

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE ADVENT 21 NOVEMBER 2021

ORGAN PRELUDE

The celebrant introduces the service.

HYMN 608

- 1 Christ is our corner-stone, on him alone we build; with his true saints alone the courts of heaven are filled: on his great love our hopes we place of present grace and joys above.
- O then with hymns of praise these hallowed courts shall ring; our voices we will raise the Three in One to sing; and thus proclaim in joyful song, both loud and long, that glorious name.
- 3 Here, gracious God, do thou for evermore draw nigh; accept each faithful vow, and mark each suppliant sigh; in copious shower on all who pray

each holy day thy blessings pour.

4 Here may we gain from heaven the grace which we implore; and may that grace, once given, be with us evermore, until that day when all the blest to endless rest are called away.

GREETING

In the name of the living God: Father, Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all, and also with you.

The celebrant welcomes those in attendance.

INTRODUCTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ has told us that to enter the kingdom of heaven we must be born again of water and the Spirit, and has given us baptism as the sign and seal of this new birth. Here we are washed by the Holy Spirit and made clean. Here we are clothed with Christ, dying to sin that we may live his risen life. As children of God, we have a new dignity and God calls us to fullness of life.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

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.

COLLECT

Amen.

The celebrant prays the collect set for the day.

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 bond 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.

LESSON Revelation 1:4-8

A reading from the book of Revelation:

⁴ John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶ and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen. ⁷ Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. ⁸ 'I am the Alpha and the Omega', says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 93

1 The Lord is king and has put on glorious apparel; the Lord has put on his glory and girded himself with strength.

- 2 He has made the whole world so sure that it cannot be moved.
- 3 Your throne has been established from of old; you are from everlasting.
- 4 The floods have lifted up, O Lord, the floods have lifted up their voice; the floods lift up their pounding waves.
- Mightier than the thunder of many waters, mightier than the breakers of the sea, the Lord on high is mightier.

6 Your testimonies are very sure; holiness adorns your house, O Lord, for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; As it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be forever. Amen.

GOSPEL John 18:33-37

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

³³ Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' ³⁴ Jesus answered, 'Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?' ³⁵ Pilate replied, 'I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?' ³⁶ Jesus answered, 'My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.' ³⁷ Pilate asked him, 'So you are a king?' Jesus answered, 'You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

The Revd Dr. Walter Baer

INTERCESSIONS

A member of the congregation offers prayers.

HYMN 823

1 Who would true valour see, let him come hither; one here will constant be, come wind, come weather; there's no discouragement shall make him once relent his first avowed intent to be a pilgrim.

- Whoso beset him round with dismal stories, do but themselves confound, his strength the more is. No lion can him fright: he'll with a giant fight, but he will have the right to be a pilgrim.
- 3 Hobgoblin nor foul fiend can daunt his spirit; he knows he at the end shall life inherit.
 Then, fancies, fly away; he'll not fear what men say; he'll labour night and day to be a pilgrim.

THE BAPTISM

The candidate may be presented to the congregation.

Do you wish to be baptized? **I do.**

Testimony by the candidate will follow. The president addresses the whole congregation.

Faith is the gift of God to his people.
In baptism the Lord is adding to our number those whom he is calling. People of God, will you welcome Bobur. and uphold *them* in *their* new life in Christ?

With the help of God, we will.

THE DECISION

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him. Therefore Lask:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God? **I reject them.**

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil? **I renounce them.**

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour? **I repent of them.**

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour? I turn to Christ.

Do you submit to Christ as Lord? **I submit to Christ.**

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life? I come to Christ.

SIGNING WITH THE CROSS

The president or another minister makes the sign of the cross on the forehead, saying:

Christ claims you for his own. Receive the sign of his cross.

Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

Fight valiantly as a disciple of Christ against sin, the world and the devil, and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life. May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness, restore in you the image of his glory, and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ. Amen.

PRAYER OVER THE WATER

The ministers and candidates gather at the baptismal font. The president stands before the water of baptism and says:

Praise God who made heaven and earth, who keeps his promise for ever.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. Itis right to give thanks and praise.

We thank you, almighty God, for the gift of water to sustain, refresh and cleanse all life. Over water the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through water you led the children of Israel from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the Promised Land. In water your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us from the death of sin to newness of life. We thank you, Father, for the water of baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore, in joyful obedience to your Son, we baptize into his fellowship those who come to him in faith. Now sanctify this water that, by the power of your Holy Spirit, they may be cleansed from sin and born again. Renewed in your image, may they walk by the light of faith and continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Lord; to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be all honour and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

The president addresses the congregation.

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess together with Bobur the faith of the Church. Do you believe and trust in God the Father? I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.

BAPTISM

Bobur, is this your faith? **This is my faith.**

The president or another minister dips the candidate in water, or pours water on them, saying:

Bobur, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The president says:

May God, who has received you by baptism into his Church, pour upon you the riches of his grace, that within the company of Christ's pilgrim people you may daily be renewed by his anointing Spirit, and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory. **Amen.**

THE WELCOME AND PEACE

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism: Bobur, by one Spirit we are all baptized into one body.

We welcome you into the fellowship of faith; we are children of the same heavenly Father; we welcome you.

We are all one in Christ Jesus. We belong to him through faith, heirs of the promise of the Spirit of peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you, and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All exchange an appropriate sign of peace.

HYMN 641 (tune i)

I Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God; he whose word cannot be broken formed thee for his own abode. On the Rock of ages founded, what can shake thy sure repose? With salvation's walls surrounded, thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

- See, the streams of living waters, springing from eternal love, well supply thy sons and daughters, and all fear of want remove. Who can faint while such a river ever flows their thirst to assuage: grace which, like the Lord the giver, never fails from age to age?
- Round each habitation hovering, see the cloud and fire appear for a glory and a covering, showing that the Lord is near.
 Thus they march, the pillar leading, light by night and shade by day; daily on the manna feeding which he gives them when they pray.
- 4 Saviour, if of Zion's city
 I through grace a member am,
 let the world deride or pity,
 I will glory in thy name.
 Fading is the worldling's pleasure,
 all his boasted pomp and show;
 solid joys and lasting treasure,
 none but Zion's children know.

EUCHARIST

Eucharistic Prayer E

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 thanks and praise.

Father, you made the world and love your creation. You gave your Son Jesus Christ to be our Saviour. His dying and rising have set us free from sin and death. And so we gladly thank you, with saints and angels 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.]

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 of 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:

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

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 [N 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.

LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has 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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ. Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

AGNUS DEI

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, have mercy on us.

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

INVITATION

Draw near with faith.

Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you.

Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Amen.

The celebrant distributes communion.

MUSIC

POST-COMMUNION PRAYERS

Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may by you be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out
in the power of your Spirit
to live and work
to your praise and glory.
Amen.

NOTICES

BLESSING

The celebrant gives a suitable blessing:

...and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

COMMISSION

A minister may say to the newly baptized:

Those who are baptized are called to worship and serve God. Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

With the help of God, I will.

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord? With the help of God, I will.

Will you proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ?

With the help of God, I will.

Will you seek and serve Christ in all people, loving your neighbour as yourself? With the help of God, I will.

Will you acknowledge Christ's authority over human society, by prayer for the world and its leaders, by defending the weak, and by seeking peace and justice? With the help of God, I will.

May Christ dwell in your heart(s) through faith, that you may be rooted and grounded in love and bring forth the fruit of the Spirit.

Amen.

The president or another person may give the newly baptized a lighted candle. When the newly baptized has received a candle, the president says:

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness and has given us a place with the saints in light. You have received the light of Christ; walk in this light all the days of your life. Shine as a light in the world to the glory of God the Father.

HYMN 631 (tune I)

- 1 Fight the good fight with all thy might; Christ is thy strength, and Christ thy right; lay hold on life, and it shall be thy joy and crown eternally.
- 2 Run the straight race through God's good grace, lift up thine eyes, and seek his face; life with its way before us lies; Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.

- 3 Cast care aside, lean on thy guide; his boundless mercy will provide; trust, and thy trusting soul shall prove Christ is its life, and Christ its love.
- 4 Faint not nor fear, his arms are near; he changeth not, and thou art dear; only believe, and thou shalt see that Christ is all in all to thee.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. In the name of Christ. Amen.

ORGAN POSTLUDE

NOTICE OF COPYRIGHT

This liturgy is taken from The Archbishop's Council 2000, *Common Worship* (London: Church House Publishing, 2000). The hymns are taken from *Ancient & Modern* (Norwich: Canterbury Press, 2013). Scripture reference, unless otherwise noted, are from the NRSV translation of *The Holy Bible*.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Currently we are not taking a collection during any of the services in the church building, because of Covid-19 restrictions. We ask those of you who would otherwise make your donations to Christ Church to consider setting up regular standing orders or some other electronic means of contributing. More information is available on our website.

Your contributions make a difference, and we are thankful for them.