org.uk

Come and join us for tea or coffee after the service.



Burnage Tesco, Burnage Library
(when open) and Asda Reddis

MOST NEEDED: Please concentrate on Long life milk, Long life fruit juice, Tinned meat, Cooking Oil. Basmati Rice plus some Sugar.