



St George's Anglican Church, Malvern

**THE COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED
OR
ALL SOULS**

2 November 2023



Jesus bursts the gates of hell and brings Adam and Eve with all the faithful out of death and into eternal life.

6:00 p.m.

We acknowledge the Boon Wurrung and Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation as the Traditional Custodians of the land upon which we meet.

We pay our respects to their Elders past and present, acknowledge their continuing spiritual connection to Country, and affirm our commitment to walk together the path of reconciliation.

ALL SOULS' DAY

*from a Treatise by Hugh Latimer (c. 1487–1555),
Bishop of Worcester, Fellow of Clare College, Cambridge*

The faithful departed have charity in such surety that they cannot lose it, so that they cannot murmur nor grudge against God; cannot be displeased with God; cannot be dissevered from God; cannot die, nor be in peril of death; cannot but be in surety of salvation.

They be members of the mystical body of Christ as we be, and in more surety than we be. They love us charitably. Charity is not idle: if it be, it worketh and sheweth itself: and therefore I say, they wish us well and pray for us. They need not cry loud to God: they be in Christ and Christ in them. They be with Christ and Christ with them. They joy in their Lord Christ always, taking thankfully whatsoever God doth with them; ever giving thanks to their Lord God; ever lauding and praising him in all things that he doth; discontent with nothing that he doth.

And forasmuch as they be always in charity, and when they pray for us they pray for us they pray always in charity, and be always God's friends, God's children, brethren and sisters to our Saviour Christ, ever in God's favour, ever have Christ with them to offer their prayer to the Father of heaven, to whom they pray in the name of the Son. We many times for lack of charity, having malice and envy, rancour, hatred, one toward another, be the children of the devil, inheritors of hell, adversaries to Christ, hated of God, his angels and all his saints; they in their state may do us more good with their prayers, than we in this state. And they do us always good, unless the lack and impediment be in us: for prayer said in charity is more faithful to them that it is said for, and more acceptable to Gd, that that which is said out of lack of charity. For God looketh not to the work of praying, but to the heart of the prayer.

Thus we may well pray for the departed, and they much better for us: which they will do of their charity even though we desire them not.

Please gather in silence as you offer prayers for all those you have come to recall

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

President: Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All: Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The President welcomes the congregation, then this sentence of Scripture is read:

'I am the resurrection and the life,' says the Lord;
'whoever lives and believes in me shall never die.'

John 11:24, 25

Let us pray.

**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.**

Prayers of Penitence

God has shone in our hearts
to give the light of the knowledge of his glory
in the face of Christ.

But we have this treasure in earthen vessels
to show that the transcendent power belongs to God
and not to us.

As we acknowledge our human frailty,
we call to mind our sins of word, deed and omission,
and confess them before God our Father.

Silence is briefly kept.

You raise the dead to life in the Spirit:
Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

You bring pardon and peace to the broken in heart:
Christ, have mercy.

All Christ, have mercy.

You make one by your Spirit the torn and divided:
Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

The President pronounces Absolution, and the people respond

Amen.

Let us pray for the peace and well-being of the whole Church.

Silence is kept.

Everlasting God, our maker and redeemer,
grant us, with all the faithful departed,
the sure benefits of your Son's saving passion
and glorious resurrection,
that, in the last day,
when you gather up all things in Christ,
we may with them enjoy the fullness of your promises;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All Amen.

First Reading

A reading from the book Job:

A mortal, born of woman, few of days and full of trouble,
comes up like a flower and withers,
flees like a shadow and does not last.

Do you fix your eyes on such a one?

Do you bring me into judgement with you?

Who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean?

No one can.

Since their days are determined,
and the number of their months is known to you,
and you have appointed the bounds that they cannot pass,
look away from them, and desist,
that they may enjoy, like labourers, their days.

'For there is hope for a tree,
if it is cut down, that it will sprout again,
and that its shoots will not cease.

Though its root grows old in the earth,
and its stump dies in the ground,
yet at the scent of water it will bud
and put forth branches like a young plant.

But mortals die, and are laid low;
humans expire, and where are they?

As waters fail from a lake,
and a river wastes away and dries up,
so mortals lie down and do not rise again;
until the heavens are no more, they will not awake
or be roused out of their sleep.

O that you would hide me in Sheol,
that you would conceal me until your wrath is past,
that you would appoint me a set time, and remember me!

If mortals die, will they live again?

All the days of my service I would wait
until my release should come.

Job 14:1-14

Hear the word of the Lord,
thanks be to God.

Psalm 29

Response: The Lord gives strength to his people.

1. Ascribe to the Lord, you powers of heaven:
ascribe to the Lord glory and might.
2. Ascribe to the Lord the honour due to his name:
O worship the Lord in the beauty of his holiness. **R.**
3. The voice of the Lord is upon the waters:
the God of glory thunders,
the Lord upon the great waters.
4. The voice of the Lord is mighty in operation:
the voice of the Lord is a glorious voice.
5. The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar-trees:
the Lord breaks in pieces the cedars of Lebanon. **R.**
6. He makes them skip like a calf:
Lebanon and Sirion like a young wild ox.
7. The voice of the Lord divides the lightning flash:
the voice of the Lord whirls the sands of the desert,
the Lord whirls the desert of Kadesh.
8. The voice of the Lord rends the terebinth trees,
and strips bare the forests:
in his temple all cry, 'Glory!' **R.**
9. The Lord sits enthroned above the water-flood;
the Lord sits enthroned as a king for ever.
10. The Lord will give strength to his people:
the Lord will give to his people the blessing of peace. **R.**

Please stand

Gospel

Alleluia, alleluia!

'It is the will of him who sent me,' says the Lord,
'that I should lose none of all that he has given me,
but raise them up on the last day.'

c.f. John 6:39

Alleluia!

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus said to the crowd,

‘Very truly, I tell you, the Son can do nothing on his own,
but only what he sees the Father doing;

for whatever the Father does, the Son does likewise.

The Father loves the Son and shows him all that he himself is doing;

and he will show him greater works than these,

so that you will be astonished.

Indeed, just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life,

so also the Son gives life to whomsoever he wishes.

The Father judges no one but has given all judgement to the Son,

so that all may honour the Son just as they honour the Father.

Anyone who does not honour the Son

does not honour the Father who sent him.

Very truly, I tell you, anyone who hears my word

and believes him who sent me has eternal life,

and does not come under judgement, but has passed from death to life.

‘Very truly, I tell you, the hour is coming, and is now here,

when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God,

and those who hear will live.

For just as the Father has life in himself,

so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself;

and he has given him authority to execute judgement,

because he is the Son of Man. Do not be astonished at this;

for the hour is coming when all who are in their graves

will hear his voice and will come out—those who have done good,

to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil,

to the resurrection of condemnation.

John 5:19–29

For the gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

A sermon is preached.

After the sermon, silence is kept.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Deacon Let us pray to the Lord, who has conquered death.

To the bidding, Hear us, risen Lord,
the response is **our resurrection and our life.**

At the conclusion of the Intercessions, we move to

The Commemoration of the Faithful Departed

President You are worthy, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honour and power.

All **For you have created all things,
and by your will they have their being.**

You are worthy, O Lamb, for you were slain,
and by your blood you ransomed for God
saints from every tribe and language and nation.

All **You have made them to be a kingdom and priests
serving our God,
and they will reign with you on earth.**

*The names of those to be remembered will be read aloud.
Silence will be kept after all the names have been read,
as the book of names is placed on the High Altar.*

We then say:

This is the will of him that sent me,
that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me,

All **and I will raise them up at the last day.**

Lord God, creator of all,
you have made us creatures of this earth,
but have also promised us a share in life eternal.
According to your promises,
may all who have died in the peace of Christ
come with your saints to the joys of your kingdom,
where there will be neither sorrow nor pain,
but life everlasting.

All **Alleluia. Amen.**

Grant to us, Lord God,
to trust you not for ourselves alone,
but for those also whom we love
and who are hidden from us by the shadow of death;
that, as we believe your power to have raised our Lord Jesus Christ
from the dead,
so may we trust your love
to give eternal life to all who believe in him;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
All Amen.

THE GREETING OF PEACE

Jesus says:
Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.
Not as the world gives do I give you.
Do not let your hearts be troubled,
neither let them be afraid.
The peace of the risen Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

Offertory Hymn:

I. Jesu, Son of Mary,
Fount of life alone,
Here we hail thee present
On thine altar-throne.
Humbly we adore thee,
Lord of endless might,
In the mystic symbols
Veiled from earthly sight.

2. Think, O Lord, in mercy
On the souls of those
Who, in faith gone from us,
Now in death repose.
Here 'mid stress and conflict
Toils can never cease;
There, the warfare ended,
Bid them rest in peace.
3. Often were they wounded
In the deadly strife;
Heal them, Good Physician,
With the balm of life.
Every taint of evil,
Frailty and decay,
Good and gracious Saviour,
Cleanse and purge away.
4. Rest eternal grant them,
After weary fight;
Shed on them the radiance
Of thy heavenly light.
Lead them onward, upward,
To the holy place,
Where thy saints made perfect
Gaze upon thy face.

Music: 'Corpus Domini', G.E.W. Malet (1839–1918)
Words: from Swahili, tr. Edmund Palmer (1856–1931)

The gifts are placed on the altar and the President offers prayers, to which the people respond:

Blessed be God for ever.

The President then begins the Great Thanksgiving Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The President continues with a prayer appropriate to the season, concluding with:

... we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and saying:

**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.

The President continues the prayer until:

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died,

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The President continues the prayer, which concludes:

...we worship you, Father, in songs of never-ending praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

Silence is kept

Uniting our prayers with the whole company of heaven,
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**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.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE COMMUNION

As the President breaks the bread, the following is said:

Jesus is the living bread which came down from heaven:
if anyone eats of this bread, they will live for ever.

Lord, give us this bread always.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
grant us your peace.

‘I am the bread of life,’ says the Lord;
‘whoever comes to me will never hunger;
whoever believes in me will never thirst.’
‘I am the vine: you are the branches.’

All May we dwell in him as he lives in us.

The people and ministers receive the sacrament.

After Communion, silence is kept.

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

A prayer is offered by the President, which ends

Father,
we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory.

THE BLESSING

God the Father,
by whose love Christ was raised from the dead,
open to you who believe the gates of everlasting life.
Amen.

God the Son,
who in bursting the grave has won a glorious victory,
give you joy as you share the Easter faith.
Amen.

God the Holy Spirit,
whom the risen Lord breathed into his disciples,
empower you and fill you with Christ's peace.
Amen.

And the blessing ...
Amen.

Neither death nor life can separate us from the love of God
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Thanks be to God.