



THE SUNDAY SHEET
THE 3RD SUNDAY OF THE KINGDOM
19TH NOVEMBER 2023

*A very warm welcome as we gather for the Parish Eucharist.
An induction loop is provided.*

Gluten free wafers are available for those who need them. Please inform one of the stewards/sidespersons who will pass the information on to the clergy. Many thanks

ENTRANCE HYMN

O Lord, my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works thy hand has made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed.

*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee:
How great thou art, how great thou art.
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee:
How great thou art, how great thou art.*

When through the woods and forest glades I wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,
And hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze.

And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin.

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart;
When I shall bow in humble adoration,
And there proclaim: my God, how great thou art.

*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee:
How great thou art, how great thou art.
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee:
How great thou art, how great thou art.*

*Stuart K. Hine 1899-1989
Tune: How great thou art*

The order of service can be found in the Eucharist Booklet

THE COLLECT

Heavenly Lord,
you long for the world's salvation:
stir us from apathy,
restrain us from excess
and revive in us new hope
that all creation will one day be healed
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

I THESSALONIANS 5. I-II

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, 'There is peace and security', then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are

awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

For the word of the Lord:

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL

Please Stand

Alleluia! Alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord,
Alleluia! Alleluia! Give praise to his name.

Jesus is Lord of all the earth.
He is the King of creation.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord,
Alleluia! Alleluia! Give praise to his name.

Donald Fishel b.1950

Tune: Alleluia No.1

MATTHEW 25. 14-30

Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to Saint Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples: "The kingdom of heaven is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, "Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, "Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, "Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering

where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.” But his master replied, “You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

After the Sermon please turn to the Eucharist booklet for the Affirmation of Faith

OFFERTORY HYMN

Great is the darkness that covers the earth,
oppression, injustice and pain;
nations are slipping in hopeless despair,
though many have come in your name –
watching while sanity dies,
touched by the madness and lies.

*Come, Lord Jesus, come, Lord Jesus,
pour out your Spirit we pray;
come, Lord Jesus, come, Lord Jesus,
pour out your Spirit on us today.*

May now your Church rise with power and love,
this glorious gospel proclaim;
in every nation salvation will come
to those who believe in your name.
Help us bring light to this world,
that we might speed your return.

Great celebrations on that final day,
when out from the heavens you come;
darkness will vanish, all sorrow will end,

and rulers will bow at your throne;
our great commission complete;
then face to face we shall meet.

*Come, Lord Jesus, come, Lord Jesus,
pour out your Spirit we pray;
come, Lord Jesus, come, Lord Jesus,
pour out your Spirit on us today. X 2*

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Father, you call us to be your servants;
fill us with the courage and love of Jesus,
that all the world may gather in joy
at the table of your kingdom;
we ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please turn to the Eucharist Booklet for the Eucharistic Prayer

HYMN AT THE END OF COMMUNION

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.

David Evans b.1957

Please turn to the Eucharist Booklet

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

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. **Amen.**

FINAL HYMN

Soldiers of Christ, arise,
and put your armour on,
strong in the strength which God supplies
through His eternal Son;
strong in the Lord of hosts
and in His mighty power,
who in the strength of Jesus trusts
is more than conqueror.

Stand then in His great might,
with all His strength endued,
and take, to aid you in the fight,
the panoply of God.
To keep your amour bright
attend with constant care,
still walking in your Captain's sight,
and watching unto prayer.

From strength to strength go on,
wrestle and fight and pray;
tread all the powers of darkness down
and win the well-fought day.
That, having all things done
and all your conflicts past,
ye may o'ercome through Christ alone
and stand entire at last.

Charles Wesley 1707-1788
Tune: From strength to strength

CCL No: 961722

NOTICES

Refreshments. Please do join us for refreshments after the service if you can.

Foodbank. The Foodbank box is now back in the Parish Church. Donations gratefully received.

Praying for Growth. Please pray for the growth and renewal of the Church here in this place. Here is the Leading Your Church into Growth Prayer:

*God of Mission,
Who alone brings growth to your Church,
Send your Holy Spirit to give
Vision to our planning,
Wisdom to our actions,
Joy to our worship,
And power to our witness.
Help our church to grow in numbers,
In spiritual commitment to you,
And in service to our local community,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

The Community Fridge takes place every Sunday from 5-7pm at the Parish Church.

Sunday Sheet. Please take this sheet home with you for the notices for the week and to pray for what is happening in the life of our Church.

Advent begins on Sunday 3rd December. As well as the usual morning Eucharist there will be the Advent Procession at the Cathedral at 6pm. This is a beautiful service of music and readings to mark the beginning of this special season.

THE WEEK AHEAD

20th Monday – Feria

9am Morning Prayer
9.30am Holy Eucharist
5pm Evening Prayer

21st Tuesday – Paulinus, Abbot

9am Morning Prayer
5pm Evening Prayer
6pm Holy Eucharist
7pm Bread of Life – Study Group

22nd Wednesday – Cecilia, Martyr

9am Morning Prayer
10.30am Holy Eucharist
6.15pm Sung Evening Prayer

23rd Thursday – Clement, Bishop & Martyr

9am Morning Prayer
10am Holy Eucharist *at the Parish Church*
10.45am Prayer Group *at the Parish Church*
5pm Evening Prayer

24th Friday – Feria

9am Morning Prayer
9.30am Offeren (*Welsh Eucharist*)
6pm Choral Evensong

25th Saturday – John Donne, Priest & Poet

9am Morning Prayer
5pm Evening Prayer

26th Sunday – Christ the King

9.30am The Parish Eucharist
11am The Cathedral Eucharist
3.30pm Choral Evensong

Contact:

Parish Church: 01745 535957

Fr Rex: 07393 639813

Parish Church Website:

www.stasaphparishchurch.org.uk

TODAY'S READINGS

ZEPHANIAH I. 7, 12-18

The prophet warns of the Lord's imminent and cataclysmic day of judgement on a people who have broken faith with him. Those who have presumed upon God's indifference will find their material securities powerless to save them.

PSALM 90. 1-8

I THESSALONIANS 5. 1-11

Paul reminds the Thessalonians that, since no one knows the exact time and date of the Lord's return, they are to encourage one another in consistent Christian living as children of the light, always prepared for God's coming.

MATTHEW 25. 14-30

Jesus compares his ultimate return to an absent master coming back to settle accounts with the servants to whom he has entrusted his wealth. Those who have used their Lord's resources fruitfully are rewarded; the one who has done nothing is cast out.