



Christ Church Worthing

ORDER OF SERVICE

26th November 2023 at 10.30am
The Sunday next before Advent



A Service of MORNING PRAYER –
“A CELEBRATION OF LIFE”
with The Revd Yvonne Murphy

1st Reading: Micah 4: 1 – 7 read by Janine H

2nd Reading: John 14: 1-6 read by Ann P

This service is being held to remember all those
whom we have lost, and to come together to
celebrate all their lives.

The Organ Voluntary after our Service today is:
Tiento de 9no Tono (No. 9, Facultad Orgánica 1626) by
Francisco Correa de Arauxo ca. 1575-1654, Seville

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

A Service of Morning Prayer



Preparation - *Please stand*

The 1st Advent candle is lit

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

All **and also with you.**

Welcome Prayer

Life is a journey of discovery, discovering things about
ourselves and God.

It does not always follow the route we expect;

God can be a 'God of surprises.'

Sometimes we can even surprise ourselves and God!

All **Great is your name.**

Great is your love.

Opening Hymn [507]

During this hymn, the first candle for our loved ones will be lit.

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy:
be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
your bliss in our hearts, Lord,
at the break of the day.

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
whose strong hands were skilled
at the plane and the lathe,
be there at our labours, and give us, we pray,
your strength in our hearts, Lord,
at the noon of the day.

Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,
your hands swift to welcome,
your arms to embrace:
be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
whose voice is contentment,
whose presence is balm:
be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,
your peace in our hearts, Lord,
at the end of the day.

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The Family of God

We have come together as the family of God in our Father's presence, to offer him praise and thanksgiving, to hear and receive his holy word, to bring before him the needs of the world, to ask his forgiveness of our sins, and to seek his grace, that through his Son Jesus Christ we may give ourselves to his service.

O Lord, open our lips.

All: and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

O God, make speed to save us.

All: O Lord, make haste to help us.

Praise the name of the Lord.

All: the Lord's Name be praised.

CONFESSION *[Please sit or kneel]*

The word of God is living and active.

It judges the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

All is open and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we give account.

We confess our sins in penitence and faith.

**All God our Father,
long-suffering, full of grace and truth,
you create us from nothing and give us life.
You give your faithful people new life
in the water of baptism.
You do not turn your face from us,
nor cast us aside.**

**We confess that we have sinned
against you and our neighbour.
We have wounded your love
and marred your image in us.
Restore us for the sake of your Son,
and bring us to heavenly joy,
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

May the Father of all mercies
cleanse us from our sins,
and restore us in his image
to the praise and glory of his name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. *All* **Amen.**

The First Reading - Micah 4: 1 – 7 *[Please sit]*

In the last days the mountain of the Lord's temple will be established as the highest of the mountains; it will be exalted above the hills, and peoples will stream to it. Many nations will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the temple of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths." The law will go out from Zion, the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He will judge between many peoples and will settle disputes for strong nations far and wide. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore. Everyone will sit under their own vine and under their own fig tree, and no one will make them afraid, for the Lord Almighty has spoken.

All the nations may walk in the name of their gods,
but we will walk in the name of the Lord our God for ever
and ever.

“In that day,” declares the Lord, “I will gather the lame; I will
assemble the exiles and those I have brought to grief. I will
make the lame my remnant, those driven away a strong
nation. The Lord will rule over them in Mount Zion from that
day and forever.

At the end the reader may say:

Here ends the first lesson

All Thanks be to God.

Worship Song *Please stand to sing*

Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
the Holy One is here.

Come, bow before him now,
with reverence and fear.

In him no sin is found,
we stand on holy ground.

Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
the Holy One is here.

Be still, for the glory of the Lord
is shining all around;
he burns with holy fire,
with splendour he is crowned.

How awesome is the sight,
our radiant King of light!

Be still, for the glory of the Lord
is shining all around.

Be still, for the power of the Lord
is moving in this place;
he comes to cleanse and heal,
to minister his grace.
No work too hard for him,
in faith receive from him.
Be still, for the power of the Lord
is moving in this place.

CCLI 2765 David J. Evans © 1986 Thankyou Music

The Second Reading - John 14: 1-6

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going.”

Thomas said to him, “Lord, we don’t know where you are going, so how can we know the way?”

Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father, except through me.

At the end the reader may say:

Here ends the second lesson

All **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon *[Sit]*

A short period of silence is kept

Apostles' Creed *[Please stand]*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ,
his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge
the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**



Hymn [10]

During this hymn the cards with the names of loved ones are taken up to the table.

Choir please note that v 3 is omitted from the hymn book

Abide with me, fast falls the eventide
The darkness deepens Lord, with me abide
When other helpers fail and comforts flee
Help of the helpless, oh, abide with me

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away
Change and decay in all around I see
O Thou who changest not, abide with me

I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless
Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness
Where is death's sting?
Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if Thou abide with me.

Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies
Heaven's morning breaks,
and earth's vain shadows flee
In life, in death, o Lord, abide with me.

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After the hymn, the Celebrant will read out the names and offer a prayer in thanksgiving for our loved ones

In Memory of the One I Love *[read by Sylvia A]*

Those we love don't go away
they walk beside us every day.
Unseen, unheard, but always near.
Still loved, Still missed and very dear.

I thought of you with love today
but that is nothing new.
I thought about you yesterday
and days before that too.

Your presence will be missed,
your memory treasured,
loving you always
forgetting you never.

The Collect

Eternal Father, whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven that he might rule over all things as Lord and King: keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace, and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
All: Amen

The second candle is lit and prayers said for the NHS, Hospices, Nursing and Care Homes

[read by Tony S]

God of healing and compassion, we thank you for the National Health Services; for Hospices, for Nursing and Care Homes and for the dedication of all who work in it: give skill, sympathy and resilience to all who care for the sick, and your wisdom to those engaged in medical research. Strengthen all in their vocation through your Spirit, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.**

The third candle is lit and the following prayer will be said by Kerry

A prayer for peace in the world

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. **All: Amen**

A prayer for peace in the Holy Lands

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**



Offertory Hymn [384] *[Please stand]*

During this hymn, a fourth candle will be lit for ourselves and the collection plate is taken up to the table.

Be still my soul the Lord is on your side,
bear patiently the cross of grief and pain;
leave to your God to order and provide
in every change he faithful will remain.
Be still my soul your best, your heavenly friend
through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul, your God will undertake
to guide the future as he has the past.
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake,
all now mysterious shall be clear at last.
Be still, my soul, the waves and winds still know
his voice who ruled them while he dwelt below.

Be still, my soul: when dearest friends depart
and all is darkened in the vale of tears,
then you shall better know his love, his heart,
who comes to soothe your sorrow, calm your fears.
Be still, my soul: for Jesus can repay
from his own fullness all he takes away.

Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening on
when we shall be for ever with the Lord,
when disappointment, grief and fear are gone,
sorrow forgotten, love's pure joy restored.
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past,
all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

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Prayers *[read by Dorothy F]*

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.

O Lord support us all the day long of this troublous life until the shades lengthen, and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over and our work done. Then Lord, in thy mercy, grant us safe lodging, a holy rest, and peace at last. **Amen.**

Conclusion *read by the Celebrant*

Jesus says: “Come to me, you who are weary and heavily burdened and I will give you rest”.

Jesus says: “In the world you will have troubles but don’t be afraid, for I have overcome the world”.

Jesus says: “I love you. I want you as mine and I will be with you always”.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you, and preserve you from all evil, and keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

All The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.

Go in the peace of Christ.

All Thanks be to God.

***Our thanks to The Revd Yvonne Murphy for leading our
Celebration of Life service 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 December in Christ Church

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|------------------------|--|
| 3rd | 10.30am Holy Communion
6pm Evensong |
| 10th | 10.30am Morning Prayer |
| 14th | 10.30am Thursday BCP Holy Communion |
| 17th | 10.30am Holy Communion |
| 17th | 4pm Christmas Carol Service |
| 24th | 11.30pm Christmas Eve
Midnight Holy Communion |
| 25th | 10.30am Christmas Morning
Holy Communion |
| 31st | 10.30am Holy Communion |

CHRIST CHURCH EVENTS 2023/4

Sunday 10th December Following the morning service-
A Winter Warmer – bring your own lunch – soup, coffee
and tea available. Enjoy some entertainment and a time of
fellowship and chat over a lazy lunch!

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

Saturday 7th September 2024 from 10.30am to 2.30pm

Christ Church Autumn Fair

TUESDAY LUNCHTIME CONCERTS

12.30pm to 1.30pm:

12th March -Yoko Ono & Clelia Iruzun one piano!

9th April 2024 -South Downs Folk Singers

14th May 2024 - Richard Bowen - guitarist

11th June 2024 – Brighton Guitar Quartet

9th July 2024

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

10th September 2024 - Paul Gregory – Guitarist

24th September 2024 - John Collins - Organist

October 2024, Rob Campkin (Violin) & James Buckham
(Piano), date to be confirmed

19th November 2024 - The Inspired Instrumentalists