*Eucharist for 3rd Sunday Before Advent, Year A, 08.11.2020*

*The Gathering*

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*The Greeting*

The Lord be with you

**and also with you.**

We meet in the presence of God.

We commit ourselves to work in penitence and faith

for reconciliation between the nations,

that all people may, together, live in freedom, justice and peace.

We pray for all who in bereavement, disability and pain

continue to suffer the consequences of fighting and terror.

We remember with thanksgiving and sorrow those whose lives,

in world wars and conflicts past and present, have been given and taken away.

*Hymn* All my hope on God is founded

All my hope on God is founded; he doth still my trust renew.
Me through change and chance he guideth, only good and only true.
God unknown, he alone calls my heart to be his own.

Human pride and earthly glory, sword and crown betray his trust;
what with care and toil he buildeth, tower and temple, fall to dust.
But God's power, hour by hour, is my temple and my tower.

God's great goodness aye endureth, deep his wisdom, passing thought:
splendour, light, and life attend him, beauty springeth out of naught.
Evermore from his store new-born worlds rise and adore.

Still from earth to God eternal sacrifice of praise be done,
high above all praises praising for the gift of Christ his Son.
Christ doth call one and all: ye who follow shall not fall.

*Prayers of Penitence*

Let us confess to God the sins and shortcomings of the world;

its pride, its selfishness, its greed;

its evil distortions and hatreds.

Let us confess our share in what is wrong,

and our failure to seek and establish that peace

which God wills for all his children.

**Lord God,**

**we have sinned against you; we have done evil in your sight.**

**We are sorry and repent.**

**Have mercy on us according to your love.**

**Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin.**

**Renew a right spirit within us and restore us to the joy of your salvation,**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*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.**

*The Gloria*

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Father.

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Father.**

To God be glory forever. **To God be glory forever.**

Alleluia, amen. **Alleluia, amen. Alleluia, amen. Alleluia, amen.**

Glory to God, glory to God, Son of the Father.

**Glory to God, glory to God, Son of the Father.**

To God be glory forever. **To God be glory forever.**

Alleluia, amen. **Alleluia, amen. Alleluia, amen. Alleluia, amen.**

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Spirit.

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Spirit.**

To God be glory forever. **To God be glory forever.**

Alleluia, amen. **Alleluia, amen. Alleluia, amen. Alleluia, amen.**

*The Collect*

Almighty Father, whose will is to restore all things
in your beloved Son, the King of all:
govern the hearts and minds of those in authority,
and bring the families of the nations,
divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin,
to be subject to his just and gentle rule;
who 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*

*First Reading* **Wisdom of Solomon 6: 12-16**

Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her, and is found by those who seek her. She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her.
One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty, for she will be found sitting at the gate. To fix one’s thought on her is perfect understanding, and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care, because she goes about seeking those worthy of her,
and she graciously appears to them in their paths, and meets them in every thought.

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

## *Second Reading* 1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel’s call and with the sound of God’s trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord for ever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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

*The Gospel*

Alleluia, alleluia.

Blessed are the poor in spirit,

for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

**Alleluia.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *St Matthew*.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

## Matthew 25: 1-13

Jesus spoke this parable to the disciples: ‘The kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, “Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.” Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, “Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.” But the wise replied, “No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.” And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, “Lord, lord, open to us.” But he replied, “Truly I tell you, I do not know you.” Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Sermon*

*The Creed*

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,**

**maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,**

**eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,**

**true God from true God, begotten, not made,**

**of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,**

**was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;**

**he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;**

**he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,**

**and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,**

**who proceeds from the Father (and the Son,)**

**who with the Father and the Son**

**is worshipped and glorified,**

**who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,**

**and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*Prayers of Intercession*

*In the Diocesan Calendar we pray for LIMPSFIELD & TATSFIELD TEAM MINISTRY: St Mary, Tatsfield (LEP); Vince Short (TV)*

*In the Anglican Communion Calendar, we pray for the Bishops, priests and people of the Church in the Province of the West Indies; and for The Most Revd Howard Gregory – Primate and Bishop of Jamaica and the Cayman Islands.*

*In the Christ Church calendar, we pray for the Friday Group*

*We also pray for all whose year’s mind falls at this time.*

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

We pray for the leaders of the nations,

that you will guide them in the ways of freedom, justice and truth.

Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who bear arms on behalf of the nation,

that they may have discipline and discernment,

courage and compassion.

Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our enemies, and those who wish us harm,

that you will turn the hearts of all to kindness and friendship.

Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the wounded and the captive,

the grieving and the homeless,

that in all their trials they may know your love and support.

Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer.**

Most holy God and Father,

hear our prayers for all who strive for peace and all who fight for justice.

Help us, who today remember the cost of war, to work for a better tomorrow;

and, as we commend to you lives lost in terror and conflict,

bring us all, in the end, to the peace of your presence;

Merciful Father, **accept these prayers**

**for the sake of your Son,**

**our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

*The Liturgy of the Sacrament*

*The Peace*

Jesus said, ‘Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.

I do not give to you as the world gives.’

The peace of the Lord be always with you

**and also with you.**

*Hymn For the healing of the nations*

**For the healing of the nations,** Lord, we pray with one accord,
for a just and equal sharing of the things that earth affords.
To a life of love in action help us rise and pledge our word.

Lead us forward into freedom, from despair your world release,
that, redeemed from war and hatred, all may come and go in peace.
Show us how through care and goodness fear will die and hope increase.

All that kills abundant living, let it from the earth be banned:
pride of status, race or schooling, dogmas that obscure your plan.
In our common quest for justice may we hallow brief life's span.

You, Creator God, have written your great name on humankind;
for our growing in your likeness bring the life of Christ to mind;
that by our response and service earth its destiny may find.

*Preparation of the Altar*

*Prayer at the preparation of the altar.*

To you we come, Father of lights,

with angels and saints, where heaven and earth unite.

May Jesus meet us in the breaking of the bread. **Amen.**

*The Eucharistic Prayer*

The Lord be with you

**and also with you.**

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 indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should always sing of your glory,

holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

For you are the hope of the nations, the builder of the city that is to come.

Your love made visible in Jesus Christ brings home the lost,

restores the sinner and gives dignity to the despised.

In his face your light shines out, flooding lives with goodness and truth,

gathering into one in your kingdom a divided and broken humanity.

Therefore with all who can give voice in your creation we glorify your name,

for ever praising you and saying:

**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.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,

and as we follow his example and obey his command,

grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine

may be to us his body and his blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks;

he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks;

he gave it to them, saying:

Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,

which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Therefore, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself

made once for all upon the cross;

we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;

we look for the coming of your kingdom,

and with this bread and this cup we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again.**

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,

and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty,

renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love

and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,

we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power**

**be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

*The Lord's Prayer*

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;**

**thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is 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.**

*The president breaks the consecrated bread.*

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

**Though we are many, we are one body,**

**because we all share in one bread.**

*Agnus Dei*

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us peace.**

*Giving of Communion*

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,**

**but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

*Quiet Music: Behold, I make all things new (Iona)*

*Prayer after Communion*

God of peace, whose Son Jesus Christ proclaimed the kingdom

and restored the broken to wholeness of life:

look with compassion on the anguish of the world,

and by your healing power make whole both people and nations;

through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**Act of Remembrance**

Let us remember before God,

and commend to his safe keeping,

those who have died for their country in war;

[those whom we knew, and whose memory we treasure;]

and all who have lived and died in the service of the peoples of the world.

An older person says

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;

age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.

A younger person may reply

At the going down of the sun and in the morning,

we will remember them.

**We will remember them.**

The beginning of the two-minute silence may be signalled.

Silence is kept.

The completion of the silence may be signalled.

The following prayer is said

Ever-living God,

we remember those whom you have gathered from the storm of war

into the peace of your presence;

may that same peace calm our fears,

bring justice to all peoples

and establish harmony among the nations,

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

A wreath is laid

The Kohima Epitaph is said

When you go home tell them of us and say,

for your tomorrow we gave our today.

The Act of Commitment is made

Let us commit ourselves to responsible living and faithful service.

Will you strive for all that makes for peace?

**We will.**

Will you seek to heal the wounds of war?

**We will.**

Will you work for a just future for all humanity?

**We will.**

Merciful God, we offer to you the fears in us

that have not yet been cast out by love:

may we accept the hope you have placed in the hearts of all people,

and live lives of justice, courage and mercy;

through Jesus Christ our risen redeemer. **Amen.**

*The Dismissal*

May God give to you and to all those whom you love

his comfort and his peace, his light and his joy, in this world and the next;

and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

*Hymn You are the King of Glory*

You are the King of Glory. You are the Prince of Peace

You are the Lord of heaven and earth. You're the Son of righteousness

Angels bow down before you, worship and adore for

you have the words of eternal life -- you are Jesus Christ the Lord

Chorus

*Hosanna to the Son of David*

*Hosanna to the King of Kings*

*Glory in the highest heaven*

*for Jesus the Messiah reigns*

© [Archbishops' Council](http://www.churchofengland.org/about-us/structure/archbishopscouncil.aspx)