

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

## **Remembrance Sunday**

**Reading 1:** 1 Thessalonians 4: 13 - end

**Gospel:** **Matthew 25: 1 - 13**

Grace mercy and peace from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with us all.

**Psalm: 43**

Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause  
against an ungodly people;  
from those who are deceitful and unjust  
deliver me!

<sup>2</sup> For you are the God in whom I take refuge;  
why have you cast me off?

Why must I walk about mournfully  
because of the oppression of the enemy?

<sup>3</sup> O send out your light and your truth;  
let them lead me;

let them bring me to your holy hill  
and to your dwelling.

<sup>4</sup> Then I will go to the altar of God,  
to God my exceeding joy;  
and I will praise you with the harp,  
O God, my God.

<sup>5</sup> Why are you cast down, O my soul,  
and why are you disquieted within me?  
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,  
my help and my God.

**Song:** *Praise my Soul the King of Heaven*      <https://youtu.be/tYEKAEYRcIA>

**Invitation to Confession:**

Let us confess to God the sins and shortcomings of the world;  
its pride, its selfishness, its greed; Its evil divisions and hatreds.

Let us confess our share in what is wrong, and our failure to seek and establish  
that peace which God wills for his children.

**Confession:**

God of peace,  
Forgive us when we have participated  
in that which turns people against each other;  
for fuelling anger and harbouring vengeance, for not heeding your call to love one another.  
Inspire us never to give up on the hope that your life offers to us.  
Give us the courage to see beyond war and desolation and to live for the day  
when there will be peace.

**Absolution:**

Almighty God have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins,  
confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and keep us in life eternal;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Blessed be the Lord  
for he has heard the voice of our prayer;  
Therefore shall our hearts dance for joy  
and in our song will we praise our God.

**Reading 1: 1 Thessalonians 4 : 13 - 18 The Coming of the Lord**

<sup>13</sup> But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. <sup>14</sup> For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with Him those who have died. <sup>15</sup> For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. <sup>16</sup> For the Lord Himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. <sup>17</sup> Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord for ever. <sup>18</sup> Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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

**Gospel: Matthew 25 : 1 - 13 The Parable of the Ten Bridesmaids**

<sup>25</sup> 'Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup> Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. <sup>3</sup> When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; <sup>4</sup> but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. <sup>5</sup> As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. <sup>6</sup> But at midnight there was a shout, "Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him." <sup>7</sup> Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup> The foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out." <sup>9</sup> But the wise replied, "No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves." <sup>10</sup> And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. <sup>11</sup> Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, "Lord, lord, open to us." <sup>12</sup> But he replied, "Truly I tell you, I do not know you." <sup>13</sup> Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you O Christ.

**Talk:** ([click link](#)) Talk unavailable today.

*Let us declare our faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.*

## **The Creed**

*Let us declare our faith in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Christ died for our sins  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he was buried;  
he was raised to life on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
afterwards he appeared to his followers,  
and to all the apostles:  
this we have received,  
and this we believe.  
Amen.

*cf 1 Corinthians 15.3-7*

## **Prayers of Intercession**

Let us pray for all who suffer as a result of conflict, and ask that God may give us peace:

for the service men and women who have died in the violence of war,  
each one remembered by and known to God;

May God give peace. **God give peace.**

for those who love them in death as in life, offering the distress of our  
grief and the sadness of our loss;

May God give peace.  
**God give peace.**

for all members of the armed forces  
who are in danger this day,  
remembering family, friends  
and all who pray for their safe return;

May God give peace, **God give peace.**

for civilian women, children and men  
whose lives are disfigured by war or terror,  
calling to mind in penitence the anger and hatred of humanity;

May God give peace. **God give peace.**

for peace-makers and peace-keepers, who seek to keep this world secure and free;

May God give peace. **God give peace.**

for all who bear the burden and privilege of leadership,  
political, military and religious; asking for gifts of wisdom and resolve  
in the search for reconciliation and peace.

May God give peace. **God give peace.**

O God of truth and justice, we hold before you  
those whose memory we cherish,  
and those whose names we will never know.

Help us to lift our eyes above the torment of this broken world,  
and grant us the grace to pray for those who wish us harm.

As we honour the past,  
may we put our faith in your future; for you are the source of life and hope,  
now and for ever.

**Amen.**

***Silence is kept.***

**Collect:**

God, our refuge and strength, bring near the day when wars shall cease and poverty and pain shall end, that earth may know the peace of heaven through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Lord's Prayer:**

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  
and 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 forever. Amen.

*Let us pause for a moment to bring ourselves  
and all that we offer to God  
and give Him thanks.*

**Hymn:** *(click link)* Lord for the Years <https://youtu.be/Cd14v0e1RWU>

**Blessing:**

God grant to the living grace,  
to the departed rest,  
to the Church, the King, the Commonwealth and all people,  
unity, peace and concord,  
and to us and all God's servants, life everlasting.

.....and the blessing of God almighty;  
Father Son and Holy Spirit,  
be with us, and remain with us  
and all those whom we love,  
now and forever.  
Amen.

*Post something on the Facebook page to bless others.*