

Morning Prayer on the Third Sunday before Advent

Sunday 7 November 2021 service at 10.00. Call in from 9.45.

To join by phone call 0330 336 0036 and use PIN 586191
For login details to join this service by Zoom, please email
office@exevalleymissioncommunity.org.

Preparation

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

All **and also with you.**

This is the day that the Lord has made.

All **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Let us open our hearts, our minds,
and our eyes to see the generous gifts of God,
and respond with praise and thanksgiving.

Gracious God, for all you have poured out upon us:
we give you thanks.

For your Word that has inspired and fed your people;
for those who had vision to record it,
skill to translate it and presence to share it:

we give you thanks.

For your love that has surrounded and enfolded us,
that has given us joy, confirmed our faith,
nurtured our love and given us
enduring hope in the gift of the promise of eternal life:

we give you thanks.

To you be all praise and glory, for ever and ever.

Amen.



The grace of God has dawned upon the world through our Saviour Jesus Christ, who sacrificed himself for us to purify a people as his own.

Let us confess our sins.

**Lord Jesus Christ,
we come to you in sorrow for our selfishness,
in regret for our greed,
in despair over our blindness and deafness
to the needs of those around us.
With penitent hearts we seek your forgiveness,
and your blessing to make us more generous,
more giving, more able to see, and more willing to listen.
Amen.**

Our God of generosity forgives those who truly repent.
Our God lifts the burdens from our hearts
and the blindness from our eyes
and sets us free to be the people we are called to be.
Amen.

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



The Word of God

First reading: Hebrews 9: 24-28

²⁴ For Christ did not enter a sanctuary made with human hands that was only a copy of the true one; he entered heaven itself, now to appear for us in God's presence. ²⁵ Nor did he enter heaven to offer himself again and again, the way the high priest enters the Most Holy Place every year with blood that is not his own. ²⁶ Otherwise Christ would have had to suffer many times since the creation of the world. But he has appeared once for all at the culmination of the ages to do away with sin by the sacrifice of himself. ²⁷ Just as people are destined to die once, and after that to face judgment, ²⁸ so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God**

Psalmody Psalm 62: 5-12

⁵ Yes, my soul, find rest in God;
my hope comes from him.

⁶ **Truly he is my rock and my salvation;
he is my fortress, I will not be shaken.**

⁷ My salvation and my honour depend on God;
he is my mighty rock, my refuge.

⁸ **Trust in him at all times, you people;
pour out your hearts to him,
for God is our refuge.**

⁹ Surely the lowborn are but a breath,
the highborn are but a lie.

If weighed on a balance, they are nothing;
together they are only a breath.

¹⁰ **Do not trust in extortion
or put vain hope in stolen goods;
though your riches increase,
do not set your heart on them.**

¹¹ One thing God has spoken,
two things I have heard:

“Power belongs to you, God,

¹² **and with you, Lord, is unfailing love”;**

**and, “You reward everyone
according to what they have done.”**

Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;

All **as it was in the beginning,
is now, and shall be for ever.**

Amen.

Second reading: Mark 12: 38-44

³⁸ As he taught, Jesus said, “Watch out for the teachers of the law. They like to walk around in flowing robes and be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, ³⁹ and have the

most important seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at banquets. ⁴⁰ They devour widows' houses and for a show make lengthy prayers. These men will be punished most severely."

The Widow's Offering

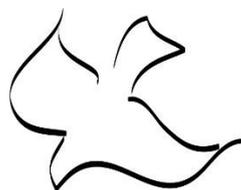
⁴¹ Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. ⁴² But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents.

⁴³ Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. ⁴⁴ They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on."

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God**

We pause to reflect on the readings before turning to prayer.



Intercessions

God of all creation,
you ask us to care and not to destroy;
to share and not to abuse what you have given to us.
You ask us to cherish the earth not to abuse it
and to use earth's resources fairly and not to waste them.
Forgive our failures and renew our commitment.

God of all creation,
May we use your gifts wisely and care for the earth.

Generous God,
you have placed us in community
in our churches, families, schools and neighbourhoods
where we learn that we are stronger together.
You created people in your image,
so amazing and capable of so much that is good,
yet also capable of going choosing the wrong thing.
Give us ears to listen to one another,
hearts to care for each other's pain,
and hands ready to heal the hurts of our world.
May your Spirit of truth and justice lead the way
to a more compassionate, a more equal and a simpler
way of life.

God of all creation,
May we use your gifts wisely and care for the earth.

Generous God,
you give us all that we need for life.
May we learn to live with the same generosity that you
show to us,
using resources for our need and not our greed,
and offering what we can to improve the lives of people
who struggle.
Give us and our world leaders generosity of spirit.
May we begin to see that we share one home.
and that our actions can improve or damage life chances
for others.

God of all creation,

May we use your gifts wisely and care for the earth

Generous God,

you count the hairs on our head

and care for the smallest of the creatures on earth.

May we live as though our days belong to you,

using the gifts of our time and our talents to serve our neighbour,

and make a difference in the world.

May we hear the cry of those in pain.

We place into your hands people who are ill

and we ask for your healing...and we pray for the families and friends of those recently bereaved....

May we also pay attention to the cry of our earth for healing,

and the fears of the peoples in areas most at risk including:

Lagos in Nigeria; Yemen; Haiti; United Arab Emirates;

Manila in the Philippines; Kiribati; Japan; the Netherlands;

India and Sri Lanka and so many more...

We hold the peoples of these areas in our hearts

together with the hopes and dreams of children and young people.

God of all creation,

may we use your gifts wisely and care for the earth.

Amen.

Collect for the Third Sunday before Advent

Almighty Father,

whose will is to restore all things

in your beloved Son, the King of all:

govern the hearts and minds of those in authority,

and bring the families of the nations,

divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin,
to be subject to his just and gentle rule;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

**All 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.
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 for ever. Amen.**

Blessing

The God of all grace,
who called us to his eternal glory in Christ Jesus,
establish, strengthen and settle us in the faith;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
remain with us always.

All Amen.

What's On This Week

Coffee Morning Wednesday 10th November 2021 at 10.30am

A lovely time was had by everyone who went to the Golf Club for coffee. The next time we will meet for coffee in person is on Wednesday 1 December at the Golf Club. Until then, we are back to Zoom and everyone is very welcome.

Bible Study Wednesday 10th November at 7.00pm

This week we will be continuing our Bible Study course, studying the Old Testament story of Abraham through to Joseph. If you can, please read Genesis 21-24. This will be held on Zoom or on the Conference Call. Everyone is very welcome.

Steph's Soup Kitchen

It was lovely to see so many of you over the summer for lunch. During the winter months from November onwards, on the third Friday of the month, I will be holding a bread and soup lunch, with pud. It would be a great opportunity to meet up and chat. The first lunch will take place on **Friday 19 November** between 12.30-2.30. Please let the office know if you would like to come.

Giving

To give to the Exe Valley Mission Community by BACS, please use account number 54731690 and sort code 60-21-27. Please use the reference *EVMC services*.

To give to St Peter's Church, please go to www.stpeterstiverton.org.uk and follow the donations link on the front page of the website.