

WORTHING CHRIST CHURCH

Grafton Road

19th November 2023

The Second Sunday before Advent



ORDER OF SERVICE

10.30am Holy Communion

led by The Revd Kathryn Flenley

Evensong this evening at 6pm
will be led by The Revd Maurice Slattery

Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 5: 1 – 11

read by Dorothy F

Gospel: Matthew 25: 14 - 30 read by John H

Intercessions led by Steven L

*There is prayer in the organ vestry every Sunday
at 10am for 15 minutes before the service,
which you are welcome to join at any time*

The Organ Voluntary after our Service today is:
Capriccio in D by Georg Böhm, 1661-1733, Lüneburg

*Registered Charity no: 1152846
Parochial Church Council of Worthing Christ Church
Website: www.christchurchworthing.org.uk*

A Service of Holy Communion

The Greeting *[Stand]*

The Lord be with you
All and also with you.

HYMN [386] *[Please stand to sing]*

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart
be all else but naught to me, save that thou art;
be thou my best thought in the day and the night,
both waking and sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word,
be thou ever with me and I with thee Lord;
be thou my great Father, and I thy true son;
be thou in me dwelling and I with Thee one.

Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight;
be thou my whole armour, be thou my true might;
be thou my soul's shelter, be thou my strong tower;
O raise thou me heavenward, great Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise;
be thou mine inheritance, now and always;
be thou and thou only the first in my heart;
O Sovereign of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, thou heaven's bright Sun,
O grant me its joys after vict'ry is won;
great Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be thou my vision, O Ruler of all.

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Prayer of Preparation

All 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.

Prayers of Penitence [Sit or kneel]

Summary of the Law

Our Lord Jesus Christ said:

Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is one Lord;
and you shall love the Lord your God
with all your heart, and with all your mind,
and with all your soul, and with all your strength.

This is the first and greatest commandment.

And the second is like, namely this:

You shall love your neighbour as yourself.

There is no other commandment greater than these. On
these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

All Amen. Lord, have mercy.

Invitation to confession

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.

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. **All Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis [Stand]

**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

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that when he shall appear in power and great glory we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
All Amen.



Prayers for peace

O God, it is your will to hold both heaven and earth in a single peace. Let the design of your great love shine on the waste of our wraths and sorrows, and give peace among nations, and peace in our hearts.

God of mercy and compassion, of grace and reconciliation, pour your power upon all your children in the Middle East: Jews, Muslims and Christians, Palestinians and Israelis.

Let hatred be turned into love, fear to trust, despair to hope, oppression to freedom, occupation to liberation, that violent encounters may be replaced by loving embraces, and peace and justice could be experienced by all.

Spirit of the living God, Come afresh on your holy land.

Help your people to restore broken relationships.

Give them patience to break down barriers of suspicion and mistrust; ability to discern personal prejudices and the courage to overcome fear. Teach them to respect each other's integrity and rights so that your kingdom may be established on earth. For Jesus' sake. **All Amen**

The Liturgy of the Word

Epistle [Sit] 1 Thessalonians 5: 1 – 11



Now, brothers, about times and dates we do not need to write to you, for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. While people are saying, 'Peace and safety', destruction will come on them suddenly, as labour pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.

But you, brothers, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief. You are all sons of the light and sons of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be alert and self-controlled. For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be self-controlled, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet. For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

Here ends the Epistle. **All Thanks be to God.**

Worship Song *Please stand to sing*

Restore, O Lord, the honour of your name,
in works of sovereign power
come shake the earth again,
that all may see,
and come with reverent fear
to the living God,
whose kingdom shall outlast the years.

Restore, O Lord, in all the earth your fame,
and in our time revive
the church that bears your name.
And in your anger,
Lord, remember mercy,
O living God,
whose mercy shall outlast the years.

Bend us, O Lord, where we are hard and cold,
in your refiner's fire:
come purify the gold.
Though suffering comes
and evil crouches near,
still our living God
is reigning, he is reigning here.

CCLI 2765 Graham Kendrick and Chris Rolinson © 1981 Thankyou Music

Gospel Reading *[Remain standing]*



Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Matthew *[Matthew 25: 14 - 30]*
All sing **Glory to you, O Lord.**

‘Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents of money, to another two talents, and to another one talent, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. The man who had received the five talents went at once and put his money to work and gained five more. So also, the one with the two talents gained two more. But the man who had received the one talent went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money.

‘After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents brought the other five. “Master,” he said, “you entrusted me with five talents. See, I have gained five more.”

‘His master replied, “Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!”

‘The man with the two talents also came. “Master,” he said, “you entrusted me with two talents: see, I have gained two more.”

‘His master replied, “Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!”

‘Then the man who had received the one talent came.

“Master,” he said, “I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. So I was afraid and went out and hid your talent in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.”

‘His master replied, “You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.

“Take the talents from him and give it to the one who has the ten talents. For everyone who has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him. And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All sing Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon [Sit]

A short period of silence is kept.



Prayers of Intercession [Sit]

And at the end, after a short period of silence

Merciful Father,

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

OFFERTORY HYMN [411] [Please stand to sing]

Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
forgive our foolish ways:
re clothe us in our rightful mind;
in purer lives thy service find,
in deeper reverence praise.

In simple trust like theirs who heard,
beside the Syrian sea,
the gracious calling of the Lord
let us, like them, without a word
rise up and follow thee.

O Sabbath rest by Galilee!
O calm of hills above,
where Jesus knelt to share with thee
the silence of eternity
interpreted by love!

Drop thy still dews of quietness,
till all our strivings cease;
take from our souls the strain and stress,
and let our ordered lives confess
the beauty of thy peace.

Breathe through the heats of our desire
thy coolness and thy balm;
let sense be dumb, let flesh retire,
speak through the earthquake, wind and fire,
O still small voice of calm.

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The Liturgy of the Sacrament [*Please stand*]

Preparation of the Table

Taking of the Bread and Wine



Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory,
the splendour, and the majesty; for everything in
heaven and on earth is yours.

All **All things come from you,
and of your own do we give you.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

Please remain standing

The Lord is here.

All **His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy,
at all times and in all places to give you thanks and
praise, holy Father, heavenly King,
almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

Therefore, with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and singing;

All sing **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.
[Sit or Kneel]**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your Son our
Saviour Jesus Christ, and as we follow his example and obey
his command, grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these
gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood;
who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and
gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples,
saying:

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

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you
thanks; he gave it to them, saying:

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.

Therefore, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross; we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; we look for the coming of your kingdom, and with this bread and this cup we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith:

All sing **Christ has died:**

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise, and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty, renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

All sing **Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**



The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

All 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.

Breaking of the Bread

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.

All Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.

Giving of Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.



All Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.

The words of invitation to communion

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you. Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

During the distribution hymns and anthems may be sung.

Agnus Dei *is sung*

*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.*

All are welcome to come forward to receive the bread and wine at the Communion rail.

If you do not wish to take the wine, please walk back to your pew after you have taken the bread.

If you would just like to receive a blessing, please carry your order of service with you to help the priest know your intention.

If you prefer to receive communion in your pew, the priest will come to you, please let the churchwarden know you wish to receive communion as he approaches down the aisle.

Post Communion Prayer [Sit or Kneel]

Gracious 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.

All Amen

All Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

Final Hymn [555] *[Please stand to sing]*

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;
to his feet thy tribute bring;
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
who like me his praise should sing?
Alleluia, alleluia!
praise the everlasting King.

Praise him for his grace and favour
to our fathers in distress;
praise him still the same for ever,
slow to chide, and swift to bless:
Alleluia, alleluia,
glorious in his faithfulness.

Father-like he tends and spares us,
well our feeble frame he knows;
in his hands he gently bears us,
rescues us from all our foes:
Alleluia, alleluia,
widely as his mercy flows.

Angels, help us to adore him;
ye behold him face to face;
sun and moon, bow down before him,
dwellers all in time and space:
Alleluia, alleluia,
praise with us the God of grace.

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The Blessing

The peace of God, which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of
God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;
and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and
the Holy Spirit rest within you, and remain with you always.
All Amen.

The Minister says

Go in the peace of Christ.

All Thanks be to God.

*Our thanks to The Revd Kathryn Flenley for leading our
service of Holy Communion today*

***Please stay for coffee or tea and a chat after the
service in Waters' Hall***

Church Warden:

Kenneth Hobbs

email: christchurchfinance@btinternet.com

Parish Administrator: *Janine Hobbs*

email: christchurchadmin@btinternet.com

Worship for November in Christ Church

5th Tonight 6pm Evensong

23rd 10.30am Thursday BCP Holy Communion

26th 10.30am Morning Prayer

'Celebration of Life'

CHRISTMAS MINI MARKET!

November 25th 10.30am to 12.30pm

Contributions will be gratefully received until Saturday
Please would you hand them directly to the stall holders:

PAPERBACK BOOKS, DVDs and CDs

– Jonathan J and Tony S

FESTIVE FOODS – (Bought items only please!)

- Eve G and Grace S

GIFTS AND TOILETRIES - Sue C

CHRISTMAS STALL – Di A and Val G

BOTTLES – **BADLY NEEDED!** Chris and Alan D
(Preferably wrapped, and to the value of at least £2 please)

JEWELLERY – Anne W

BADLY NEEDED!
RAFFLE PRIZES – Dorothy F and Sylvia A

BADLY NEEDED! Bought Mince pies gratefully
received (Please make sure they have a sell by
date of at least mid-December/January)

LIVE MUSIC will be played throughout the event,
with mince pies and tea and coffee available

Thank you!

CHRIST CHURCH EVENTS 2023/4

Saturday 25th November from 10.30am to 12.30pm

Christ Church Christmas Mini Market

Sunday 17th December at 4pm. - **Carol Service**

6th to the 31st December - **Christmas Tree Festival**

Tuesday 12th March 2024 from 12.30pm to 1.30pm

Yoko Ono and Clelia Iruzun on one piano!

Tuesday 9th April 2024 from 12.30pm to 1.30pm

Southdowns Folk Singers

Tuesday 14th May 2024 - from 12.30pm to 1.30pm

Richard Bowen - guitarist

Tuesday 11th June 2024 – from 12.30pm to 1.30pm

Brighton Guitar Quartet

Tuesday 9th July 2024 from 12.30pm to 1.30pm

Zhanna (*pianist*) and Evelyn (*clarinet or alto saxophone*)

Saturday 7th September 2024 from 10.30am to 2.30pm

Christ Church Autumn Fair

Tuesday 10th September 2024 from 12.30pm to 1.30pm

Paul Gregory – Guitarist

Tuesday 24th September 2024 from 12.30pm to 1.30pm

John Collins - Organist

October 2024, **Rob Campkin (Violin) & James Buckham**

(Piano), date to be confirmed

Tuesday 19th November 2024 from 12.30pm to 1.30pm

The Inspired Instrumentalists

BCP Evensong – Service Order

Conducted by The Revd Maurice Slattery

Hymn 571 Soldiers of Christ arise

Confession etc. *(see booklet)*

Responses

Psalm 89: 19-29 *(see next page)*

1st Reading: 1 Kings 1: 1 - 14 *Reader: Maurice S*

Canticle – Magnificat *(see separate sheet)*

2nd Reading: Revelation 1: 4 - 18 *Reader: Maurice S*

Canticle – Nunc Dimittis *(see separate sheet)*

Creed, Responses, Collects (see booklet)

Hymn 97 Lord Jesus, think on me

Prayers *led by Dorothy F*

Hymn 343 O Perfect Love

Sermon

Offertory Hymn 299 From glory to glory advancing

Blessing

Organ Voluntary

***Praeludium and Fuga in C by Johann Pachelbel,
1653-1706, Nuremberg***

***Our thanks to The Revd Maurice Slattery
for leading our service this evening***