

St. Christopher's Church, Hinchley Wood

Sunday 31st October 2021 - All Saints' Day

A very warm welcome to St Christopher's Church this morning as we celebrate the Feast of All Saints. This is a hybrid Sunday Service, with some of us worshipping in the church and others joining online in their homes.

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

GATHERING

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

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.

HYMN (16 omitting v.5)

**All hail the power of Jesus' name!
Let angels prostrate fall;
bring forth the royal diadem and crown him,
crown him, crown him, crown him Lord of all.**

**Crown him, all martyrs of your God,
who from his altar call;
praise him whose way of pain you trod,
and crown him Lord of all.**

**O prophets faithful to his word,
in matters great and small,
who made his voice of justice heard,
now crown him Lord of all.**

**All sinners, now redeemed by grace,
who heard your Saviour's call,
now robed in light before his face,
O crown him Lord of all.**

**Let every people, every tongue
to him their heart enthrall;
lift high the universal song
and crown him Lord of all.**

CONFESSION

Since we are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses,
let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely,
looking to Jesus in penitence and faith.

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.

Amen.

ABSOLUTION

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.

GLORIA

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.

COLLECT

God of holiness,
your glory is proclaimed in every age:
as we rejoice in the faith of your saints,
inspire us to follow their example
with boldness and joy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah Chapter 25 verses 6-9

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

Here on Mount Zion the Lord Almighty will prepare a banquet for all the nations of the world - a banquet of the richest food and the finest wine. Here he will suddenly remove the cloud of sorrow that has been hanging over all the nations. The Sovereign Lord will destroy death forever! He will wipe away the tears from everyone's eyes and take away the disgrace his people have suffered throughout the world. The Lord himself has spoken. When it happens, everyone will say, "He is our God! We have put our trust in him, and he has rescued us. He is the Lord! We have put our trust in him, and now we are happy and joyful because he has saved us."

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

HYMN (77)

**Blest are the pure in heart,
for they shall see our God;
the secret of the Lord is theirs;
their soul is Christ's abode.**

**The Lord, who left the heav'ns
our life and peace to bring,
to dwell in lowliness with us
our pattern and our King.**

**Still to the lowly soul
he doth himself impart;
and for his dwelling and his throne
chooseth the pure in heart.**

**Lord, we thy presence seek;
may ours this blessing be;
give us a pure and lowly heart,
a temple meet for thee.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia.

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood,
a holy nation, God's own people,
called out of darkness into his marvellous light.

Alleluia

GOSPEL

John Chapter 11 verses 32-44

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John
Glory to you, O Lord.

Mary arrived where Jesus was, and as soon as she saw him, she fell at his feet. "Lord," she said, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died!" Jesus saw her weeping, and he saw how the people with her were weeping also; his heart was touched, and he was deeply moved.

"Where have you buried him?" he asked them. "Come and see, Lord," they answered. Jesus wept. "See how much he loved him!" the people said. But some of them said, "He gave sight to the blind man, didn't he? Could he not have kept Lazarus from dying?"

Deeply moved once more, Jesus went to the tomb, which was a cave with a stone placed at the entrance. "Take the stone away!" Jesus ordered. Martha, the dead man's sister, answered, "There will be a bad smell, Lord. He has been buried four days!" Jesus said to her, "Didn't I tell you that you would see God's glory if you believed?"

They took the stone away. Jesus looked up and said, "I thank you, Father, that you listen to me. I know that you always listen to me, but I say this for the sake of the people here, so that they will believe that you sent me." After he had said this, he called out in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" He came out, his hands and feet wrapped in grave cloths, and with a cloth around his face. "Untie him," Jesus told them, "and let him go."

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ

TALK

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?

We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?

We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
 who gives life to the people of God
 and makes Christ known in the world?
We believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.
This is our faith.
We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.

INTERCESSIONS

Between the prayers we say

Lord, in your mercy **hear**
our prayer.

At the end of the prayers we say

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

THE PEACE

We are fellow-citizens with the saints and of the household of God, through
 Christ our Lord, who came and preached peace to those who were far off
 and those who were near.

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

*We share a socially distanced sign of peace by turning and waving to those
 around us in church and to those on the screen*

OFFERTORY HYMN (286)

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity.

**Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
 casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
 cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
 which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.**

**Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
 though the eye made blind by sin thy glory may not see,
 only thou art holy, there is none beside thee
 perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.**

**Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
 All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea;
 holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,
 God in three Persons, blessed Trinity.**

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

As the grain once scattered in the fields
 and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside
 are now united 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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord is here
God's Spirit is with us

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,
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.

And now we give you thanks, most gracious God,
for the glorious pledge of the hope of our calling
which you have given us in your saints;
that, following their example and strengthened by their fellowship,
we may run with perseverance the race that is set before us,
and with them receive the unfading crown of glory.

We, your holy Church, acclaim you.
In communion with angels and archangels,
and with all who served you on earth
and worship you now in heaven,
we raise our voice to proclaim your glory,
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.**

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.

Great is the mystery of faith:
Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

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 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

With saints and martyrs through the sages,
 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 for ever.
 Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

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.**

The gifts of God for the people of God.

If you wish to receive Holy Communion, please stand if you are able

The body of Christ

Amen

Holy Communion is distributed to those in the Church

Prayer of Spiritual Communion for those worshipping at home:

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits you have given me, for all the pains and insults you have borne for me. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I ask you to come spiritually into my heart. O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may I know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day. Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN (285 verses 1 & 4)

**Holy, holy, holy is the Lord,
holy is the Lord God almighty.
Holy, holy, holy is the Lord,
holy is the Lord God almighty:
who was, and is, and is to come;
holy, holy, holy is the Lord.**

**Glory, glory, glory to the Lord,
glory to the Lord God almighty.
Glory, glory, glory to the Lord,
glory to the Lord God almighty,
who was, and is, and is to come;
glory, glory, glory to the Lord.**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Lord of heaven,
in this eucharist you have brought us near
to an innumerable company of angels
and to the spirits of the saints made perfect:
as in this food of our earthly pilgrimage
we have shared their fellowship,
so may we come to share their joy in heaven;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

NOTICES

HYMN (876)

O, when the saints go marching in,
 O, when the saints go marching in,
 I want to be in that number
 when the saints go marching in.

O when they crown him Lord of all,
 O when they crown him Lord of all,
 I want to be in that number
 when they crown him Lord of all.

O when all knees bow at his name,
 O when all knees bow at his name,
 I want to be in that number
 when all knees bow at his name.

O when they sing the Saviour's praise,
 O when they sing the Saviour's praise,
 I want to be in that number
 when they sing the Saviour's praise.

O, when the saints go marching in,
 O, when the saints go marching in,
 I want to be in that number
 when the saints go marching in.

BLESSING & DISMISSAL

May God, who kindled the fire of his love in the hearts of the saints,
 pour upon you the riches of his grace.

Amen.

May he give you joy in their fellowship and a share in their praises.

Amen.

May he strengthen you to follow them in the way of holiness
 and to come to the full radiance of glory.

Amen.

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Following God's saints in the ways of holiness and truth,
go in the peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.