*Eucharist 2nd Sunday Before Advent, Year A, 15.11.2020*

*The Gathering*

*Hymn* Immortal, invisible

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, unhasting, 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 nought changeth 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.

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.**

*Prayers of Penitence*

Lord, you are gracious and compassionate:

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

You are loving to all and your mercy is over all your creation:

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Your faithful servants bless your name

and speak of the glory of your kingdom:

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

*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*

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*

*First Reading* **Zephaniah 1: 7, 12-18**

Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is at hand; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests. At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, ‘The LORD will not do good, nor will he do harm.’ Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them. The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there. That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the LORD, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the LORD’s wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

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

## *Second Reading* 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11

Concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When 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! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But 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. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

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

*The Gospel*

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

## Matthew 25: 14-30

Jesus said to his disciples, ‘The kingdom of heaven is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, “Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.” His master said to him, “Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.” And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, “Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.” His master said to him, “Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.” Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, “Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.” But his master replied, “You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”’

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 WARLINGHAM w CHELSHAM & FARLEIGH TEAM MINISTRY: Michelle Edmonds (TR) (AD); Ruth Chapman (AsstC); Vacant (TV); Rebecca Pope (Reader); Harry Lanyon (Reader) (PTO); Suzanne Retter (SPA); All Saints, Warlingham St Leonard, Chelsham; St Christopher, Warlingham St Mary, Farleigh*

*In the Anglican Communion Calendar, we pray for the Bishops, priests and people of the Church of Ceylon (Extra-Provincial to the Archbishop of Canterbury); and for The Rt Revd Dhiloraj Ranjit Canagasabey – Bishop of Colombo and The Rt Revd Keerthisiri Fernando – Bishop of Kurunegala*

*In the Christ Church calendar, we pray for the Toddler Play Group and for Katy Williams and Cathy Elliott and all the volunteers, parents/carers and children*

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

We pray for the coming of God’s kingdom.

You sent your Son to bring good news to the poor,

sight to the blind, freedom to captives and salvation to your people:

anoint us with your Spirit; rouse us to work in his name.

Father, by your Spirit

**bring in your kingdom.**

Send us to bring help to the poor and freedom to the oppressed.

Father, by your Spirit

**bring in your kingdom.**

Send us to tell the world the good news of your healing love.

Father, by your Spirit

**bring in your kingdom.**

Send us to those who mourn, to bring joy and gladness instead of grief.

Father, by your Spirit

**bring in your kingdom.**

Send us to proclaim that the time is here for you to save your people.

Father, by your Spirit

**bring in your kingdom.**

Lord of the Church,

**hear our prayer, and make us one in mind and heart**

**to serve you in Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*The Liturgy of the Sacrament*

*The 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.

*Colossians 3.14,15*

The peace of the Lord be always with you

**and also with you.**

*Hymn Take my life and let it be*

Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee;

take my moments and my days, let them flow in ceaseless praise,

Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of thy love;

take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee,

Take my voice, and let me sing always, only, for my King;

take my lips, and let them be filled with messages from thee,

Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold;

take my intellect, and use every power as thou shalt choose,

Take my will, and make it thine: it shall be no longer mine.

take my heart: it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne,

Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure-store.

take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee,

*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: Take, o take me as I am (Iona)*

*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.**

*Then we pray together:*

**Father of all, we give you thanks and praise,**

**that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,**

**so we and all your children shall be free,**

**and the whole earth live to praise your name;**

**through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*The Dismissal*

May God,

who kindled the fire of his love in the hearts of the saints,

pour upon you the riches of his grace. **Amen.**

May he give you joy in their fellowship

and a share in their praises. **Amen.**

May he strengthen you to follow them in the way of holiness

and to come to the full radiance of glory. **Amen.**

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 All I once held dear*

All I once held dear, built my life upon, all this world reveres and wars to own  
all I once thought gain I have counted loss,

spent and worthless now, compared to this

Chorus:

*Knowing you, Jesus, knowing you. There is no greater thing:  
you’re my all, you’re the best, you’re my joy, my righteousness and I love you, Lord*

Now my heart’s desire is to know you more,

to be found in you and known as yours.   
To possess by faith what I could not earn,

all surpassing gift of righteousness

Oh to know the power of your risen life and to know you in your sufferings,  
to become like you in your death, my Lord,

so with you to live and never die.

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