WORSHIP - ALL SAINTS AND ALL SOULS - 31 OCTOBER 2021

Today we have a United service in St Mathew's at 10 am, and an All Souls' service at St Edmund's at 2.30 pm Peter is leading the Zoom service.

Hymn - When morning gilds the skies - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rPQ7t8TcY5k

Rejoice, people of God, praise the Lord. Let us keep the feast in honour of all God's saints, in whose victory the angels rejoice and glorify the Son of God.

May the joy and peace of heaven be with you.

The Lord bless you.

To our God belong victory, glory, and power, for right and just are his judgements. Praise our God, all that serve him: those who fear him, both small and great. The Lord Almighty has claimed his kingdom: let us exalt, rejoice, and give him glory.

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ to save us from our sins, to be our advocate in heaven, and to bring us to eternal life. Let us confess our sins, in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments, and to live in love and peace with all.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry 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 grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.

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 - Mass of St Thomas, David Thorne - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pHEm0Dbzizs

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. Glory to God in the highest.

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. Glory to God in the highest.

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. Glory to God in the highest.

The Collect

Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: grant us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living that we may come to those inexpressible joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

New Testament lesson - Revelation 21.1-6a - is printed on the blue noticesheet

Hymn - Love is his word, love is his way - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NQWcTjA8e90

Gospel - John 11.32-44 - is printed on the blue noticesheet

Address - a sermon from Peter is on the website

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.

Anthem - And I saw a new heaven and a new earth - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lyy7RWXAV9Q

Words: Revelation 21.1-4 Music: Edgar Bainton

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth;

for the first heaven and first earth had passed away,

and there was no more sea.

And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem coming down from God out of heaven,

prepared as a bride adorned for her husband;

and I heard a great voice out of heaven, saying:

'Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men,

and he will dwell with them and they shall be his people;

and God himself shall be with them and be their God;

and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes,

and there shall be no more death neither sorrow nor crying,

neither shall there be any more pain,

for the former things are passed away.'

Prayers of Intercession, written by Mary Wallen

In introduction she writes:

As well as being All Saints' Day today is the start of a most important 12 days of COP26, the United Nations climate change conference in Glasgow. A couple of sentences from today's psalm seem, to me, to support the feeling of the great worth of our world. 'The Lord of hosts: He is the king of glory. The earth is the Lord's and all that fills it, the compass of the world and all who dwell therein.' We will use these words in our prayers.

Lord, we ask that all the world wide representatives at the COP26 conference in Glasgow manage to put aside their differences and work for the good of God's most precious world. Please give them wisdom, realism and integrity to make some manageable promises and come to united agreement for the benefit of us all and, more especially, for the survival of future generations. Lord, let us also keep in our prayers those peoples throughout the world who are suffering from the effects of natural disasters, those who live in countries torn apart by war, conflict and oppression and those who are not free to practise their religion openly. 'The Lord of hosts: He is the king of glory. The earth is the Lord's and all that fills it, the compass of the world and all who dwell therein. Help us all to remember this.'

In our own country, Lord, we ask that our politicians, both national and local may work to support the aims of COP26 in a way that will gain the active support of us all. We ask that they may be guided by broadly Christian principals and honesty, not by any desire for personal gain. Give them the strength of character to continue their work, in spite of the dangers they face from a very small minority of the public. We ask, Lord, that they may show understanding and empathy for those in our country who have no voice, those who are marginalised or suffering through no fault of their own. In particular, I was shocked when listening to a radio interview with an Afghan refugee family, to hear that they were still in temporary accommodation, desperate for all the family to learn English and to find work, but as yet unable to do so. The gratitude they felt towards us, the British people, was humbling and the trauma they had experienced too awful for words to describe. Everyone deserves a chance to have a happy, healthy and productive life. 'The Lord of hosts: He is the king of glory. The earth is the Lord's and all that fills it, the compass of the world and all who dwell therein. Help us all to remember this.'

In our own parishes Lord, we ask for Your blessing on the clergy, and all those in positions of responsibility within our churches. Help them to provide support and help to those in need and, also, to enable others to play their part in the support of the sick, the lonely and any others needing a 'bit of a lift'. Lord, we ask for your blessing, love and support for those who are sick, especially those known to us. Lord, please show Your love for those who grieve, particularly those who will be coming to the All Souls' service this afternoon. 'The Lord of hosts: He is the king of glory. The earth is the Lord's and all that fills it, the compass of the world and all who dwell therein. Help us all to remember this.'

Lord, we think now of our own families, the young, the old and everyone in between. They all have very different needs and different problems. Let us bring them all before You now. We pray for those who are struggling with physical illnesses and those struggling with mental health issues. There may be members of our families fighting addictions or coping with the effects of broken relationships. You, Lord, know their inmost feelings and turmoil, help us to know how to best help them.

'The Lord of hosts: He is the king of glory. The earth is the Lord's and all that fills it, the compass of the world and all who dwell therein. **Help us all to remember this.'**

Lastly we pray for ourselves. Lord, help us to look inwards and evaluate our lives. The aims of COP 26 are for the leaders of nations, we cannot save the planet by ourselves. Help us to play our small part; less single use plastic, shorter showers, turning off lights and the heating down a degree or so, consider our methods of transport and eat less meat, an easy one for me, a vegetarian for nearly 50 years! These can all be achieved without any hardship to us. If we all do our part it would surely begin to make a real difference to the whole world. God's beautiful world that we must no longer take for granted.

'The Lord of hosts: He is the king of glory. The earth is the Lord's and all that fills it, the compass of the world and all who dwell therein. **Help us all to remember this.'**

We bring our prayers together as we pray the prayer that Jesus 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.

Hymn - For all the saints - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mOC0Mb-FWY&t=15s

The Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you - John Rutter - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lCpxgEHqjFA

The Lord bless you and keep you: the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you: the Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you and give you peace. Amen.

Go in the peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

Final music (for All Souls)

God be in my head - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UCik9Us K2A

Words: Book of Hours (1514) Music: Walford Davies

God be in my head, and in my understanding; God be in mine eyes, and in my looking; God be in my mouth, and in my speaking; God be in my heart, and in my thinking; God be at mine end, and at my departing.

> Peter Barham, 30 October 2021 revpeterbarham@btinternet.co.uk