

Christ the King

Sunday November 26th 2023

**Christ triumphant, ever reigning,
Saviour, Master, King!
Lord of heaven, our lives sustaining,
hear us as we sing:
Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name.**

**Word incarnate, truth revealing,
Son of Man on earth!
power and majesty concealing
by your humble birth:
Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name.**

**Suffering servant, scorned, ill - treated,
victim crucified!
death is through the cross defeated,
sinners justified:
Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name.**

**Priestly king, enthroned for ever
high in heaven above!
sin and death and hell shall never
stifle hymns of love:
Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name.**

**So, our hearts and voices raising
through the ages long,
ceaselessly upon you gazing,
this shall be our song:
Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name.**

Michael Saward (1932-2015)

Introduction to the Confession

Jesus says, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' So let us turn away from sin and turn to Christ, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

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 bonds 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.
Amen.

1st Reading Ezekiel 34.11-15, 20-24

For thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep and will sort them out. As shepherds sort out their flocks when they are among scattered sheep, so I will sort out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries and bring them into their own land, and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strays, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged, and I will judge between sheep and sheep. I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them; he shall feed them and be their shepherd. 24 And I the Lord will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I the Lord have spoken.

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

2nd Reading Ephesians 1.15-end

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

**Meekness and majesty,
Manhood and Deity,
In perfect harmony,
The Man who is God.
Lord of eternity
Dwells in humanity,
Kneels in humility
And washes our feet.**

***O what a mystery,
Meekness and majesty.
Bow down and worship
For this is your God,
This is your God.***

**Father's pure radiance,
Perfect in innocence,
Yet learns obedience
To death on a cross.
Suffering to give us life,
Conquering through sacrifice,
And as they crucify
Prays: 'Father forgive.'**

**Wisdom unsearchable,
God the invisible,
Love indestructible
In frailty appears.
Lord of infinity,
Stooping so tenderly,
Lifts our humanity
To the heights of His throne.**

Graham Kendrick (1950-present)

Gospel Reading: Matthew 25.31-end

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark
Glory to you, O Lord

“When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.’ Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You who are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels, for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not take care of you?’ Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of

the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment but the righteous into eternal life."

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

**From heaven you came, helpless babe,
entered our world, your glory veiled,
not to be served but to serve
and give your life that we might live.**

***This is our God, the Servant King;
he calls us now to follow him,
to bring our lives as a daily offering
of worship to the Servant King.***

**There in the garden of tears
my heavy load he chose to bear;
his heart with sorrow was torn,
'Yet not my will, but yours,' he said.**

**Come see his hands and his feet,
the scars that speak of sacrifice,
hands that flung stars into space,
to cruel nails surrendered.**

**So let us learn how to serve
and in our lives enthrone him,
each other's needs to prefer,
for it is Christ we're serving.**

Graham Kendrick (1950-present)

**At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow,
every tongue confess him king of glory now;
this the Father's pleasure, that we call him Lord,
who from the beginning was the mighty word.**

**At his voice creation sprang at once to sight,
all the angel faces, all the hosts of light;
thrones and dominations, stars upon their way,
all the heavenly orders, in their great array.**

**Humbled for a season, to receive a name
from the lips of sinners unto whom he came;
faithfully he bore it spotless to the last,
brought it back victorious when from death he passed.**

**Bore it up triumphant with its human light,
through all ranks of creatures to the central height;
to the eternal Godhead, to the Father's throne,
filled it with the glory of his triumph won.**

**Name him, Christians, name him, with love strong as death,
but with awe and wonder, and with bated breath;
he is God the saviour, he is Christ the Lord,
ever to be worshipped, trusted and adored.**

**In your hearts enthrone him; there let him subdue
all that is not holy, all that is not true;
crown him as your captain in temptation's hour,
let his will enfold you in its light and power.**

**With his Father's glory Jesus comes again,
angel hosts attend him and announce his reign;
for all wreaths of empire meet upon his brow,
and our hearts confess him king of glory now.**

Caroline Maria Noel (1817-1877)

For our prayers

Prayers for our link churches in Zambia

Please pray for St Augustine's Church & St Monica's Church, Livingstone East and their priest Rev Ackson Kampala

Prayers for those who are ill:

David and Audrey Parkes; Jean; Robert; Helen; Eva & family; Jenny & Geoff; Julie & Ivor Parry; Alethea; Jenny Boocock; Isaac; Douglas Duncan; Sheila Stocker

Those whose year's mind occurs at this time:

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| Elsie Nicholson Fitzgerald | (26-11-1981) |
| Peggie Peachey | (27-11-1976) |
| Carl Pickering | (27-11-1989) |
| Nellie Victoria Lord | (28-11-2001) |
| Ivan Morgan | (28-11-2003) |
| Peter Jones | (30-11-1997) |
| Nigel Salter | (01-11-1975) |
| Barbara Bland Ward | (01-11-1989) |
| Daryl Hague | (01-11-1992) |

Thursdays at 11am - Pause to Pray for our legacy and for the redevelopment project

This week:

| | | |
|------------------------|-----------|--|
| 28 th Tues | 10am-12 | Coffee Stop |
| | 2 – 4pm | <i>Choir rehearsals</i> |
| 29 th Wed | 9.30-11am | ABC2 parents/carers & tots in the church hall |
| | 11am | Eucharist – a quiet said communion service |
| 30 th Thurs | 10-11am | Keep Fit in the church hall |
| | 2 – 4pm | Snack & Chat in the community room |
| 3 rd Sun | 10am | Parish Eucharist |

~~~~~