

“Within these walls let no-one be a stranger”

November 15th 2020

Prelude: Cantilene, William Faulkes

Call to Worship and Approach to God

To you I lift up my eyes,
O you who are enthroned in the heavens!
**As the eyes of servants
look to the hand of their master,**
as the eyes of a maid
to the hand of her mistress,
**so our eyes look to the LORD our God,
until he has mercy upon us.** *Psalm 123:1-2*

❖ Hymn 152:

1 Praise the Lord, his glories show, Alleluia!	2. Earth to heaven, and heaven to earth, Alleluia!
Saints within his courts below; Alleluia!	Tell his wonders, sing his worth, Alleluia!
Angels round his throne above, Alleluia!	Age to age and shore to shore, Alleluia!
All that see and share his love, Alleluia!	Praise him, praise him evermore! Alleluia!

3 Strings and voices, hands and hearts,
Alleluia!
In the concert play your parts;
Alleluia!
All that breathe, your LORD adore!
Alleluia!
Praise him, praise him evermore!
Alleluia!

❖ Prayers of approach (ending with the Lord’s prayer)

Our Father, which 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the Kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

The Word of God

❖ Children’s address

❖ **Holy Scripture:** 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; ¹⁵to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. ¹⁷In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. ¹⁹After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰Then 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.’ ²¹His 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.’ ²²And 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.’ ²³His 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.’ ²⁴Then 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; ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ ²⁶But 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?’ ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. ²⁹For 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. ³⁰As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

❖ **Music:** *Come, Ye Blessed* John Prandle Scott
Margaret Richards, mezzo-soprano

❖ **Sermon** *Followed by pause for reflection*

Response to God’s Word

❖ **Hymn 497** (v.1,4,5,6):

1 Almighty Father of all things that be, our life, our work, we consecrate to thee, whose heavens declare thy glory from above, whose earth below is witness to thy love.	2 Thou dost the strength to worker’s arm impart; from thee the skilled musician’s mystic art, the grace of poet’s pen or painter’s hand; to teach the loveliness of sea and land.
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3 Then grant us, Lord, in all things thee
to dwell within the shadow of thy throne,
to speak and work, to think, and live,
and move,
reflecting thine own nature which is love.

4 That so, by Christ redeemed from sin and
shame,
and hallowed by they Spirit's cleansing flame,
ourselves, our work, and all our powers may
be
a sacrifice acceptable to thee.

❖ **Prayers of Intercession**

❖ **Music:** *I Will Magnify Thee*, G.F. Handel
Giles Francis, violin

❖ **Prayer of dedication**

Gracious God,
you enrich our lives with gifts and blessings.
**We offer back to you
the talents, abilities and energies
you have given us,
that they might be used in your service.. Amen**

❖ **Hymn 468:**

1. Son of God, eternal Savior,
Source of life and truth and grace,
Son of Man, whose birth incarnate
Hallows all our human race,
Great High Priest who, throned in glory,
For your own will ever plead,
Fill us with Thy love and pity;
Heal our wrongs, and help our need.
2. Lord, as you have lived for others,
so may we for others live;
freely have your gifts been granted,
freely may your servants give.
Yours the gold and yours the silver,
yours the wealth of sea and land,
we but stewards of your bounty
held in trust at your command.
- 3 Come, Lord Jesus, reign among us,
King of Love, and Prince of Peace;
hush the storm of strife and passion,
bid its cruel discords cease.
Yours the prayer, and yours the purpose,
that your people should be one;
grant from heaven our hope's fruition:
here on earth your will be done.

❖ **Sending out with blessing** (*followed by sung Amen*)

Postlude: *Concerto II, 1st movement*, J.S. Bach

Holy Scripture is read this morning by Margaret Richards; prayers of intercession are led by Heleen Koning.

A very warm WELCOME to all!

This week's activities:

- **Sunday, 21.00 hrs:**
Short evening prayers, **Compline:** *join at*
<https://zoom.us/j/91386497205?pwd=YUN5dnRLOWlybHDSV250aHdJcnhiQT09>
Password: 243960.
- **Monday, 14.00-16.00 hrs:**
Knitting Christmas angels at the church. *Contact* gillian.walker.ams@icloud.com
- **Tuesday, 08.45 hrs:**
Psalm Reciting (this week – Psalms 1-9). Please note this is not currently being held at the church, but you are welcome to recite these psalms from home either at 8.45 on Tuesday morning or some other time.
- **Thursday, 21.00 hrs:** Short evening prayers, **Compline:** *join at*
<https://zoom.us/j/91386497205?pwd=YUN5dnRLOWlybHDSV250aHdJcnhiQT09>
- **Prayer:** anyone in special need of prayer for themselves or for someone else, please contact Margaret Richards on margaretanne_richards@hotmail.com.

ALSO:

Pastor Lance is planning soon to run again his 'Walk Through the Bible', a four session course for those considering Church Membership, baptism, confirmation, or who just want a refresher course in the Christian faith or a better understanding of the Bible. Contact him (see below) if you are interested.

Church Contacts (See profiles of our elders in the church entrance)

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Don't forget to connect with the church online for all the latest news and information:



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Our congregation relies on support through the gifts of time, talent and finance. We aim to be financially self-supporting and generous.

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