



St Anne with Holy Trinity, Brondesbury

Confidently sharing the love of Christ

Second Sunday before Advent 19th November 2023

Welcome to St Anne's today—it is great to have you with us. St Anne's is the local Church of England parish church and we are a very diverse group of people. We hope that you will feel welcome in our worship today. If you are new, please do say hello—we would love to get to know you. If you are unsure where to find something, or about what is going on, please do ask. We will be happy to help. Our worship style is quite formal, but we hope relaxed- as we come to worship God in our midst.

All the words for the service will be on the screens at the front however, if you would prefer to have a printed copy in your hands, there are hymn books and service sheets at the back.

*Please stand as the bell is rung as we sing our opening
Hymn 65 – Be thou my guardian and my guide*

We meet in the name of God who is (+) Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The President will introduce the service and then lead us into a time of confession

Jesus says, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' So let us turn away from sin and turn to Christ, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

Father eternal, giver of light and grace, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour, in what we have thought, in what we have said and done, through ignorance, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We have wounded your love, and marred your image in us. We are sorry and ashamed, and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past; and lead us out from darkness to walk as children of light. Amen

We sing together.

**Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy,
Christ have mercy, Christ have mercy,
Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy.**

We are reminded of God's forgiveness.

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.**

We sing our praise in the words of the Gloria

**Refrain: Glory to God, Glory to God,
Glory to God in the highest.**

**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. Refrain:**

**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. Refrain:**

**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. Refrain.**

The Collect

The Priest introduces a period of silent prayer and then says:

Heavenly Lord, you long for the world's salvation:
stir us from apathy, restrain us from excess
and revive in us new hope
that all creation will one day be healed
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Liturgy of the Word *(please sit as the young people leave us for their lessons. We hear a reading from the Old Testament.*

In this passage from Zephaniah, the audience is jarred out of its familiar ritual commemoration of the Day of the Lord to find itself in the far more destabilizing reality of God's actual presence.

A reading from the Prophet Zephaniah (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.

We hear a reading from the New Testament.

The reading for today, with the passage from last week, function together to describe the nature of Christ's longed-for return in the most vivid language possible, to help the recipients of the letter have the sense that they can actually see, hear, and trust the promise they are committed to.

A reading from the first letter to the Thessalonians
(1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11)

Now 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.

*We sing our **Gradual Hymn 652 – Seek ye first** during which the Gospel is processed – please stand during the last verse*

The end is near! Today is the penultimate Sunday of Year A when we have been reading through the Gospel of Matthew. As we continue in Kingdom Season and move towards advent the Gospel reading we are offered is apocalyptic. The Matthean Jesus named Immanuel, God with us, in Matthew 1 is the same Christ who meets us in troubling texts “until the end of the age.” . The end is near in eschatological parables, but it is the same confounding Matthean Parabler who narrates them. Matthew’s language is different to that of the other Gospel writers, But Matthew wants to give us something to reflect on. We may not need to accept Matthew’s answer, but perhaps we can benefit from working through Matthew’s way of portraying the problem! Matthew is much more interested in using ultimate judgment as a future/present, as a way of encouraging an engagement with rather than a burying of talents.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

(Matthew 25: 14-30)

For it 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.

We sit to listen to the sermon. After the sermon silence is kept.

We stand to affirm our faith in the words of the creed.

Let us declare our faith in God.

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on 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.**

*We sit as we prayer for the Church, the World and for this
community. A member of the congregation will lead these*

After the biddings we pray

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Rest Eternal Grant unto them O Lord

And let light perpetual shine upon them

May they rest in peace

And rise in glory

At the conclusion of the prayers

Merciful Father,

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

Liturgy of the Sacrament *(please stand)*

Jesus says: Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.

Not as the world gives do I give you. Do not let your hearts be
troubled, neither let them be afraid.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

and also with you.

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

We share the peace with those around us in a way we are comfortable until the offertory Hymn is announced.

*We sing Hymn 205 – **From Heaven you came** during which a collection is taken.*

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 Lord be with you,
And also with you.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

The preface continues until we sing.

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

After the Consecration :

Great is the mystery of faith

Christ has died: Christ is risen:

Christ will come again

*At the end of the Eucharistic Prayer we sing **Amen.***

We join in the prayer that Jesus taught his friends to say in our preferred version and language.

**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.**

We sing the Agnus Dei.

**Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us
Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us
Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world,
grant us peace.**

The Elevation

This is Jesus 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.

*We receive communion, during which we listen to Nada te Turbo (Nothing can trouble). All who would normally receive are welcome to, and you may choose if you are ready to receive the chalice. We receive God's grace in one kind or two. **(Please do not intinct (dip)).** You may also like to come forward for a blessing; and you may wish to light a candle. At the end of communion the priest will lead us in a period of silence, and then a short prayer:*

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.**

We listen to the notices about our community life.

The Dismissal *(please stand)*

We receive God's Blessing.

The Lord be with you
And also with you

Christ our King make you faithful and strong to do his will, that you may reign with him in glory; and the blessing 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 the peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

*We join in our **final 422 – Lead us heavenly father lead us** as the clergy leave the church*

Please do join us for refreshments

Our Community Life Together and Dates for your Diary

Finance—St Anne's

Our current monthly target for congregational giving is **£2180**. At present we are about £150 shy of our target each month. If you are new to St Anne's, or have not previously thought about it, please consider setting up a Standing Order to manage your giving. Forms and information are available in the entrance, or you can speak with Michael or Simon.

Mother Christine on annual leave from afternoon of 14th - 23rd November. Please pray for her during this time.

PCC Update

The PCC met on Monday 13th November. We continue to talk through different plans for the parish. This meeting we focused on planning budgets for 2024 and our plans for Advent and Christmas. We also built on our safeguarding focus from September.

Monthly Gardening

A huge thank you to everyone who helped with the gardening yesterday.



Kingdom Season – Season of Remembering All Souls Day Flowers

A huge thank you to all who have contributed to our flowers that have been given in memory of many we hold dear and have touched our lives. A full list of those who are remembered can be found on the notice board, and at the entrance to the church.

**Thank you too for all who helped with
Remembrance events.**

Advent Procession at St Paul's

Our annual pilgrimage to St Paul's for the Advent Carol Service will be on **Saturday 2nd December at 5.30pm**. We need to book tickets so we will be asking people to sign up NOW.

Advent begins this year on **Sunday 3rd December**.

Opportunities During Advent 2023

Monday Lunchtimes during Advent

On Monday 4th, 11th and 18th December at 12noon we will be offering an Advent reflection with Mass in the Church. There will be a weekly theme using music, images and silence.

Carols by Candlelight

with Queen's Park Singers—Sunday 17th December at 4pm followed by mulled wine and mince pies!

Wreath Making

This annual creative workshop will take place on **Saturday 9th December -10am until 1pm**. Come at 10am to make you own Christmas wreath or table centre piece. All materials will be provided but participants will be asked to buy their wreath.



For our prayers— Irene, Patsy, Janet, Jean, Joyce, Guy and Renate, AnneMarie and Marion, Emma, Peter and Rhona, Florret, John and Josephine, Harriet, May, Mavis, Kay, Comfort, Jean, Pearl, Peter, Ruth, John and Cecilia. We remember those who have died recently and those whose anniversary of death falls at this time including Lois Romain.

Services during the week 19th November 2023

Then no Morning Prayer till Friday 24th November

Friday 24th 8.30am Morning Prayer in Chapel

9.30am My Move Playgroup

2pm Tea and Chat

Sunday 26th 9 am Morning Prayer in Chapel and Zoom

Christ the King **10 am** Sung Mass with Sunday School