

Your Word of the Week

19th November 2023, 2nd Sunday Before Advent



Christ Church
Wheelock

St Michaels
Crewe Green



St Matthews
Haslington

9.30 am	St Matthew's	Holy Communion	Rev John Varty
10.45 am	Christ Church	Morning Worship	Carleton
11.00 am	St Michael & All Angels	Morning Worship	Linda
3.30 pm	St Matthew's	Memorial Thanksgiving Service.	Vicar Jane

The Gospel Reading Matthew 25:14-30

¹⁴ For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵ to one he gave five talents,^[a] to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶ The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. ¹⁷ In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸ But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. ¹⁹ After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰ Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, "Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents." ²¹ His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." ²² And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, "Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents." ²³ His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." ²⁴ Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, "Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; ²⁵ so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours." ²⁶ But his master replied, "You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? ²⁷ Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸ So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. ²⁹ For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. ³⁰ As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

Epistle Reading, 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

⁵ Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters,^[a] you do not need to have anything written to you. ² For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³ When they say, 'There is peace and security', then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! ⁴ But you, beloved,^[b] are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; ⁵ for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. ⁶ So then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; ⁷ for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. ⁸ But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹ For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰ who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. ¹¹ Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Collect, prayers, and Old Testament Reading

Collect for 2nd Sunday before Advent

Heavenly Lord,
you long for the world's
salvation:
stir us from apathy,
restrain us from excess
and revive in us new hope
that all creation will one day be
healed
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

We remember the sick in our prayers:

David Looker, Melodi Kahya, John Lewis, Stephen Jones, Colin Evans, Helen Birch, Margaret Cooper, Kathleen Burgess, Alan Burgess, Alan Wheeler, Ray Thorley, Margaret Lindop, Gwen Bickerton, John Finnemore, Barbara Harvey, Winnie Rutter, Bob Holland, Rev Canon Bill Baker, Keith and Barbara Whittle, Marjorie Crook, Janet Fallon, Anna Betts, Kathleen Knox, Martin Harper, Charles Howard-Smith, Freda Claridge, Linda Jones, Robert Leech, Alma Garner, William Carlson, Gill Golding, Joanne Wall, Lisa Lalor, Graham Timmis, Kim Pearce, David Hurst, Jamie Hurst, Pauline Fletcher, Samantha Hart, Trevor Thompson, Colin Booth, Norma Hill, Susan, Steven Parsons, Gerald Leach, Ruth Bloor, and Helen Pearce.

We thank God for the lives of all who have died and for the rest in Christ they now enjoy:

Jeff Budden, Ellis Jones, Beryl Leech and Sylvia Wright, Frank Rutherford, Robert Barber.

We remember and pray for all families whose loved ones have died.

Zephania 1:7, 12-end

⁷Be silent before the Lord GOD!

For the day of the LORD is at hand;
the LORD has prepared a sacrifice,
he has consecrated his guests.

¹²At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
and I will punish the people
who rest complacently^[a] on their dregs,
those who say in their hearts,

'The LORD will not do good,
nor will he do harm.'

¹³Their wealth shall be plundered,
and their houses laid waste.

Though they build houses,
they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards,
they shall not drink wine from them.

¹⁴The great day of the LORD is near,
near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter,
the warrior cries aloud there.

¹⁵That day will be a day of wrath,
a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness,
¹⁶ a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

¹⁷I will bring such distress upon people
that they shall walk like the blind;
because they have sinned against the LORD,
their blood shall be poured out like dust,
and their flesh like dung.

¹⁸Neither their silver nor their gold
will be able to save them
on the day of the LORD's wrath;
in the fire of his passion
the whole earth shall be consumed;
for a full, a terrible end
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

DIARY

9.30am Morning Worship for all St Matthew's church family in church and Facebook Live stream.

10.45am Morning Worship for all Christ Church's family in church and Facebook Live stream.

11.00am Morning Worship for all St Michael's church family.

4.30pm [Fourth Sunday] Evening Prayer from Book of Common Prayer at Christ Church and Facebook Live stream.

10.30am (Fifth Sunday) Joint Benefice service, rotating around our 3 churches.

Wednesday 10.45 am Holy Communion, (Book of Common Prayer), in St Matthew's church.

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