

Easingwold with Raskelf



Ordinary Time

Hymn All people that on earth do dwell
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IhUiRonIzaQ>

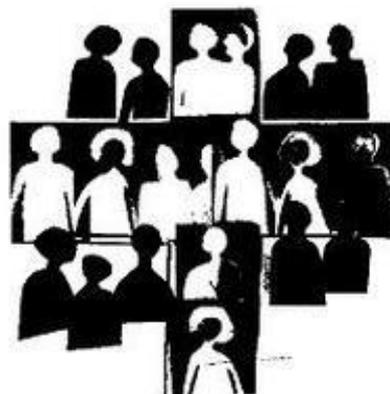
In the name of the Father and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

The Lord be with you,
And also with you.

Prayer of Preparation

**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 (*sit or kneel*)

We come to God as one from whom no secrets are
hidden, to ask for his forgiveness and peace.

**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.**

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.

The Gloria (*stand*)

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



The Collect

God the Father, help us to hear the call of Christ the King and to follow in his service, whose kingdom has no end; for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, one glory, Amen.

The Ministry of the Word

Reading

Ephesians 1.15-23

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. I pray 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 know 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.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Alleluia, alleluia.

We do not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Alleluia.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

All 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 that 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 who are members of my family, you did it to me.” Then he will say to those at his left hand, “You that 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.

The Sermon

Christ the King - 22nd November

May the eyes of our hearts be opened so that we may know the hope to which we are called – Amen.

Today we are celebrating the feast of Christ the King. The kingship of Christ. We have just celebrated Armistice day, a day when we remember the ending of the first world war and honour the fallen from all wars. 11th November is also the feast day of St Martin de Tours; who became the patron saint of soldiers as well as conscientious objectors and chaplains. How well do you know your patron saints, do you know why Martin was made a saint?

Martin became a Christian whilst he was serving in the Roman guards during the 4th century. In an act of compassion Martin shared his cloak with a beggar. The beggar was unclothed and it was very cold. Martin removed his cloak and with his sword, cut it in half. He gave half to the beggar and dressed himself in the remnant.

Later, in a dream, the beggar was revealed as Jesus with the acknowledgement from our reading this morning that ‘whatever you did for one

of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me'. Within a few years his military service was exchanged for a life of service to the poor. From Matthew's Gospel in the reading this morning, we have heard Jesus' final words from his last discourse and they incisively define what it means to have faith in him. Loving service, not confession is the key, the type of sacrificial behaviour that he himself demonstrates in the chapters that follow, through his entry into Jerusalem, his trial and death. There is something of a tendency here, to allow the promise of punishment for those who fail in compassion, to overshadow this passage and concentrating on Christ's role as judge clouds the vision of his coming in glory steering us to a picture of kingship which is top down, dictatorial and mirrors some of the contemporary earthly rulers of the time.

We are drawn into a scene with the Son of Man enthroned in glory with his angels around him, and all nations gathered before him; so we certainly can't escape the element of judgement. But then the focus shifts to individuals, particularly the poorest, weakest, least respected forgotten members of society. There is something of a parallel here, with Luke's description of Jesus in his hometown preaching in the synagogue, from the book of Isaiah, speaking of healing and care of the outcast and also with John's narration of Jesus kneeling before his disciples washing their feet.

The message is clear, loving service lies at the heart of this Messiah's rule. It starts at the bottom, with those whose struggles are greatest and whose ability to give in return is smallest.

While commanding heavenly authority, Christ's Kingship bubbles up from below, from solidarity with those without power, dignity or representation – He is one with the stranger, those who are naked, hungry, sick or imprisoned. If themes of judgment are taken at face value, compassion is reduced to a general humanitarian ethic or to taking one course of action because it triggers a reward.

Those who truly believe and are obedient followers of Christ will be separated from those who pretend and those who do not believe. We will be known by our actions. But to treat all those we encounter as if they are Jesus is no easy task. What we do for others demonstrates the impact of Jesus' words to us and what we really think about them – feed the hungry, give the homeless a place to stay, look after the sick and the lonely!

Jesus used sheep and goats to picture the division between believers and unbelievers; in the Middle East sheep and goats graze together but are separated for shearing and at night because goats need to be inside. Yes, on one level it is about the final judgement, an idea we are familiar with, but most likely it is that those who have not followed Jesus the Messiah will be judged in terms of how they have treated the people whom He counts as His family

Then verses 34 to 40 of our reading, describe acts of mercy we can all do every day. They are not acts that depend on wealth, ability or intelligence, they are simple acts of kindness, freely given and freely received. There is no excuse to neglect those who have deep needs.

In St Martin, we see a life converted by an encounter with Christ. Is this something that you have experience of; has there been a time in your life when you have felt moved by God in a new way of being? Wherever we encounter grace, through the spirit or the loving kindness of God our Saviour we can be moved towards what is good.

What is also remarkable, about Martin and is the reason why he's the patron saint of soldiers is that he did not initially leave the military, he continued to serve for a few years, being then an example of holiness in the midst of his fellow soldiers, and this shows us that we can be effective in our own situations living out our faith among our colleagues

Jesus came to show us what God's kingship and God's reign is. He began his public ministry with the proclamation "the kingdom of God has come near".

Matthew places loving service as the defining criterion for discipleship at the climax of Jesus' teaching: the true kingship which he himself demonstrates in the sacrifice of the cross.

How well do your actions show that you are different to those who do not believe?

Christ's call to serve is unique to each and every one of us. He will give us the situation, the words and the ability to do what He wants us to do. He is the one who makes a difference. We are the tools to be used by Him. Amen

The Creed

**We believe in one God, 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.

Prayers of Intercession

We come boldly to the throne of grace, praying to the almighty God, Father,
Son, and Holy Spirit for mercy and grace.
We plead before your throne in heaven.

Father of heaven, whose love profound a ransom for our souls has found:
We pray for the world, created by your love, for its nations and governments.
Extend to them your peace, pardoning love, mercy and grace.
We plead before your throne in heaven.

Almighty Son, incarnate Word, our Prophet, Priest, Redeemer, Lord:
We pray for the Church, created for your glory, for its ministry to reflect
those works of yours ...
Extend to us your salvation, growth, mercy and grace.
We plead before your throne in heaven.

Eternal Spirit, by whose breath the soul is raised from sin and death:
We pray for families and individuals, created in your image, for the lonely,
the bereaved, the sick and the dying, we especially remember the families of
Gabriel Dewhurst Dorothy Purchon...
Breathe on them the breath of life and bring them to your mercy and grace.
We plead before your throne in heaven.

Thrice holy! Father, Spirit, Son, Mysterious Godhead, Three in One:
We pray for ourselves, for your Church, for all whom we remember before
you ...

Bring us all to bow before your throne in heaven, to receive life and pardon, mercy and grace for all eternity, as we worship you, saying the prayer that our Saviour taught us.

**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.**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
All And also with you.

Blessing

God the Holy Trinity make us strong in faith and love,
defend us on every side,
and guide us in truth and peace;
and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
be among us and remain with us always. **Amen**

Notices

The church is only open for private prayer on Sunday between 2.00 and 3.00pm and Thursday between 9.00 and 10.00am.

Notice from the Diocese

The Reverend Charlotte Clare Cranfield, will be licensed as Assistant Minister by the Bishop of Selby at 3pm on Sunday, 22nd November 2020 via Zoom.

Our Advent Course start this Tuesday at 7.00pm, this will be by Zoom and by telephone, please contact Margaret for further details

As many of you now will be shopping online, please remember to order your items through easyfundraising so that we can raise money for the church.

PCC secretary, Sue is standing down after being secretary for many years, please speak to Margaret if you are able to help.

Hymn Rejoice the Lord is King

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aDFAv0eh-s8>

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

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