

The Benefice of Wantage Downs East Hendred, West Hendred, and Ardington with Lockinge

13th – 27th August 2025

Services

17th August – Ninth Sunday After Trinity

9:30am – Lockinge – Holy Communion (BCP)

11am – East Hendred – Holy Communion (CW)

6pm – West Hendred – Evening Prayer (CW)

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24th August – Tenth Sunday After Trinity

9am – West Hendred – Traditional Communion

10am – East Hendred – Contemporary Service

11:15am – Ardington – Holy Communion (BCP)

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31st August – Eleventh Sunday After Trinity

9am – West Hendred – Traditional Communion

10am – East Hendred – Contemporary Service

11:15am – Ardington - Matins (BCP)

Readings for 17th August

Jeremiah 23:23-29; Hebrews 11:29-12:2; Luke 12:49-56

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Readings for 24th August

Jeremiah 1:4-10; Luke 13:10-17

If you don't have a bible to hand, just click one of the following links and enter the reference in the search bar:

[NRSV \(Hendreds\)](#) | [KJV \(Ardington/Lockinge\)](#).

News

New Service Times!

From 24th August we'll begin trialling a new services format. For the first time since before the Covid pandemic, we will have a service in every parish every Sunday.

The service in West Hendred will return to its traditional time of 9am and will be Holy Communion every Sunday as requested by several members of the congregation there. Meanwhile, the service in East Hendred will move forward to 10am and will

alternate between services with or without communion, again in line with requests from the congregation to have more varied and accessible service. The service in Ardington will be very slightly later than now at 11:15, usually Holy Communion as now, but there will be an extra service of Mattins (Morning Prayer) on the 5th Sunday of the month. And we will now have two of the popular Evensong services in Lockinge every month. We will also have a new Tuesday Communion either at the chapel or church in Lockinge every month.

The trial will go on for the next six months. Feedback is welcome so that adjustments can be made at the end of the trial.

Hendred's Table Top Treasure Trove

Join us on Saturday 23rd August for the East Hendred Table Top sale. Tables can be booked via the following link until 16th August: www.ticketsource.co.uk/wantage-downs-benefice. To enjoy the afternoon touring the tables maps can be bought for £5 from the church between 2-5pm.

Benefice Vision Process

Thank you to everyone who came to the benefice vision meeting. We followed the first session of the Thrive Course, which was about prayer. Lots of great ideas came up for what might encourage us to pray and we also shared ideas for what might be possible if we prayed about it.

The next main session of the course will happen on Tuesday 10th February at 7:30pm - please save the date! In order to start putting our ideas into practice in between the main sessions, we will have some short meetings to take action based on what was discussed. **If you would like to take part in this, please indicate your availability for a meeting in September using the following link:** www.when2meet.com/?31329420-J5N2r. If you would prefer to meet in an evening, let me know and I can share more options.

Nikolaj

For more news and updates sign up to our digital newsletter: www.wantedowns.org/newsletters

Please remember in your prayers

Health and healing: Yvonne and Sidney H, Ewan and Colin Stutt, Louise E.

Clergy

Rector: Nikolaj Christensen: rector@wantedowns.org | 01235 634940 | Usual working days: Sunday–Friday. NB! Emails sent after 3pm on a Friday may not be seen until Monday.

Associate Vicar: John Durant: areadean@wantedeanery.org.uk | 01235 234001

Church Wardens

Ardington: Patrice Vogt: Patrice_vogt@yahoo.fr **Lockinge:** Thomas Loyd: tloyd@lockinge-estate.co.uk; Liz Townsend: liztownsend@qi.com

East Hendred: Jill Cook: jillcook999@gmail.com **West Hendred:** Hugh Rees: hugh@citidata.co.uk

Church Office: office@wantedowns.org, Open: 9am-1pm Monday, 1pm-4pm Wednesday, 9am-1pm Friday.

This newsletter is sent out fortnightly. Material for inclusion should reach our administrator (email above) by 9am Monday.