



St Anne with Holy Trinity, Brondesbury

Confidently sharing the love of Christ

Readings and Notice Sheet **Sunday 22 November 2020** **Christ the King**

We continue in lockdown and so are unable to worship again in person. We will however still worship, and do that in different settings and contexts. This Newsletter provides common prayers and readings which we might share together.



The Feast of Christ the King marks the last Sunday of the Church year! It is the last Sunday before Advent, and brings to end the liturgical Kingdom season when we envision what God's Kingdom is. It celebrates the all-embracing authority of Christ as King and Lord of the cosmos.

The Collect

God the Father,
help us to hear the call of Christ the King
and to follow in his service,
whose kingdom has no end;
for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, one glory. **Amen.**

Reading from the Prophet Ezekiel

Now God begins to restore. Now God offers hope. The first 32 chapters of Ezekiel have been dominated by words of judgment, primarily against Judah, but against the nations as well in 25-32. Chapter 33 begins the transition to oracles of hope—and then in this passage God promises to act as a Shepherd.

Ezekiel 34:11-16,20-24

For thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather

them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice. Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep. I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Our Second reading from the letter to the Ephesians

The first chapter of Ephesians establishes the cosmic scope of this letter. As is typical of the Pauline adaption of the Greco-Roman letter, the opening greeting immediately clues the reader into the letter's focus on God's plan and purposes, "Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God," this is followed by a prayer of sorts. The verses we read today are read on Christ the King Sunday because the notion of power, dominion, rule, and authority are re-imagined through the life of the believer. That is, God's power at work in Christ is also God's power at work in the believer toward good works (2:10), in the life of the assembly (ekklesia) that makes known the gift of God's grace and the riches of Christ (3:10), and in the struggle against the powers of this world (6:10-17).

Ephesians 1: 15-end

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called

you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel is today taken from Matthew

Matthew 25: 31-end is the apocalyptic vision of God separating the sheep and the goats. This is a difficult part of the bible. In this parable the ones being judged are not Jewish Christians specifically, but “the nations.” This is a traditional term for the gentiles. The question that Matthew’s Jesus handles in this vision is not about the ethics of the church or even Jesus’ disciples, but the response to the least of these on the part of the nations, the gentiles. What concerns this judgment is not the ethics of the faithful, but the judgment of the gentiles: those who would either respond positively or negatively to the “little ones,” the “least of these” that make up Christ’s community. How are we aware of, and able to respond to the most vulnerable?

Matthew 25: 31-end

‘When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, “Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.” Then the righteous will answer him, “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?” And the king will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.” Then he will say to those at his left hand, “You

that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.” Then they also will answer, “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?” Then he will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.” And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.’

This is the Gospel of our Lord
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Take some time to reflect on the readings set for today—what might they be saying to you? What might they be saying to us as a community?

Intercessions

Let us with confidence present our prayers and supplications to the throne of grace.

We pray for all Christian peoples,
that together we may come to understand
the royal priesthood you bestowed on us in baptism;
living together as your body the Church.
May we witness to your welcome to all people regardless of race and
background.
We pray for our Bishops Sarah and Pete,
and for all who guide and inspire our faith in you.

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

We pray for all those in positions of power, that they may govern with
wisdom and integrity, serving the needs of their people.
We pray for the United Nations, the World Health Organisation and all
agencies that work across the divides of the nations.
May the peace and justice of your reign prevail.

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

We pray for those whose commitment to truth brings them into conflict with earthly powers, that they may have the courage to endure.

We pray for all who work for peace, for those involved in research and for all who seek to care for your creation

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer

We pray for our own nation during this time of lockdown.

For the decisions being made which affect the lives of others.

For those who work with all who are in need; and all care for the vulnerable.

Help us to help each other, and to see each other as made in your image

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Touch and heal all those whose lives are in pain or face sorrow.

We pray for those who seek you healing and comfort at this time including Yvonne, Rute, Patience, Ron, Evelyn, Linda, John, Josephine, John, Cecilia and Ruth....

Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer.

We pray for those who have died, including those who have died recently including Edgerton Rodgers and Freddy Mills and those whose anniversary of death falls at this time amongst them Lois Romain.

Rest Eternal, Grant unto them O Lord

And may light perpetual shine upon them.

May they rest in peace **And rise in Glory**

In this stillness we bring our own prayers before God...

Merciful God hear all our prayers as we look for the coming of your kingdom and join with all the company of heaven in the words our Saviour 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**

Notices

During Lockdown

I am very aware that there is mixed emotions about this second lockdown, and many are anxious about what this will mean for them, their health and livelihood. **The Archbishop's** have called us to pray during this lockdown as one team. In fact they invite us to *Fast and Pray* every Thursday in some way for an end to the pandemic, and to the injustices it has exposed.

We again need to change the way we do things. There is to be **NO Public Worship**, but we will still worship and prayer. **St Anne's and St Andrew's building is closed** except for the Nursery who continues to operate in accordance with the guidance. We will open the chapel for individual prayer at different points during lockdown. We need to do this in a way to maintain safety for those who still need to work here and adhere to guidance.

Each Sunday two Zoom Services will be offered; **one 9.30am and one at 5pm**. During the week, Contemplation and Morning Prayer will continue on Zoom.

The Church and Chapel will be **open for *Private Prayer* Tuesday 24th 10am—12noon and Thursday 26th from 12noon—2pm**. You will be able to enter the building through the car park door. You will need to wash hands or sanitise them, and continue to wear a face mask. You will then be able to sit in the church or the chapel. This is for individuals or households. Like when we were in church you must not talk or mingle with anyone inside, or speak with more than one person outside.

The Prayer Chapel at Christ Church on Willesden Lane continues to be open daily from **9am –4pm**; and St Martin's Kensal Rise is open from 9.30-10.30 on Tuesday and Thursday Morning.



Christmas is not cancelled!!!!

This year Advent begins on Sunday 29th November. While many things will be different this Advent, we are finding ways to make the most of this season of watching and waiting in hope!

See the 2020 Advent Flyer for more details.

Advent Calendar

To make Advent and Christmas very visible this year we are going to have a Giant Advent Calendar in the rotunda windows. Each day there will be a new light or part of a story. There will be different bits to make and display; culminating with a full nativity by Christmas Eve. As part of this we would like to make a Christmas Tree. To make the tree we are asking people to make—knit, crochet, or stitch squares which are 20cm x 20cm. These are used to create a tree. All squares need to be completed by 11th Dec please!

Please tell your neighbours and friends what we are doing and encourage them to come and watching the changing picture in the windows. There will be a link on the church website explain the story behind each window.

The Church of England also has a weekly online Advent Calendar see

https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2020-11/COFE_02977_AdventCalendar-ComfortandJoy_v4.pdf

Advent Study

Starting on Monday 30th November at 7pm on Zoom

This year we will be exploring '**Stations' of the Nativity.**

There will be a 20min guided meditation on a different image of the nativity followed by some time for reflection and discussion. Each session will be stand alone, so you can join for on or for all the Monday's during Advent.

Advent Appeals—the Giving Tree!

As with the past few years we have three ways you might help this Advent and Christmas. **Laurence's Larder** you can donate food or money—see details of their Christmas Appeal <https://www.laurenceslarder.org.uk> **Gift Box for St Mungo's**—Fill a shoe box with items that would be useful for a homeless man. Warm socks, hats, gloves, toiletries, tea bags, cup of soups. **Gift to St Anne's for its ministry**—give a gift to St Anne's to help us continue our work in this place. Simply place your gift to St Anne's in the envelope provided.

During Advent in worship we will be exploring the theme—as we watch and wait who is God calling us to be in Queen's Park. As part of this we will be re-starting the 2minute slot which will be shared in the 9.30am service.

News from Laurence's Larder and Sufra

As many of you know Laurence's Larder will remain open providing a 'takeaway' hot meal every Thursday. Preparation is taking place each Wednesday. If you would like to help out, please contact them first as they have to limit the number of volunteers at present to ensure they can work within the parameters of the guidance. Please see their revamped website : <https://www.laurenceslarder.org.uk/> **They have also now launched their Christmas Appeal—please see their website!**

We are also sharing our food donations with Sufra. You can read all about what they are doing during this period on their website <https://www.sufra-nwlondon.org.uk/> They are also looking for extra volunteer drivers.

Jane Cox shared last Sunday the good experience she has had being part of the NHS Volunteer Responder scheme. This allows you to volunteer from home. They really need more! See <https://nhsvolunteerresponders.org.uk/> **We have some wonderful volunteers from St Anne's supporting both Laurence's Larder and Sufra.**

Daily Hope 24hour phonenumber

Daily Hope offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line. The line – which is available 24 hours a day on **0800 804 8044**.



For our prayers Yvonne, Rute, Patience, Ron, Evelyn, Linda, John, Josephine, John, Cecilia and Ruth and for those who have died recently including Edgerton Rodgers; and those whose anniversary of death falls at this time including Lois Romain.

Services this coming week starting 22nd November

Monday 23th November 2pm— Christian Contemplation on Zoom

Tuesday 24th November 8.30am– Morning Prayer on Zoom.

10am—12noon - Church open for Private Prayer

Thursday 26th November 8.30am– Morning Prayer on Zoom.

12noon—2pm - Church open for Private Prayer

Sunday 29th November — Advent 1

9am—Thought for the Day on Facebook

9.30am— **Service of the Day on Zoom**

10.30 am —12 noon - Church open for Private Prayer.

5pm Zoom Service for the day

Stay close to God and a safe distance from everyone else!

Please keep believing and praying for us all!