

Service Sheet for Live Stream Service with Spiritual Communion

Second Sunday before Advent – 15 November 2020

Zephaniah 1.7,12-18; Psalm 90; 1 Thessalonians 5.1-11; Matthew 25.14-30;

PARISH COMMUNION



(Photo by Jonathan Covey)

PREPARING THE SPACE...

Please feel free to message and commune during the service as you are so inspired to do. There will be people you recognise who are gathered with you and feel free to say hello to them and to say hello to those whom you don't yet know ☺

Perhaps you might like to light a candle, still yourself as you listen to the music, and allow yourself to take time out and rest in the peace of the time to come as we gather together to worship, reflect and pray....

Let's give thanks that as St Beale's online community, we join as one with St Peter's as a Church family together for today's service.

Please feel free to join in – we say together the words as indicated

The Sundays between the end of the Epiphany season and the beginning of Lent, and the Sundays between Pentecost and the beginning of Advent, are known as Ordinary Time. These times allow us to focus on particular aspects of the Christian faith and life. The readings help us to develop this exploration.

THE GATHERING

Welcome and Introduction

A CORONAVIRUS PRAYER FOR HOPE

All: God of grace, be with those leading us, those on the frontline and with those working to secure a vaccine.

Be with us all in this second lockdown and help us to stay focussed on looking after ourselves and others by following the guidelines.

God of compassion, be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation. In their loneliness, be their consolation; in their anxiety, be their hope; in their darkness, be their light;

God of comfort be with those who are mourning the loss of a loved one at this time trusting in your promise of eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord Amen.

HYMN – St Martin's Voices

Immortal, invisible, God only wise in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unchanging, and silent as light, nor wanting, nor wasting,
thou rulest in might; thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all life thou givest, to both great and small; in all life thou livest, the true life of
all; we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish, but naught changest thee.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight
all laud we would render: O help us to see
'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.

The Greeting - *the president greets the people*

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you **And also with you.**

Welcoming Prayer:

God of all time, you made time and you entered time to be with us.

We move from ordinary time to extraordinary time, and in all this, we wait for
you. Keep our hearts aflame with the things that please you: mercy, humility,
justice. And as we turn to worship you, we worship you in time, in spirit and in
truth. **Amen.**

Prayer of Preparation

All: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from
whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the
inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily
magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers of Penitence – we are invited to confession, to say 'sorry'

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ to save us from
our sins, to be our advocate in heaven, and to bring us to eternal life. Let us
confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's
Commandments and to live in love and peace with all.

All: Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we confess that we
have sinned in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with our whole
heart. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. In your mercy forgive
what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

The president says the prayer of absolution

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all
goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

COLLECT (the gathering prayer of the church)

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that when he shall appear in power and great glory we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD (listening to God's Word)

First Reading - 1 Thessalonians 5.1-11

¹Concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³When they say, 'There is peace and security,' then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! ⁴But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; ⁵for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. ⁶So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; ⁷for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

This is the word of the Lord – **Thanks be to God**

HYMN – led by St Martin's voices

I bind unto myself today the strong name of the Trinity, by invocation of the same, the Three in One, and One in Three.

I bind unto myself today the virtues of the star-lit heaven,
the glorious sun's life-giving ray, the whiteness of the moon at even,

the flashing of the lightning free, the whirling wind's tempestuous shocks,
the stable earth, the deep salt sea, around the old eternal rocks.

I bind unto myself today the power of God to hold and lead,
his eye to watch, his might to stay, his ear to hearken to my need
the wisdom of my God to teach, his hand to guide, his shield to ward,
the word of God to give me speech, his heav'nly host to be my guard.

Christ be with me, Christ within me, Christ behind me, Christ before me,
Christ beside me, Christ to win me, Christ to comfort and restore me,
Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,
Christ in hearts of all that love me, Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.

I bind unto myself the name, the strong name of the Trinity,
by invocation of the same, the Three in One, and One in Three,
of whom all nature has creation, eternal Father, Spirit, Word.
Praise to the Lord of my salvation: salvation is of Christ the Lord.

Gospel Reading Matthew 25:14-31

Here the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Matthew –
Praise to you, O Lord

Jesus said to his disciples: ¹⁵If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. ¹⁸I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord – **Thanks be to God**

SERMON

Affirming our Faith

We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in Heaven and earth is named.
We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.
We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high.
We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen

Prayers of Intercession

The response to each prayer is:

After "Lord in your mercy"

The response is: "Hear our prayer."

At the end of the prayers we say together:

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

The Peace (we acknowledge peace for each other in our hearts with this or another word of the Lord's peace)

To crown all things there must be love, to bind all together and complete the whole. Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts.

The peace of the Lord be always with you - **and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace...

OFFERTORY HYMN - Led by Jonathan and Naomi

(Offerings can also be made online via our Just Giving page for our online community, or anyone else who might care to kindly make a donation. We are truly most grateful for all the offerings and donations, especially at this challenging time.)

Take this moment, sign and space; take my friends around;
here among us make the place where your love is found.

Take the time to call my name, take the time to mend
who I am and what I've been, all I've failed to tend.

Take the tiredness of my days, take my past regret,
letting your forgiveness touch all I can't forget.
Take the little child in me scared of growing old;
help me here to find my worth made in Christ's own mould.

Take my talents, take my skills, take what's yet to be;
let my life be yours, and yet let it still be me.

Prayer of Thanksgiving for offerings: + - we say together:

God of grace, in our time of darkness you bless us with gifts of light.
We place our offerings into your hands - from our homes, from online, and also from our hearts. In response to your unfailing love, we offer ourselves to be used to serve others so that our faithful giving can bear witness to your gracious generosity; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Preparation of the Table with bread and wine

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this bread to set before you, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life. **Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this wine to set before you, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become for us the cup of salvation. **Blessed be God for ever.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here - **His spirit is with us**

Lift up your hearts - **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God - **It is right to give thanks and praise.**
It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation; in your love you made us for yourself. When we turned away you did not reject us, but came to meet us in your Son.

All: You embraced us as your children and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.

In Christ you shared our life that we might live in him and he in us.

All: He opened his arms of love upon the cross and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.

On the night he was betrayed, at supper with his friends he took bread, and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to them, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

All: Father, we do this in remembrance of him: his body is the bread of life.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks, and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins; do this in remembrance of me.

All: Father, we do this in remembrance of him: his blood is shed for all.

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory, send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.

All: As we eat and drink these holy gifts make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.

With your whole Church throughout the world we offer you this sacrifice of praise and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven:

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, Hosanna in the highest

The Lord's Prayer- *Please sit as we pray together:*

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

All: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All: Though we are many, we are one body
because we all share in one bread.

All: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

Giving of Communion

Draw near with faith; receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave
for you and his blood which he shed for you. Eat and drink in remembrance that
he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Or

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

All: Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be
healed.

We say the prayer of Spiritual Communion together:

We all say: Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits you have
given us, for all the pains and insults you have borne for us.

As we receive these sacraments spiritually or physically, we ask you to come
into our hearts.

O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may we know you more clearly,
love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly day by day. **Amen**

*Those at St Peter's are invited to the chancel to receive Communion or a
Blessing - Communion will be offered in one kind only - no wine...*

Prayer after Communion:

Gracious Lord, in this holy sacrament you give substance to our hope:
bring us at the last to that fullness of life for which we long;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen**

NOTICES

HYMN – Led by St Martin's Voices

All nations of the world be joyful in the Lord:

with willing hands your Master serve with one accord: in ceaseless praise
with heart and voice in him rejoice through all your days.

Be sure the Lord is God, creation's source and spring: in him alone we live,
to him our lives we bring. From days of old
he feeds his flock and guides the wanderers to his fold.

In gladness go your way: approach his courts with song in thankfulness to him
to whom all things belong: His name adore:
his gracious mercy, truth and love for evermore

THE BLESSING & SENDING

Christ our King make you faithful and strong to do his will, that you may reign
with him in glory; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the
Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Ame**

We part in peace, in hope, and in love. Amen

Response: **Thanks be to God**

Closing Music: My prayer for you

For anyone who's prayed a thousand prayers, and still can't find the answer
anywhere; fighting off the lie that no one cares;
For anyone who's out there losing hope, feeling you're forsaken and alone;
clinging to the last strands of your rope

May God give you eyes to see He's still greater; courage to rise and believe He's
able - may God be your peace in the fire you're walking through; this is my
prayer now; this is my prayer for you.

For all of those with tired and weary souls, but still have faith to ask for miracles;
choosing to believe He's in control

May God give you eyes to see, He's still greater.....

May your eyes be ever on the Lord, your helper, may you find your refuge in the
Lord, your shelter; may you find Him closer than a brother all your days
All of your days! (repeat)

May God give you eyes to see, He's still greater, courage to rise and believe
He's able - may God be your peace in the fire you're walking through; this is my
prayer now; this is my prayer for you...

God Bless, and prayers for safekeeping and wellbeing go with you
from Revs Sandy and Jacqueline

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