



**St John's  
Malone**



**The Second Sunday before**

**Advent. Sunday 12th**

**November 2023 at 10.30am**



**The Order for THE EUCHARIST OR HOLY COMMUNION 2  
Pg.201 BCP 2004 with an Act of Remembrance**

**The Gathering of God's People**

*HYMN 10 All my hope on God is founded*

**THE GREETING**

**The Lord be with you** And also with you.

**Welcome by the Rector.** *A sentence of scripture may be read (see pages 78-82),  
and the presiding minister may introduce the liturgy of the day.*

**THE COLLECT FOR PURITY**

**Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden;  
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**PENITENCE**

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says:

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart  
and with all your soul and with all your mind.

This is the first and great commandment.

And the second is like it.

You shall love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments depend all  
the law and the prophets. *Matthew 22:37-39*

**Lord, have mercy on us,  
and write these your laws in our hearts.**

*The Confession is introduced with appropriate words, such as:* God so loved the world that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ, to save us from our sins, to intercede for us in heaven, and to bring us to eternal life.

*Silence*

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned in thought and word and deed,  
and in what we have left undone.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us,  
that we may walk in newness of life  
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

*The priest pronounces the Absolution:*

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy on you,  
+pardon and deliver you from all your sins,  
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,  
and keep you in eternal life,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**GLORIA IN EXCELSIS**

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to God's 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.**

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*The presiding minister introduces the Collect, allowing a short space for silence, and the people respond to the Collect with their Amen.*

Almighty Father,  
whose will is to restore all things  
in your beloved Son, the king of all:  
Govern the hearts and minds of those in authority,  
and bring the families of the nations,  
divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin,  
to be subject to his just and gentle rule;  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## Proclaiming and Receiving the Word

### THE FIRST READING

Joshua 24: 1-3a, 14-25

24Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. 2And Joshua said to all the people, ‘Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. 3Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many. I gave him Isaac;

14 ‘Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. 15Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.’

16 Then the people answered, ‘Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; 17for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; 18and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God.’

19 But Joshua said to the people, ‘You cannot serve the Lord, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. 20If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and

consume you, after having done you good.’ 21 And the people said to Joshua, ‘No, we will serve the Lord!’ 22 Then Joshua said to the people, ‘You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the Lord, to serve him.’ And they said, ‘We are witnesses.’ 23 He said, ‘Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel.’ 24 The people said to Joshua, ‘The Lord our God we will serve, and him we will obey.’ 25 So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

*At the end the reader may say*

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 46**

1 God is our | refuge • and | strength, ||  
a very | present | help in | trouble;

2 Therefore we will not fear, though the | earth be | moved, || and  
though the mountains | tremble • in the | heart • of the | sea;

† 3 Though the waters | rage and | swell, ||  
and though the mountains | quake • at the | towering | seas.

4 There is a river whose streams make glad the | city • of | God, || the  
holy place of the | dwelling • of the | Most | High.

5 God is in the midst of her;  
therefore shall she | not • be re|moved; ||  
God shall | help her • at the | break of | day.

6 The nations are in uproar and the | kingdoms • are | shaken, ||  
but God utters his voice and the | earth shall | melt a|way.

7 *The Lord of | hosts is | with us; ||  
the God of | Jacob | is our | stronghold.*

8 Come and behold the | works • of the | Lord, ||  
what destruction he has | wrought up|on the | earth.

9 He makes wars to cease in | all the | world; ||  
he shatters the bow and snaps the spear  
and burns the | chari•ots | in the | fire.

10 ‘Be still, and know that | I am | God; ||  
I will be exalted among the nations;  
I will be ex|alted | in the | earth.’

11 *The Lord of | hosts is | with us; ||  
the God of | Jacob | is our | stronghold.*

Glory to the Father and | to the | Son ||  
and | to the | Holy | Spirit;  
as it was in the be|ginning, is | now ||  
and shall be for | ever. | A|men.

## THE SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18

13 But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died,\* so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. 14For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. 15For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. 16For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord for ever. 18Therefore encourage one another with these words.

*At the end the reader may say*

This is the Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## THE GRADUAL

*A canticle, psalm, hymn, anthem or acclamation may be sung.*

*HYMN 503 Make me a channel of your peace*

## THE GOSPEL READING

Hear the Gospel of our Saviour Christ, according to Matthew chapter 25 beginning at verse 1

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Matthew 25: 1-13

25'Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids\* took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. 2Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. 3When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; 4but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. 5As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. 6But at midnight there was a shout, "Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him." 7Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. 8The foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out." 9But the wise replied, "No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves." 10And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. 11Later the other

bridesmaids came also, saying, "Lord, lord, open to us." 12But he replied, "Truly I tell you, I do not know you." 13Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**THE SERMON**



**Act of Remembrance:**

*Minister:* Let us remember before God, and commend to his sure keeping, those who have died for their country in war; those whom we knew, and whose memory we treasure; and all who have lived and died in the service of humankind.

*The Wreath of poppies is laid at the parish's war memorial.*

**Binyon's Ode:**

They shall not grow old as we that are left grow old:  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning  
We will remember them.

**We will remember them.**

*Last Post may be sounded*

**The Silence**

*Reveille may be sounded*

The National Anthem

**Kohima Epitaph**

When You Go Home, Tell Them Of Us And Say,  
For Your Tomorrow, We Gave Our Today.

*The minister says*

Almighty and eternal God, from whose love in Christ we cannot be parted, either by death or life:  
hear our prayers and thanksgivings  
for all whom we remember this day;

fulfil in them the purpose of your love;  
and bring us all, with them,  
to your eternal joy;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **Act of Commitment**

Let us commit ourselves to responsible living and faithful service: Will you strive for all that makes for peace?

**We will.**

Will you seek to heal the wounds of war?

**We will.**

Will you work for a just future for all humanity?

**We will.**

Merciful God, we offer to you  
the fears in us that have not yet been cast out by love:  
may we accept the hope you have placed in the hearts of all people, and  
live lives of justice, courage and mercy;  
through Jesus Christ our risen redeemer. **Amen.**



### **The Prayers of the People**

V. Lord, in your mercy:

**R. hear our prayer.** *Or another versicle or response is used.*

*At the end of the Intercessions the following may be used when appropriate:*

Merciful Father, **accept these our prayers**

**for the sake of your Son,**

**our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.** *or other suitable words*

### **THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS**

**We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord,  
trusting in our own righteousness**

**but in your manifold and great mercies.**

**We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table.**

**But you are the same Lord,**

**whose nature is always to have mercy.**

**Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord,**

**so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ,**

**and to drink his blood,**

**that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body,  
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,  
and that we may evermore dwell in him and he in us. Amen.] THE PEACE**

*The presiding minister introduces the Peace with suitable words:*

*followed by:*

We are fellow-citizens with the saints and of the household of God, through Christ our Lord, who came and preached peace to those who were far off and those who were near. *Ephesians 2: 19,17*

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



**OFFERTORY HYMN 529 Thy hand, O God, has  
guided**

**Celebrating at the Lord's Table**

#### **AT THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE**

*The bread and wine shall be placed on the table for the communion if this has  
not already been done and a prayer may be said*

*Prayer of Preparation*

#### **THE TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE**

*Stand*

*The bishop or priest who presides takes the bread and wine and may say*

Christ our passover has been sacrificed for us  
**therefore let us celebrate the feast.**

#### **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

##### **Prayer 1**

The Lord is here.

**His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Father, almighty and everliving God,  
at all times and in all places



it is right to give you thanks and praise:

And so with all your people,  
with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven,  
we proclaim your great and glorious name,  
for ever 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!**

Blessed are you, Father,  
the creator and sustainer of all things;  
you made us in your own image,  
male and female you created us;  
even when we turned away from you,  
you never ceased to care for us,  
but in your love and mercy you freed us from the slavery of sin,  
giving your only begotten Son to become man  
and suffer death on the cross to redeem us;  
he made there the one complete and all-sufficient sacrifice  
for the sins of the whole world:  
he instituted,  
and in his holy Gospel commanded us to continue,  
a perpetual memory of his precious death  
until he comes again:

On the night that he was betrayed he took bread;  
and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it,  
and gave it to his disciples, saying, Take, eat,  
this is my body which is given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup;  
and when he had given thanks to you,  
he gave it to them, saying, Drink this, all of you,  
for 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.

Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup  
we do as Christ your Son commanded:

**we remember his passion and death,  
we celebrate his resurrection and ascension,  
and we look for the coming of his kingdom.**  
Accept through him, our great high priest,  
this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving;  
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts,  
grant by the power of the life-giving Spirit  
that we may be made one in your holy Church  
and partakers of the body and blood of your Son,  
that he may dwell in us and we in him:

Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord,  
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
**all honour and glory are yours, Almighty Father,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

*Continue on page 218 at THE LORD'S PRAYER*

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

*The presiding minister says*

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say

**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.**

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*The presiding minister (who may be assisted by the deacon) breaks the  
consecrated bread in preparation for the Communion*

The bread which we break  
is a sharing in the body of Christ.

**We being many are one body,  
for we all share in the one bread.**

***The following anthem Agnus Dei may be said or sung after the Breaking of the Bread or during the Communion***

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.

Jesus, Redeemer of the world, grant us peace.

**Words of Invitation** *Draw near...*

The body of Christ keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The blood of Christ which keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

**Choir:** Communion Motet: 'For the Fallen'. Music: Archer

**THE COMMUNION FOR THOSE WHO WILL NOT BE RECEIVING THE  
SACRAMENT AT THIS TIME THE FOLLOWING MAY BE SAID PRIVATELY**

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits you have given me, for all the pains and insults you have borne for me. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I ask you to come spiritually into my heart. O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may I know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day. Amen. ~*after the Prayer of St Richard of Chichester*

**THE GREAT SILENCE**

**HYMN 537 O God Our Help**

**Going Out as God's People**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

God of peace,  
whose Son Jesus Christ proclaimed the kingdom  
and restored the broken to wholeness of life:  
Look with compassion on the anguish of the world,  
and by your healing power  
make whole both people and nations;  
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

*All say*

**Almighty God,**

**we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of 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.**

*The presiding minister gives the seasonal blessing,*

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

Go in Peace to love and serve the Lord  
**In the name of Christ, Amen.**

**Organ Voluntary: *In memoriam from 'For the fallen'* Music: Elgar**

**Office Setting: Archer / Lloyd Webber**

+++

**Services this week**

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> Zoom Compline at 7:30pm.** Passcodes for Zoom are emailed in the latest Update to parishioners.

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Eucharist** with prayer for those in need will take place in the Side Chapel. The prayer list is in the Side chapel.

*A cup of tea/coffee is now available after this service.*

**Next Sunday: Second Sunday before Advent 19.11.22**

**9.00 a.m. Eucharist in the Side Chapel**

**10.30 a.m. Family Eucharist**



**Notices:**

- Welcome to all our visitors whether you're joining us in the building or online. If you need assistance with anything, please ask one of the Churchwardens.
- **Parochial Notices should be sent to the parish office email by Tuesday 10am for inclusion on the next Sunday's Pewsheet. [secstjohns@btconnect.com](mailto:secstjohns@btconnect.com)**
- Under GDPR guidance we need to tell you that we will be recording the service and/or livestreaming today. The cameras will point towards the nave altar and pulpit and only on occasion, towards the entrance doors. Those

coming to and from the side areas and exiting will be in the camera view for a short time.

- Welcome if you are disabled, unwell, have experiences of cognitive or mental health issues. There is a hearing loop installed in the church for those who need it. Step-free access to church is available through the north porch door and to the halls via the Seaver Hall main door.
- Welcome to babies, children and young people. We understand that young children make noise. If your baby becomes upset during the service, you are welcome to go to the back of the church if you need to settle – or to Sunday School in the halls where there is lots of space. Our toilets have baby change facilities.
- Welcome to all experiences of race, colour or language. At the Lord's Prayer all are invited to bring the gift of your first language to our worship. You are also welcome if you are LGBTQIA+
- Welcome if you are unsure about faith, Welcome if you are exploring, Welcome if you are here for someone else. We run study courses through the year. These are notified here, in the parish magazine or on Facebook or on our parish website.
- If you need to reach out to our Safeguarding team please contact Stephen, Patricia or Tony [malone@connor.anglican.org](mailto:malone@connor.anglican.org) (Rector's email) or see the info posters in the halls.
- We are collecting for South Belfast Food Bank again. Please leave your contributions in the vestibule on the way in.
- Prayers for the sick and all those in need are offered on Thursday morning at the Eucharist. You can send names for the list to the Rector via his email or add the name(s) on the list in the side chapel.
- If you're new to the parish please ask the Churchwardens or a member of the clergy about the following: GDPR, Free Will Offering Scheme, Gift Aid Magazine, organisations or wanting to know more about life at St John's. We'd be delighted to help and to get to know you.
- Giving and Stewardship in St Johns' much of our income received is through the Free Will Offering Scheme using either envelopes or increasingly, by Standing Order. Standing order forms are available by asking the Churchwardens or contacting the Office [secstjohns@btconnect.com](mailto:secstjohns@btconnect.com). Alternatively if you wish to make a donation then the account details for St John's are also available from the Wardens. Thank you. Your donations help us maintain our buildings and support ministry and outreach here in St John's and more widely.
- Coffee/tea will follow this service and all are welcome.
- Parents & Toddlers meets in Seaver Hall Tuesday 10am-11:30am. All are welcome.

## **AUTUMN STUDY COURSE 2023**

This year's Autumn study course in the parish is entitled **'He is not far from each one of us': A Christian view of other faiths.**

The relationships between Christianity and other faith traditions are widely recognised to be of great significance, both in terms of the well-being of our own religiously diverse society, and in terms of global relationships. At a time when religious extremism is on the rise, building trust and understanding between Christianity and other faiths is a key way of putting into practice the commandment to love our neighbour. As the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, has said, "If we want to understand our friends and neighbours of different faith backgrounds, we need to listen to them and to learn from them, to be prepared to be challenged by them and to seek to work together for the common good".

The title for the course comes from Saint Paul's words in Acts 17: "He is not far from each one of us". Paul was speaking to the philosophers of Athens, emphasising that the God proclaimed in the Scriptures of Israel and revealed in Jesus Christ was not remote from any person or culture. This has tremendous importance for inter-faith dialogue, reminding us that the great world religions cannot be understood by Christians to be far from God.

This 5 week course will explore how Christians can relate to other faith traditions. In Week 1 (7th November) we will consider how the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament provide a foundation for Christians to respectfully dialogue with other faiths. Week 2 (14th November) will consider the relationship between Christianity and Judaism; Week 3 (21st November) the relationship between Christianity and Islam; Week 4 (28th November) the relationship between Christianity and Buddhism. The concluding session, Week 5 (5th December), will consider examples of how Christian, Jews, Muslims, and Buddhists can build respectful, trustful relationships, learning from one another.

The course will be on Zoom: a link to each session will be emailed. Each session will begin at 7:30pm and last for 40 minutes.

If you are interested in registering for the course, please email Revd Brian crowe [briandcrowe@aol.com](mailto:briandcrowe@aol.com).





You can either pop the items directly into the basket at Tesco Newtownbreda or donate directly to the foodbank. *Or please place in the baskets in the church entrance vestibule/porch.*

We are open for donations every Wednesday 1-3pm and every Thursday 10am-12pm.

Our warehouse is Unit 4, 23 Sunwich Street, Belfast, BT6 8HR

Any questions regarding donating please call us on 07743332489 or email us on [info@southbelfast.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:info@southbelfast.foodbank.org.uk)



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JARS OF JAM TINNED POTATOES OR SMASH NAPPIES SIZE 5 OR ABOVE ONLY TOILETRIES -  
SOAP, SHAMPOO, SHOWER GEL, TOOTHPASTE ET HOUSEHOLD CLEANING ITEMS - WASHING  
UP LIQUID, WASHING POWDER

St John's Malone



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The Parish Office can be contacted on any administrative matters, or for information about organisations connected with St John's (90667861)

e-mail: [secstjohns@btconnect.com](mailto:secstjohns@btconnect.com)

The Rector, Rev. Canon Stephen Fielding can be contacted on pastoral matters (90666644)

e-mail : [malone@connor.anglican.org](mailto:malone@connor.anglican.org)

***Please take this booklet home with you for the readings, notices and reference during the week and recycle.***