



21st November 2021

8.30am service

We welcome you to St Matthew's Church this morning and pray you are blessed as we worship the Lord together.

If you are with us for the first time please fill in one of our Welcome Cards.

Thank you.

*Please join in the words in **bold print**.*

Don't forget to silence your mobile!

Our Celebrant is Revd Linda Fox.

Our Preacher is Mrs Alison Radford.

¶ The Gathering

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you
and also with you.

We remain standing to pray together

**Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets
are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your
Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your
holy name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Please be seated

The Confession and Absolution

Invitation to 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.

The kingdom is yours,
but we turn away from your just rule:
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

The power is yours,
but we trust in our own power and strength:

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

The glory is yours,
but we fall short of the glory of God:
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

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.

Please stand

Gloria in Excelsis

**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.**

**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.**

**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.
Amen.**

The Collect

A period of silent prayer

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.

¶ The Liturgy of the Word

Let us prepare ourselves for the Word
of God as it comes to us in the reading
of Holy Scripture.

Our hearts and minds are open.

First Reading

Daniel 7.9-10, 13-14

As I watched,
thrones were set in place,
and an Ancient One took his throne;
his clothing was white as snow,
and the hair of his head like pure
wool;

his throne was fiery flames,
and its wheels were burning fire.
¹⁰A stream of fire issued
and flowed out from his presence.
A thousand thousand served him,
and ten thousand times ten
thousand stood attending him.
The court sat in judgement,
and the books were opened.

¹³As I watched in the night visions,
I saw one like a human being
coming with the clouds of heaven.
And he came to the Ancient One
and was presented before him.

¹⁴To him was given dominion
and glory and kingship,
that all peoples, nations, and languages
should serve him.

His dominion is an everlasting dominion
that shall not pass away,
and his kingship is one
that shall never be destroyed.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Revelation 1.4b-8

Grace to you and peace from him who
is and who was and who is to come,
and from the seven spirits who are
before his throne, ⁵and from Jesus
Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn
of the dead, and the ruler of the kings
of the earth. To him who loves us and
freed us from our sins by his blood,
⁶and made us to be a kingdom, priests
serving his God and Father, to him be
glory and dominion for ever and ever.
Amen.

⁷Look! He is coming with the
clouds;
every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him;
and on his account all the
tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

⁸'I am the Alpha and the Omega', says
the Lord God, who is and who was and
who is to come, the Almighty.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Let us stand to greet the
Gospel of Christ.

The Gospel

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

You, Christ, are the King of glory,
the eternal Son of the Father.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus
Christ according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

John 18.33-37

Pilate asked Jesus, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' ³⁴Jesus answered, 'Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?' ³⁵Pilate replied, 'I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me.

What have you done?' ³⁶Jesus answered, 'My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.'

³⁷Pilate asked him, 'So you are a king?' Jesus answered, 'You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

The Sermon

Let us stand to declare our faith in God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

The Nicene 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.**

Please be seated

Prayers of Intercession

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

We pray for all those in positions of power, that they may govern with wisdom and integrity, serving the needs of their people.

May your reign come;
Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for the Church, the sign of your reign, that it may extend your welcome to people of every race and background.

May your kingdom come;
Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for Christians of every denomination, that together we may come to understand the royal priesthood you bestowed on us in baptism.

May your dominion come;
Lord, 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.

May your rule come;
Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for this community of faith, that attentive to your word we may always worship in spirit and in truth.

May your reign come;
Lord, hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Loving God, you have taught us that the power of the heart is greater than the power of wealth and might.

Hear us as we pray for the fulfilment of your reign. We ask this through Jesus Christ our King; to him be glory and power for ever.

Amen.

¶ The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Please stand

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. *cf Colossians 3.14*

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

Let us offer one another a sign
of Christ's peace.

Blessed be God,
who enthrones us with Christ in the
heavenly realms.

May we feed upon the bread of God
and drink the royal wine of heaven.

Blessed be God for ever.

The Eucharistic Prayer (E)

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,
always and everywhere to give you
thanks, holy Father,
almighty and eternal God.

For with the oil of gladness you have
anointed Christ the Lord, your only Son,
to be our great high priest and king of
all creation.

As priest, he offered himself once for all
upon the altar of the cross
and redeemed the human race by this
perfect sacrifice of peace.

As king he claims dominion over all
your creatures,
that he may bring before your infinite
majesty a kingdom of truth and life,
a kingdom of holiness and grace,
a kingdom of justice, love and peace.

And so with angels and archangels
and all the heavenly host,
we proclaim your glory and join in their
unending hymn of praise:

**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.

We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of
your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had
supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them
and said:

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

When supper was ended he took
the cup of wine.

Again he praised you, gave it to them
and said:

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.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus
did, in him we plead with confidence his
sacrifice made once for all
upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life
and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

Jesus Christ is Lord:

**Lord, by your cross and
resurrection you have set us free.
You are the Saviour of the world.**

Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all
the earth.

Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with St Matthew and all
the saints to feast at your table
in heaven.

**Through Christ, and with Christ,
and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours,
O loving Father,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Uniting our prayers with the whole company of heaven,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**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 for ever.
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.**

Agnus Dei

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

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

**Jesus, redeemer of the world,
give us your peace.**

Giving of Communion

God's holy gifts
for God's holy people.
**Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

**Most merciful Lord,
your love compels us to come in.
Our hands were unclean,
our hearts were unprepared;
we were not fit
even to eat the crumbs from
under your table.
But you, Lord, are the God
of our salvation,
and share your bread with sinners.
So cleanse and feed us
with the precious body and blood
of your Son, that he may live in us
and we in him;
and that we, with the whole
company of Christ,
may sit and eat in your kingdom.
Amen.**

Communicant members of any Christian Church are invited to receive Holy Communion. Children and those who are not confirmed are welcome to come forward for a blessing. If you wish to receive a blessing please bow your head.

Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept.

Stir up, O Lord,
the wills of your faithful people;
that they, plenteously bringing forth the
fruit of good works,
may by you be plenteously rewarded;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

**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.
Dying and living,
he declared your love,
gave us grace, and opened the
gate of glory.**

**May we who share Christ's body
live his risen life;
we who drink his cup bring
life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights give
light to the world.
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.**

Notices

¶ Dismissal

The Blessing

God the Father,
who has given to his Son the name
above every name,
strengthen you to proclaim Christ Jesus
as Lord.
Amen.

God the Son,
who is our great high priest passed into
the heavens, plead for you at the right
hand of the Father.
Amen.

God the Holy Spirit,
who pours out his abundant gifts upon
the Church, make you faithful servants
of Christ our King.
Amen.

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you and
all those whom you love and all those
for whom you pray this day and for
evermore.
Amen.

Lift up your heads, O gates;
be lifted up, you everlasting doors;
**and the King of glory shall
come in.**

'Who is the King of glory?'
**'The Lord, strong and mighty,
the Lord who is mighty in battle.'**

Lift up your heads, O gates;
be lifted up, you everlasting doors;
**and the King of glory shall
come in.**

'Who is this King of glory?'
**'The Lord of hosts,
he is the King of glory.'**

Go in the peace of Christ our King.
Thanks be to God.

Please take this service sheet with you.



His dominion is an everlasting dominion
that shall not pass away,
and his kingship is one
that shall never be destroyed.

Daniel 7.14b

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