



Collect Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in the kingdom of your well-beloved Son: mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, now divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

Ephesians 1:15-23 New International Version Thanksgiving and Prayer

For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit^[a] of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

Matthew 25:31-46 New International Version The Sheep and the Goats

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³ He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

"Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

"Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.'

"They also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?' "He will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.' "Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."

Christ the King

We first encounter the title "king" in Matthew's lovely story of the Magi's visit to the infant Jesus. In Matthew's gospel, a child is called king of the Jews, and no one in his immediate family seems very surprised while the Magi recount ancient prophecies. The myth of David's succession runs strong through the ages of Hebrew history and hope. Yet, that same title will be used thirty-three years later, written on a tablet with a vicious, ironic intention, a tablet nailed on top of the cross where the child, now a grown man, is hanging between two thieves. In the starkest language, we have the story of the greatest tragedy, one not easily conceived by the human mind.

What did the grown Jesus, the wise teacher and most appealing prophet, do with the title "king"? He used it in his parables.

All the teachings of Jesus find a culmination in this parable. The one who taught that "the last shall be first" presents the king as bringing to his right hand, a position of honour, those who have lived

a life that honoured others above their own selfish needs. “Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.” This king invites into the heavenly realm those who paid attention to the poor by giving them clothes to wear and food to eat. This king opens his kingdom to those who saw human injustice and took the time to visit the ones who were imprisoned unjustly; this king praises those who welcomed the stranger and the migrant by offering them hospitality and shelter. And they did it all, not knowing that in the process of feeding, clothing, and welcoming, they were responding to the Giver of all good things: “Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.”

This is a radically different image of a king for those who were listening to Jesus in the first century. This Jesus ate with the poor and the outcasts and honoured women while elevating the worth of little children. This Jesus, this king, does not appear holding a sword but instead hangs on a bloodied cross.

Christ the King Sunday is a very late addition to the church’s liturgical calendar; Pope Pius XI instituted it in 1925.

Almost twenty years later, the brilliant Anglican writer and theologian Dorothy L. Sayers examined the question of the kingship of Jesus in her marvelous series of radio plays called *The Man Born to Be King*. When the Magi visit Mary and Joseph and the baby to offer gifts of great value, Mary wonders about what it all means. One of them tells her: “I speak for a sorrowful people—for the ignorant and the poor. We rise up to labour and lie down to sleep and night is only a pause between one burden and another. Fear is our daily companion—the fear of want, the fear of war, the fear of cruel death and of still more cruel life. But all this we could bear if we knew that we did not suffer in vain; that God was beside us in the struggle, sharing the miseries of His own world.” The Son of Man, as Jesus referred to himself, proved through his own death that he is beside us in the struggle, sharing our suffering and our miseries. At a time of a rampant virus, in a climate of fear and even hatred, this realization gives us comfort and hope, for Jesus, who rules with love, is the kind of king we can also love.

Abridged from Katerina Whitley,



Intercessions for Christ the King 22nd November 2020

We pray to our Everlasting God, through our Saviour Jesus who is both Christ the King and the Son of Man and who understands our needs and the needs of this world.

Holy God, we raise before you your churches on the A7 Centre of Mission of which your Son is King. We pray that you will draw us together and unite us in the love of Christ that we may proclaim with one voice your justice and righteousness in a broken world.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Loving God, we pray for your world, of which your Son is King. We pray for peace, reconciliation and healing in the places of war, hatred, terrorism and the Covid Pandemic. We pray that the nations of this world may be united and subject to the rule of Christ the King, through whom and for whom all things were created. We pray for earthly Monarchs especially Elizabeth our Queen, may their rules be guided and influenced by the example set by your son who lives and reigns as King of Kings.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Father God, we pray for our communities of which your Son is King. We pray for the communities of our friends and families, our church and our places of work and study. Help us to know the people around us to be our brothers and sisters in Christ and to serve them as He would serve them.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Loving God, we pray for all those who suffer, among whom your Son is King. We pray that they will know the presence of your Son alongside them and the power of Christ the King within them bringing peace and healing for them and help and encouragement for those caring for them at this time of need

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Merciful God, we raise before you all who have died and who are now with your Son the king. We pray for those who have recently died and for their resurrection into the kingdom of God, and for those whose anniversary falls at this time.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Faithful God, we give thanks to you for all that you do in our lives. As the church year comes to an end we commend to you all those for whom we have prayed throughout the year and ask that you continue to use us and our prayers to make a difference in their lives.

Merciful Father: **Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ.**

Amen



As part of the ongoing response to the Coronavirus pandemic the Scottish Episcopal Church (SEC) will be broadcasting video coverage of Eucharistic services via its website, social media channels and YouTube channel. The web page is located at www.scotland.anglican.org/broadcast-sunday-worship

For those who are not online the Archbishop of Canterbury has set up a Freephone Daily Hope service of hymns, prayers and readings. It is available 24 hours a day on 0800 8048044

TV and Radio Sunday Worship: BBC RADIO SCOTLAND – 7.30am Acts of Worship BBC RADIO 4 - 08:10am Morning Worship BBC 1 TV – 1.15pm Songs of Praise BBC Radio 4 Longwave – 9.45am Morning Service (Mon-Fri)

Join Pip this week at Holy Trinity at <https://www.holytrinitymelrose.org/> and click on the link - Holy Trinity YouTube channel. 11.00am <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJkxEqnglnze4SeN4I54Ecw>

St John's Selkirk now has their weekly Sunday services on their YouTube channel, with several (different) familiar voices each week, music, inspirational quotes and images

at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9ITNAH6VHZkqM0NiH6Vt9w> available from 10am each Sunday morning..



11am to 11:30 every Wednesday morning.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87979280424?pwd=UEJzRXk0UFpVcnJuaUVZTzJvaE92UT09>

Meeting ID: 879 7928 0424 Password: 023545 Host: Tim Hatton



Bible Studies hosted on Zoom - all are welcome. Wednesday 7:30pm & Thursday 10:30am hosted by John Marsden Follow this

link <https://zoom.us/j/7538094986?pwd=Q0x4YVYk2b3Y5eEt0VkoxS0ZWVWxGUT09>

or use this information to open a Zoom meeting: Meeting ID: 753 809 4986 Password: 751474



Communion for the Homebound

Home Communion is only available to those people can't come out or get to church for self-isolation reasons. Please book through Sheena then Simon will contact to arrange a time.

Reserved Sacrament is still suspended until further notice due to corona virus restrictions.

Opening for communal worship from September.



St John's still has no date for getting back to using the church.

St Peter's 10.30am services on 1st and 4th Sundays will be Communion with Simon or other clergy. 2nd & 3rd Sundays will be Service of the Word. Thursday mornings will be a Said Communion service.

St Cuthbert's 10.30am services on 2nd & 3rd Sundays will be Communion, 1st & 4th Sundays Service of the Word. Wednesdays at 11.00am will be Said Holy Communion. Please

remember to bring a face covering to wear unless you have health issues and the service booklet and newsletter which contains the readings etc for the week.

WHEN YOU ARRIVE FOR THE SERVICE AT EITHER ST CUTHBERT'S OR ST PETER'S PLEASE BE READY TO FILL IN THE FORM FOR GOVERNMENT TRACK AND PROTECT. YOU NO LONGER NEED TO LET SHEENA KNOW IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO ATTEND



Galashiels Fellowship of Churches

Meeting 2.0 pm Nov 24th 2020, by Zoom courtesy of John Marsden

[https://zoom.us/j/7538094986?](https://zoom.us/j/7538094986?pwd=Q0x4YVYk2b3Y5eEt0VkoxS0ZWVWxGUT09)

[pwd=Q0x4YVYk2b3Y5eEt0VkoxS0ZWVWxGUT09](https://zoom.us/j/7538094986?pwd=Q0x4YVYk2b3Y5eEt0VkoxS0ZWVWxGUT09)

If you have any concerns about using Zoom don't hesitate to phone John on 0753 809 4986.

He is happy to help. Zoom details: Meeting ID: 753 809 4986 Password: 751474

Spiritual Communion

Here is a prayer that can be used at 10.30 on Sundays when Simon will be celebrating the Eucharist

For an Act of spiritual Communion, the following prayer -

My Jesus,

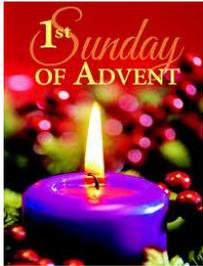
I believe that you are present in the most Holy Sacrament.

I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you.

Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.



This year the First Sunday of Advent fall on a 5th Sunday, 29th November and will be held live from St Cuthbert's.

5 members from each congregation of St John's and St Peter's can be there in person too.

If you wish to attend it will be on a first come first served basis and you need to book with Sheena 01896 751694. Everyone else can attend via Zoom.



Timothy Hatton is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: A7 Joint Service: Advent Sunday, 2020 (10:30 actual start)

Time: Nov 29, 2020 10:00 AM London

Join Zoom Meeting Meeting ID: 815 5324 6006 Passcode: 765109

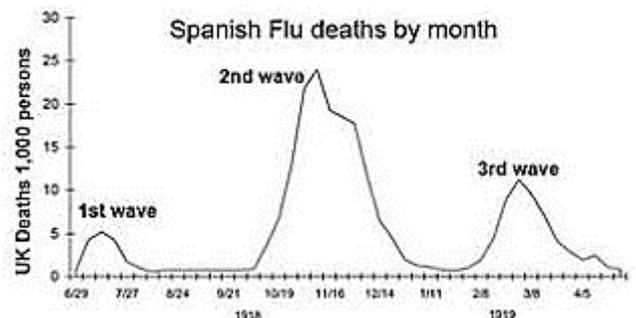
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81553246006?pwd=ZmgrLzJ2Z0VXRDYwQIRXZHHJtekg1dz09>

Some last words on the 1918 Pandemic

I have discovered that the word pandemic was not permitted to be used during the 1918 flu as it would panic people. Well globally politicians are constantly going on about the current pandemic and have managed to panic the population the world over. It was the movement of thousands or repatriating troops that spread the Spanish Flu throughout the world just as modern air travel does in our time, This graph from 1918/19 is very similar to the ones we are shown and statistics from London at that time also show that the virus was deadly to all ages and the rich suffered as much as the poor (mortality rates in Chelsea 6.1 per thousand, and Westminster 5.2 while in Bermondsey it was 5.6 and 5.1 in Bethnal Green) India lost 4% of her population. Thousands of Indian troops fought with the Allies.

The world has suffered like this before and of course in 1918 they didn't have the anti-biotics and other medical advances that we have.

I pray that the kindness and community spirit of caring for each other will continue after the virus has run its' course.



Just to let you know that Enid Hogley is still in BGH after a mild heart attack. We have been asked not to send cards at the moment but do pray for a speedy recovery with the necessary care when she is discharged.

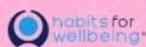
Duncan McCosh has also suffered a heart attack and is in the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary having an operation to put a stent in place. Typically, he is more concerned that he won't be allowed to play golf for a while! Please pray for Duncan and Rosemary and all the family.



The 3 C's of Life:
Choices,
Chances,
Changes.

You must make a choice to
take a chance or your life will
never change.

~ Unknown



#wellbeingreminder

www.habitsforwellbeing.com

Feelings are much like
waves, we can't stop
them from coming but
we can choose which
ones to surf.

CHARGING
LIFE

