



St George's Anglican Church | Malvern

ALL SAINTS DAY

1 November 2015

Sentence A great multitude, from every nation and tribe and people and language, cried with a loud voice, saying, 'Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!'

Revelation 7.10

Collect

Lord of heaven's reach, of earth reborn;
you call us from starless graves to sing under infinite skies:
we praise your name for those who have walked this way
unheralded and unnumbered but known to you,
their beginning, their end, their joy in life;
give us the same grace to be unbound
and take the step of faith; through Jesus Christ, the alpha and omega.

Amen.

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah

This is a description of a banquet to be held by God's anointed one, the messiah, and is a common image in early Jewish and Christian writings. The image is one in which death itself is swallowed up, in contrast to death's power to swallow life. In this image, hope and trust in God will be vindicated and God's abundant love will be experienced in its fullness when all tears are wiped away.

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-matured wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-matured wines strained
clear.

And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the sheet that is spread over all nations;
he will swallow up death for ever.

Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all
the earth,

for the LORD has spoken.

It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for
him, so that he might save us.

This is the LORD for whom we have waited;

let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation .

Isaiah

25. 6-9

Reader For the word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God

Psalm 24 APBA page 244 at 10am Choir Only

This psalm is of a liturgical type, not an expression of personal piety like many of the psalms. It was probably used to accompany a procession of the ark to the temple. Two choirs sing antiphonally. One asks, 'Who is worthy to ascend the hill of the Lord?' The other replies, 'Those who truly seek God.'

Reading from the book of Revelation

This image is of the renewal of creation, freed from imperfection and transformed by God. Notice how it echoes Isaiah's imagery of the completion of creation. It is an image of God living among us, at home with us since God dwells within the humanity we share with Jesus Christ. Originally written for persecuted Christians the images in this passage bring comfort and hope today.

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,
'See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them;

he will wipe every tear from their eyes.
Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away.'

And the one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new.' Also he said, 'Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.' Then he said to me, 'It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.' *Revelation 21.1*

-6a

Reader May your word live in us.
ALL And bear much fruit to your glory.

Gospel Acclamation

ALL Alleluia! Alleluia!

Cantor The dead man Lazarus came out and Jesus said,
'Unbind him and let him go.'

ALL Alleluia!

Reader The Lord be with you

ALL And also with you

Reader A reading from the holy Gospel according to St John

ALL Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

The raising of Lazarus is the last sign of the seven signs in John's gospel that demonstrate Jesus' power to act as God acts. Here Jesus raises a dead man, his friend for whom he weeps, and God's glorious power over death is made known. Ironically, it is this revelation of Jesus as giver of life that causes his enemies to plot his death with strategic vengeance.

When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to him, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, 'See how he

loved him!' But some of them said, 'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?'

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, 'Take away the stone.' Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, 'Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead for four days.' Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upwards and said, 'Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.' When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, and let him go.'

John 11.32-44

Reader For the Gospel of the Lord
ALL Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Bible Readings next week **8 November 2015**
1 Kings 17.8-16 Psalm 146 Hebrews 9.23-28 Mark 12.38-44

Prayer for the Week God our Father, whose will it is to bring all things to order and unity in our Lord Jesus Christ: may all the peoples of the world, now divided and torn apart by sin, be brought together under his sovereign rule of love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Pray for the Faithful Departed
We remember before God: Paul Grainger-Smith, Hugh Were, Iris Ingham, Daphne Howard, Frederick Moss, Robert Loyer, *priest*, Mavis Jane Cook, Megan Proctor, Isabel Gray *whose anniversaries occur this week.*

Commemorations of the week

November 1 All Saints. We live in communion not only with Christians living now, but in mystical communion with a vast array of the saints of the past, who are an inspiration to us. This is the “communion of saints” of our Creed and our daily prayer. **November 2 All Souls.** This is the counterpart to All Saints Day. John says “What has come into being in the Word was life, and the life was the life of all people”. This has implications for our attitude to members of other religions and people of no religious faith. **November 3 Richard Hooker (1554-1600)** Anglican theologian. In 1594 he published his great work, “The Laws of Ecclesiastical Polity, which has given Anglicanism its emphasis and direction.

ORDINATION TO PRIESTHOOD & FIRST PRESIDING

The Revd Jacqui Smith

Saturday 28th November 10.30am St Paul’s Cathedral and **Sunday 29th November 10am.** At St George’s. Put these dates in your diary now.

THE REVD JOHN STEWART

has been invited by Bishop Kay of Gippsland to become the **Acting Dean of Sale Cathedral** for the seasons of Advent and Christmas. Fr John was previously Dean of Bendigo. John will spend part of each week in Sale and offer the Bishop and Cathedral a time of discernment as they look for a new Dean in 2016. We will miss John but we bless him to go for a time, we will pray for him and the Cathedral’s ministry and look forward to his return.

