

Reflection on Christ the King

Last week I was asked to read aloud a class's reading book. It was quite a challenge to pick it up from the middle of a chapter: I didn't recognize any of the characters, so it was difficult to add any expression to my voice without much idea of what was going on. The passage included a traumatic event where it appeared that one of the characters had died. I will confess that, once the children started work, I quickly read the end of the book to find out the person's fate!

This week sees the ending of our lectionary readings for this year. We have travelled through the wild landscapes of prophetic visions; through angelic praise; through miraculous healings and the depths of betrayal; through despair and resurrection.

I wonder what you remember. Was there anything which struck you anew? What surprised or shocked you as we journeyed through Matthew's Gospel together?

Just like my reading of that class story, we also need reassurance about how the story ends. The answer is with Christ the King. We are assured that, in the end, all things will come under Christ's authority and that all will be well. How might understanding this impact our lives?

Revd Sarah



Codes for the Zoom worship at 5pm.

Meeting ID: 817 4532 4542
Passcode: 574847
Telephone numbers: 0203 481 5237,
0203 481 5240, 0131 460 1196

NEXT SUNDAY 28.11.2021 1st Sunday of Advent Yr C

SERVICES: 10.30am in Church. 5pm Zoom

READINGS: OT Jeremiah 33: 14-16
NT 1 Thessalonians 3: 9-13
GOSPEL Luke 21: 25-36



CONTACT US

Fr David Nixon 01392 667192. Day off: Mondays
rev.dave@virgin.net

Revd Sarah Cumming Curate 07543604115
rev.sarahcumming@gmail.com

Revd Alison Whiting Associate Priest
rev.alisonwhiting@gmail.com

Phil Baker, Reader 07970 216740
lionelbaker@outlook.com

Revd Terry Litherland 07594633195
tlitherland36@gmail.com

Ian Totterdell Church Warden 01392 848674
07961621001 ian.totterdell@cantab.net

Email: parishoffice@stthomaschurchexeter.co.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/sttexeter

Website: www.stthomaschurchexeter.co.uk

Twitter: @sttexeter

Office Tel: 01392 437486 Messages at any time.



St Thomas, Exeter

Sunday 21st November 2021

Christ the King

10.30am in Church

Next week, 28 November is the start of **Advent**, it is very nearly upon us! How are you going to prepare this year for the birth of Jesus: the Word made flesh? There will be an 'Advent Course' - see Notices here.

We are looking for volunteers **to read and prepare intercessions** for the 10.30 Sunday Eucharist, as we try to re-introduce more participation to mark the season of Advent. Please see Revd Sarah. We are also going to be saying "**The Body of Christ**" individually at communion again, but we are sticking with wafers only, and a preference for people to wear masks. I think we need to continue to be careful but hopeful, so our prayers remain with those touched by Covid in many different ways.

Please pray for the parish of **St Michael's** Heavitree as they have a new Rector licensed on 24 November, Fr Ben Rabjohns. I shall be attending in my capacity as Area Dean.

Fr David



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 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.

Amen

Daniel 7.9–10,13,14

As I watched, thrones were set in place, and an Ancient One took his throne; his clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames, and its wheels were burning fire. A stream of fire issued and flowed out from his presence. A thousand thousand served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him. The court sat in judgement, and the books were opened. As I watched in the night visions, I saw one like a human being coming with the clouds of heaven. And he came to the Ancient One and was presented before him. To him was given dominion and glory and kingship, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away, and his kingship is one that shall never be destroyed.

Revelation 1.4b–8

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, 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, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen. 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. 'I am the Alpha and the Omega', says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty

John 18.33–37

Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' Jesus answered, 'Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?' 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?' 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.' 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.'

Post Communion

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**

NOTICES

For our services in Church, **mask wearing** is still advised by the Church of England. On most Sundays you can also be seated with some social distancing if you wish.

Coffee and tea will be offered after the 10.30am Mass. It will be served in the Hall. **There are a few gaps in the rota before Christmas. Volunteers are required for after Christmas. See Judith.**

Knit and Natter November 2021 We shall be meeting every Thursday from 10.30 to midday at 19 Maple Road. Details from Jenny on 01392 498725.

House Group. Tuesdays at 7.30pm. We will be looking at themes of Advent. Zoom details from Ian Totterdell. Next **meeting on Tues 30th November**, new people very welcome!

Community Larder The Community Larder will be collecting on **Tuesdays** from 10am-12noon. The collecting point is in the Choir Vestry via the Tower door. Please continue to be generous.

During Advent there will be a weekly Evening Prayer followed by a discussion on the Readings. This will be on Zoom. Details to follow.

Young at Hearts 24th November Christmas Party 2pm

Ladies Lunch 27th November 12.30pm at The Royal Oak, Okehampton Street.

2nd December St Thomas Tots & Adults Charity Coffee Morning. 9.30-11am.

Mary would like to say a terrific thank you to all who sent messages and cards during her recent mishap. Hopefully on the mend!!

