St Andrew's Church

Orford with Longford

**The Third Sunday Before Advent**

**Remembrance Sunday**

**12th November 2017**

**THE GATHERING**

**Introit hymn:** 166 ‘Crown him with many crowns’

Priest: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

All: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Priest: 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.

After a period for silent reflection:

All: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past, and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.

Priest: Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

All Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord

***(sing)* God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

**Collect:** 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 fore ever. **Amen**

#### **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**A reading from the book of the Wisdom of Solomon** *(Wis. 6. 12–16)*

Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her, and is found by those who seek her. She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her. One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty, for she will be found sitting at the gate. To fix one’s thought on her is perfect understanding, and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care, because she goes about seeking those worthy of her, and she graciously appears to them in their paths, and meets them in every thought.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

**Hymn:** *(remain seated)* 355 ‘I vow to thee, my country’

**A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians** *(1 Thess. 4. 13–18)*

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. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. 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. 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. 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. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

**Gradual hymn:** *(please stand)* 427 ‘For the healing of the nations’

The Gospel

Priest: Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord.

Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heaven.

All: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew *(Mt. 25. 1–13)*

All: Glory to you, O Lord

Jesus spoke this parable to the disciples: ‘The kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, “Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.” Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, “Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.” 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.” 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. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, “Lord, lord, open to us.” But he replied, “Truly I tell you, I do not know you.” Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.’

This is the gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

##### The sermon

Priest: We believe in one God,

**All: the Father, the almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Intercession *(please kneel)*

Priest: In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ, let us pray to the Father

The prayers are led by a member of the congregation. Each section ends:

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy

**All Hear our prayer.**

**Please remember in your prayers:**

* **those who are ill:**  (4) Mary Lowe, Jenson Wright, Barbara Cook, Kirsty Humphries, Val Carter, Bill Lowson(3)Rob Mudd, Mark Shepherd, Marion Greatorex, Eric Tickle, Barbara Boscoe, Jacqueline Willington (2) Su Williams, Eleanor Moran, Carol Latimer, Kerrie Hadland, Vera Wood, Minnie Norman, (1) Lynn Burman, Michael Stringer, Michelle Smith, Paul Hogden, Joyce Hetherington, Michael Thackeray, Pauline Smith, Glenys Quiggley
* **any who have died**: Joan Gauton; all those who have died in war
* **those whose year's mind falls at this time**:

***Sunday:*** Dave Crozier senior ***Monday:*** Wilf Barnett

***Thursday:*** Jim Peers ***Friday:*** Sheila Jones

*After the final petition:*

Intercessor: Merciful Father,

**accept these prayers**

for the sake of your Son,

our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

**The Peace**   *(please stand)*

Priest:To crown all things there must be love, to bind all together and complete the whole. Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: And also with you

Everyone is invited to share the peace with one another.

**Offertory Hymn:**  384 ‘Be still, my soul, the Lord is on your side’

Eucharistic Prayer E *(please kneel)*

Priest: The Lord is here.

All: His Spirit is with us.

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give thanks and praise.

Priest: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy that we should always sing of your glory, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. For you are the hope of the nations, the builder of the city that is to come. Your love made visible in Jesus Christ brings home the lost, restores the sinner and gives dignity to the despised. In his face your light shines out flooding lives with goodness and truth, gathering into one in your kingdom a divided and broken humanity. Therefore with all who can give voice in your creation we glorify your name, for ever praising you and *singing*:

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Priest: We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you. He broke the bread, gave it to them and said: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine. Again he praised you, gave it to them and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness if sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross. Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith:

All: Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

Priest: Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth. Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with Saint Andrew and all the saints to feast at your table in heaven. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Priest: Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Priest: We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

**All: Though we are many, we are one body,**

**because we all share in one bread.**

All: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

*(sing)* Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

Priest: Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**All: Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,**

**but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

Holy Communion is administered at the front of Church. Everyone is warmly invited to receive Holy Communion at this Eucharist. Those who prefer to receive a blessing are also invited to come forward at the same time.

During the distribution of the Sacrament, the following hymns are sung:

Peace, perfect peace, is the gift of Christ our Lord

Peace, perfect peace, is the gift of Christ our Lord

Thus, says the Lord, will the world know my friends.

Peace, perfect peace, is the gift of Christ our Lord

Love, perfect love, is the gift of Christ our Lord.

Love, perfect love, is the gift of Christ our Lord.

Thus, says the Lord, will the world know my friends.

Love, perfect love, is the gift of Christ our Lord.

Faith, perfect faith, is the gift of Christ our Lord.

Faith, perfect faith, is the gift of Christ our Lord.

Thus, says the Lord, will the world know my friends.

Faith, perfect faith, is the gift of Christ our Lord.

Hope, perfect hope, is the gift of Christ our Lord.

Hope, perfect hope, is the gift of Christ our Lord.

Thus, says the Lord, will the world know my friends.

Hope, perfect hope, is the gift of Christ our Lord.

Joy, perfect joy, is the gift of Christ our Lord.

Joy, perfect joy, is the gift of Christ our Lord.

Thus, says the Lord, will the world know my friends.

Joy, perfect joy, is the gift of Christ our Lord.

Eternal God, before whose face we stand,

your earthly children, fashioned by your hand,

hear and behold us, for to you alone

all hearts are open, all our longings known:

so for our world, and for ourselves we pray

the gift of peace, O Lord, in this our day.

We come with grief, with thankfulness and pride,

to hold in honour those who served and died;

we bring our hurt, our loneliness and loss,

to him who hung forsaken on the cross;

who, for our peace, our pains and sorrows bore,

and with the Father lives for evermore.

O Prince of Peace, who gave for us your life,

look down in pity on our sin and strife.

May this remembrance move our hearts to build

a peace enduring, and a hope fulfilled,

when every flag of tyranny is furled

and wars at last shall cease in all the world.

From earth’s long tale of suffering here below

we pray the fragile flower of peace may grow,

till cloud and darkness vanish from our skies

to see the Sun of Righteousness arise.

When night is past and peace shall banish pain,

all shall be well, in God’s eternal reign.

**After Communion:**

*After a period for silent prayer:*

Priest: Let us pray:

God of peace, whose Son Jesus Christ proclaimed the kingdom and restored the broken wholeness of life: look with compassion on the anguish of the world, and by your healing power make whole both people and nations; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen**

##### The Act of Remembrance *(please remain kneeling):*

Prayers will be offered, concluding with the Citation. The response following

‘We will remember them’ is **‘We will remember them’.**

This is followed by ‘Last Post’ and silence. After the silence, *Reveille* is played and a final prayer is offered. *Please then remain kneeling to sing:*

O valiant hearts, who to your glory came

Through dust of conflict and through battle flame;

Tranquil you lie, your knightly virtue proved,

Your memory hallowed in the land you loved.

These were his servants, in his steps they trod,

Following through death the martyred Son of God:

Victor he rose; victorious too shall rise

They who have drunk his cup of sacrifice.

Still stands the Cross from that dread hour to this,

Like some bright star above the dark abyss;

Still, through the veil, the Victor’s pitying eyes

Look down to bless our lesser Calvaries.

O risen Lord, O Shepherd of our dead,

Whose cross has brought them and whose staff has led,

In glorious hope their proud and sorrowing land

Commits her children to thy gracious hand.

Priest:Christ our King make you faithful and strong to do his will, that you may reign with him in glory; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

**Recessional Hymn:** 537 ‘O God our help in ages past’

Priest: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

All: In the name of Christ

Services and Notices for the coming week:

Mon 13th: 7.30pm Deanery Synod meeting at Woolston

Tues 14th: 7.00pm Parish Office and Christmas Choir Practice

8.00pm PCC meeting in church

Wed 15th: 10.00am Funeral of Joan Gauton

7.00pm Eucharist

Thurs 16th: 10.30am Eucharist with Year 5 children present

5.00pm Full Governing Body Meeting

Sat 18th: 9.30am Set up for the Christmas Fair

1.00pm CHRISTMAS FAIR opens

**Next Sunday The Second Sunday before Advent**

**(19th Nov) 10.00am Sung Eucharist**

**Tea and Coffee:** will be served after this morning’s service. Do please join us.

**The Christmas Fair:** is just a few days away. **Please**:

* keep the date free
* invite everyone you know to come along
* take handbills to friends and neighbours; display a poster at home or elsewhere!
* sell Draw Tickets. Please return counterfoils before the Fair if possible –perhaps via the Charity Shop on Wednesday.
* help on the day
* Donations towards the Hamper gratefully received – list at the back of church
* Any more bottles or pries for the Tombola and Grand Draw please?

##### Thank you

**St Andrew’s Day:** We will celebrate our Patronal Festival on Sunday 3rd December at 10.00am. We will be joined by children from school, together with their families. Please do make a special effort to join us that Sunday – it would be really good to have everyone in church on this special occasion.

**Help needed** to set up for Christmas Fair. **Friday afternoon** from 2.00pm to put up stalls, grotto, and decorations. No goods on the stalls until **Saturday morning** from 9.30am. Stalls will be finished ready for the opening. Please arrive early. Sandwich lunches will be available in the Hall.

**Hand bills to be delivered** – please take some for your street and to give to friends and family. **Please publicise WIDELY!**

**Please display POSTERS and take to clubs, shops etc**

**many Draw Tickets still to be sold** – one last push please

**2nd prize christmas Hamper** – would you contribute one item, please?

**Coach Trip** – to Meadow Hall Shopping complex in Sheffield. Sat 6th December if there’s sufficient interest. Cost approx £7 - £10 depending on numbers. Please sign up today.

**The Third Sunday before Advent 12th November 2017**

Priest: In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ, let us pray to the Father.

(All kneel)

Leader: Hear our prayers, heavenly Father, for the peace of the world; for statesmen and rulers that they may have wisdom to know, and courage to do, what is right …

for all who work to improve international relationships that they might find the true way to reconcile people of different race, colour and creed …

for men and women the world over that they may have justice and freedom, and live in security and peace.

Leader: Lord, in your mercy

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: Merciful Father, hear our prayers for your Church around the world, that it might be your instrument of justice and love in our war-torn world.

We bring before you the leaders of our Church, that they may exercise their positions of authority wisely and for the good of all your people.

And so we pray for all the troubled spots in our world – both those known to us today and also those known only to you.

Leader: Lord, in your mercy

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: Father, we pray for all who suffer as a result of war:

for the injured and disabled,

for the mentally distressed,

and for those whose faith in you has been weakened or destroyed…

for the homeless and refugees,

for those who are hungry,

and for those who have lost their livelihood or security…

for those who mourn their dead,

for those who have lost husband or wife, children or parents,

and especially for those who have no hope in Christ to sustain them in their grief.

Leader: Lord, in your mercy

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: And so Father, we commend to your love all those who are ill at this time and who have asked our prayers, including Val Carter, Bill Lowson, Rob Mudd, Mark Shepherd, Marion Greatorex, Barbara Boscoe, Jacqueline Willington, Kerrie Hadland, Vera Wood, Minnie Norman, Lynn Burman, Michelle Smith, Paul Hogden, Michael Thackeray, Pauline Smith and, Glenys Quiggley. May they find wholeness and healing in you.

Leader: Lord, in your mercy

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: Heavenly Father, whose dominion extends over all life, hear our prayers for the faithful departed who have passed into your glorious kingdom, including Joan Gauton, Patricia Willcock and Barbara Lee who have died recently, and Dave Crozier senior, Jim Peers, Sheila Jones and Wilf Barnett whose anniversary falls this week.

We remember with thanksgiving all who have laid down their lives in war for the good of others.

May your whole Church, living and departed, come to a joyful resurrection in the city of eternal light.

Leader: Lord, in your mercy

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: Rejoicing in the fellowship of the Church on earth, we join our prayers with the Blessed Virgin Mary, St Andrew and all the saints in glory.

Merciful Father,

**All: accept these prayers, for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

##### The Act of Remembrance *(please remain kneeling):*

Priest: Let us remember all who have died in war:

Almighty and eternal God, from whose love in Christ we cannot be parted, either by death or life: hear our prayers and thanksgivings for all whom we remember this day …

fulfil in them the purpose of your love; and bring us all, with them, to your eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen

*The Citation:*

Jenny: They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old:

age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning

we will remember them:

All: **We will remember them.**

This is followed by ‘***Last Post***’ and silence.

Then ***Reveille***, followed by:

Priest: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, infinite in wisdom, love and power; have compassion on those for whom we pray; and help us to use all suffering in the cause of your kingdom; though him who gave himself for us on the cross, Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. **Amen**

*Please then remain kneeling to sing:*

O valiant hearts …**The Third Sunday before Advent 12th November 2017**

**A reading from the book of the Wisdom of Solomon**

Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her, and is found by those who seek her. She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her. One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty, for she will be found sitting at the gate. To fix one’s thought on her is perfect understanding, and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care, because she goes about seeking those worthy of her, and she graciously appears to them in their paths, and meets them in every thought.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

**Hymn:** *(remain seated)* 355 ‘I vow to thee, my country’

**A reading from the letter of Paul to the Thessalonians**

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. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. 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. 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. 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. Therefore, encourage one another with these words.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

### Notes for Readers: 9th November 2014 (A)

*I have found a website which offers a few thoughts on the readings for the day and I include them as you might find them helpful. If not, please do not worry!*

**First Reading: Wisdom 6:12-16**

There’s an unusual tone about this reading: it is enticing, encouraging, leading people on in the search for wisdom. Nothing is stated clearly, in black and white, but there is a poetic vagueness which is to tease the listener into looking for this elusive thing called wisdom. The reader is alternately friendly, even colloquial (Watch for her early, and you will have no trouble...) and mysterious (Even to think about her is understanding fully grown...). The reader must make sure that, however else you read this, what comes across is that wisdom is worth having, and that it is waiting to be found. Take the reading fairly slowly - some of the expression are quite complex and will take a bit of sinking in. Read with great clarity, and a brightness and attractiveness in your voice.

**Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

This is a truly amazing reading, one of the most powerful we encounter in the Sunday scriptures. It is a bald and uncompromising statement of a central truth of our faith: the resurrection of the dead. The most remarkable thing about this passage is the clarity and detail with which Paul describes the scene: he writes with absolute faith in the promises of the Lord Jesus. To read it well will demand the same sort of faith - lock yourself away with this reading, and repeat again and again these words: “we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus.” The deepest comfort and hope of our faith is this: not some ethereal heaven, but a true rising to life, body and soul, as we see in Jesus. Read with rock-solid conviction; present these words to the congregation as a supreme expression of our faith in the resurrection. Grab their attention, if necessary, by the power of your own faith as you read.