

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Advent  
Holy Communion in the Kingdom Season  
Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

*The four weeks of November are often called the **Kingdom Season**. It is not really a separate 'season', like Epiphany or Lent, but it represents the end of our annual liturgical pilgrimage.*

*We have travelled through the cycle of incarnation and redemption and now we seek the glory of Christ's kingdom on earth as it is in heaven, waiting in hope for it to be revealed in all its fullness.*

*The Kingdom Season is a time for forgiveness, reconciliation and healing. The readings are apocalyptic in tone and the theme of judgement predominates, concluding with the triumphant Feast of Christ the King who will reign over all things in the peaceable Kingdom of God.*

**Gathering to Worship God**

From mist and darkness, from restful waters

**God gathers us**

From health and sickness, from plenty and poverty

**God gathers us**

From highroads and byways, from fields and cities

**God gathers us**

To a feast, a banquet, to life eternal

**God gathers us safe home.**

**Let us worship God together.**

*Words of welcome and introduction to our worship today*

## Hymn – Tell Out My Soul

### Saying Sorry to God

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.

*We keep silence*

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.**

### We Receive God's Forgiveness

+ God who is both power and love,  
forgive you and free you from your sins,  
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,  
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

**Gloria**

**Let the whole earth cry GLORY!**  
**Glory to God, Maker above**  
**Glory to Christ, heart of love**  
**Glory to the Spirit, inspiring dove.**  
**Let the whole earth cry GLORY!**

**The Collect**

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**

## **Hymn – There's a Wideness in God's Mercy**

### **Gospel**

Alleluia, alleluia.

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

**Alleluia.**

Hear the Gospel of the Lord according to Matthew

**Glory to you O Lord**

**Matthew 25.14–30**

This is the Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you O Christ**

### **Reflection**

## **We Declare our Faith Together**

**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**

### *Bidding*

Lord in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer**

## 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.

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

## Hymn – Be Thou My Vision

### Preparation of the Altar

*The table is set and the bread and wine are placed upon it.*

As the grain once scattered in the fields  
and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside  
are now reunited on this table in bread and wine,  
so, Lord, may your whole Church soon be gathered together  
from the corners of the earth  
into your kingdom. **Amen.**

The Lord is here.  
**His Spirit is with us.**

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.**

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.**

Father, on the night before he died,  
Jesus shared a meal with his friends.  
He took the bread, and thanked you.  
He broke it, and gave it to them, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this to remember me.

After the meal, Jesus took the cup of wine.  
He thanked you, and gave it to them, saying:  
Drink this, all of you.  
This is my blood,  
the new promise of God's unfailing love.  
Do this to remember me.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Father, as we bring this bread and wine,  
and remember his death and resurrection,  
send your Holy Spirit,  
that we who share these gifts  
may be fed by Christ's body and his blood.

Pour your Spirit on us  
that we may love one another,  
work for the healing of the earth,  
and share the good news of Jesus,  
as we wait for his coming in glory.

For honour and praise belong to you, Father,  
with Jesus your Son, and the Holy Spirit:  
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen**

## Breaking of the 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.**

## Invitation to Communion

Come, you who hunger and thirst for a deeper faith, for a better life, for a fairer world.

Here is the table of the Lord,  
where he who was always the guest in the homes of others,  
is the now the host.

*We are a worshipping community gathering together; a physical barrier to receiving Communion is no barrier spiritually and so we join in this prayer of spiritual Communion.*

**My Jesus, I believe that Thou art present in the Blessed Sacrament. I love Thee above all things and I desire Thee in my soul. Since I cannot now receive Thee sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though Thou wert already there, I embrace Thee and unite myself wholly to Thee; permit not that I should ever be separated from Thee. Amen. (St Alphonsus)**

## Prayer after Communion

**Gracious, loving 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.**

## Hymn – At the Name of Jesus

## Blessing and Dismissal

**King of glory, prince of peace, may we live to your glory.  
May we tread gently as inhabitants of earth  
and live boldly as citizens of your heavenly kingdom.**

+God the Father bless you,  
God the Son heal you,  
God the Holy Spirit give you strength.  
God the holy and undivided Trinity guard your body and save your soul,  
and bring you safely to his heavenly city;  
where he lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

**Please join us on Zoom for coffee after the service if you can. Details are the same as they were last time but if you need the details please message us.**

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