

SUNDAY 22 NOVEMBER 2020 - 12noon HOLY COMMUNION

This service will be live-streamed to the Facebook page of St John's Stratford. Please join us

WELCOME TO OUR LIVESTREAM:

St John's is closed for services. We are presenting this service, in a locked church, so that you are able to join in worship. We are following good hygiene practice and social distancing at all times.

Transmission: *If our Livestream is interrupted because the 4G signal goes down, we will aim to restore transmission as soon as possible. Please see the [new notification](#) as our team re-establish the connection.*

GATHERING MUSIC:

1. Well Jesus is the rock of my salvation:
so lead me to the rock that is higher than I.

And he is my fortress so I will not be shaken:

lead me to the rock that is higher than I.

My soul finds a rest in God alone

lead me to the rock that is higher than I.

And he is the place where my hope comes from:

lead me to the rock that is higher than I.

*Lead me to the one who is strong and sure,
Lead me to the one who gives me strength to endure.
Lead me to the one who teaches me his ways,
and lead me to the one who loves the sounds of my praise.*

Trust in the Lord every day of your life,
and lead me to the rock that is higher than I.

And into his arms you can run and hide:

lead me to the rock that is higher than I.

One thing he has spoken, two things I have heard:

lead me to the rock that is higher than I.

From his strength and his love he gives great rewards:

lead me to the rock that is higher than I.

Lead me to the one who is strong and sure.....

For my soul finds rest in God alone:

lead me to the rock that is higher than I.

And he is the place where my hope comes from:

lead me to the rock that is higher than I.

So trust in the Lord every day of your life:

lead me to the rock that is higher than I.

And into his arms you can run and hide:

lead me to the rock that is higher than I.....

PRAYER AND PRAISE

2. Far and near hear the call,
worship him, Lord of all,
families of the nations come
celebrate what God has done.

Deep and wide is the love
heaven sent from above,
God's own Son for sinners died,
rose again he is alive.

*Say it loud, say it strong,
tell the world what God has done;
say it loud, praise his name,
let the earth rejoice - for the Lord reigns.*

At his name, let praise begin
oceans roar, nature sings,
for he comes to judge the earth
in righteousness and in his truth.

3. The heavens declare the glory of God.
And all of the world will join the praise,
His wonders proclaim.

The oceans and skies lift up their voice.
And all He has made will rise to bless
the King of all Kings.
*Let us adore Him, let us adore Him.
Jesus Christ is the Lord.*

Eternity's King is coming again.
Though all of the earth will fade away
His truth will remain.

*Let us adore Him, let us adore Him.
Jesus Christ is the Lord.
Come and behold Him, bow down before Him
Jesus Christ is the Lord.*

Hallelujah. Hallelujah.
You are worthy of all praise. *(repeat x3)*

*Let us adore Him, let us adore Him.
Jesus Christ is the Lord.
Come and behold Him, bow down before Him
Jesus Christ is the Lord.*

4. O spread Your wings of mercy over me
And guard my heart with true humility
No shadow of the darkness pressing in
Only the holy overshadowing
Underneath Your wings, overshadowing

No refuge will I seek but God alone
No hiding place save only at Your throne
Only the cross, the blood to wash my sin
Only the holy overshadowing
Underneath Your wings, overshadowing

*You are my shield, and my glory
You are the lifter of my head
And though the storms may rage around me
I'll be safe within
Beneath the holy overshadowing*

No burden on my back too hard to bear
Only the easy load You bid me wear
Until these troubles pass, my heart will sing
Praise for the holy overshadowing
Underneath Your wings, overshadowing
You are my shield, and my glory.....

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Heavenly Father,
you sent your Son Jesus Christ
to make us ready to meet with you.
Send your Holy Spirit on us now, we pray,
that we may hear your word,
Share in your communion,
receive your grace,
and be renewed in your love. AMEN.

CONFESSION

Jesus,
You told us to love one another,
to love our enemies,
to bless those who persecute us;
We say sorry for the times we have
failed to follow your commands
and not lived as your followers
Forgive us and breathe your Spirit into us,
and give us courage to live as you lived. AMEN.

GOD'S WORD

READINGS – Read by Carol

Joshua 6:1-11

Now the gates of Jericho were securely barred because of the Israelites. No one went out and no one came in.

² Then the LORD said to Joshua, 'See, I have delivered Jericho into your hands, along with its king and its fighting men. ³ March round the city once with all the armed men. Do this for six days. ⁴ Make seven priests carry trumpets of rams' horns in front of the ark. On the seventh day, march round the city seven times, with the priests blowing the trumpets. ⁵ When you hear them sound a long blast on the trumpets, make the whole army give a loud shout; then the wall of the city will collapse and the army will go up, everyone straight in.'

⁶ So Joshua son of Nun called the priests and said to them, 'Take up the ark of the covenant of the LORD and make seven priests carry trumpets in front of it.' ⁷ And he ordered the army, 'Advance! March round the city, with an armed guard going ahead of the ark of the LORD.'

⁸ When Joshua had spoken to the people, the seven priests carrying the seven trumpets before the LORD went forwards, blowing their trumpets, and the ark of the LORD's covenant followed them. ⁹ The armed guard marched ahead of the priests who blew the trumpets, and the rear guard followed the ark. All this time the trumpets were sounding. ¹⁰ But Joshua had commanded the army, 'Do not give a war cry, do not raise your voices, do not say a word until the day I tell you to shout. Then shout!' ¹¹ So he had the ark of the LORD carried round the city, circling it once. Then the army returned to camp and spent the night there.

1 Thessalonians 5:17-18

¹⁷ pray continually, ¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

GOSPEL: Matthew 9:35-38 read by Robert

Reader: Hear the Holy Gospel according to Matthew
All: Glory to you O Lord

³⁵ Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and illness. ³⁶ When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷ Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. ³⁸ Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.'

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord
All: Praise to you O Christ

SERMON Robert *Prayer on the ground*

Prayer Walking is partly about claiming the ground for Jesus, but much more about being on the spot to see with Jesus' eyes and hear what he is saying to us. Why not make your daily walk a prayer walk?

PRAYERS led by Dave

5. O church arise and put your armour on;
hear the call of Christ our captain.
For now the weak can say that they are strong
in the strength that God has given.
With shield of faith and belt of truth,
We'll stand against the devil's lies;
an army bold, whose battle cry is love,
reaching out to those in darkness.

Our call to war, to love the captive soul,
but to rage against the captor;
and with the sword that makes the wounded whole,
we will fight with faith and valour.
When faced with trials on every side
we know the outcome is secure,
and Christ will have the prize for which he died,
an inheritance of nations.

Come see the cross, where love and mercy meet,
as the Son of God is stricken;
then see his foes lie crushed beneath his feet,
for the Conqueror has risen!
And as the stone is rolled away,
and Christ emerges from the grave,
this victory march continues till the day
every eye and heart shall see him.

So Spirit, come, put strength in every stride,
give grace for every hurdle,
that we may run with faith to win the prize
of a servant good and faithful.
As saints of old still line the way,
retelling triumphs of his grace,
we hear their calls and hunger for the day
when with Christ we stand in glory.

HOLY COMMUNION

THE PEACE

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 thanks and praise.

It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation;
in your love you made us for yourself.

When we turned away you did not reject us,
but came to meet us in your Son.

**You embraced us as your children
and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.**

In Christ you shared our life
that we might live in him and he in us.

**He opened his arms of love upon the cross
and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

On the night he was betrayed,
at supper with his friends
he took bread, and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to them, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:
his body is the bread of life.**

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,
he gave you thanks, and said:

Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new
covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of
sins; do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:
his blood is shed for all.**

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in
glory, send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine
may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.

**As we eat and drink these holy gifts
make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.**

With your whole Church throughout the world
we offer you this sacrifice of praise
and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours, now and for ever. AMEN.**

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.
**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

I receive this bread and wine,
on behalf of all the church family
as the body of our Lord Jesus Christ
which he gave for us,
and his blood which he shed for you.
I eat and drink in remembrance that he died for us,
Let us all feed on him in our hearts
by faith with thanksgiving

Prayer after Communion

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us
with 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.**

NOTICES and BIRTHDAYS

6. We'll walk this land, with hearts on fire,
And every step will be a prayer.
Hope is rising, new day dawning,
Sound of singing fills the air.

Two thousand years and still the flame
Is burning bright across the land.
Hearts are waiting, longing, aching,
For awakening once again.

*Let the flame burn brighter
In the heart of the darkness,
Turning night to glorious day.
Let the song grow louder
As our love grows stronger,
Let it shine, let it shine.
(Last time) Let it shine, let it shine.*

We'll walk for truth, speak out for love,
In Jesus' name we shall be strong.
To lift the fallen, to save the children,
To fill the nation with Your song.

BLESSING Robert

Praise is rising, eyes are turning to You,
we turn to You
Hope is stirring, hearts are yearning for You,
we long for You
'Cause when we see You
we find strength to face the day
In Your presence all our fears are washed away,
washed away

Hosanna, Hosanna
You are the God who saves us
Worthy of all our praises
Hosanna, Hosanna
Come have Your way among us
We welcome You here, Lord Jesus

Hear the sound of hearts returning to You,
we turn to You
In Your Kingdom broken lives are made new,
You make us new
'Cause when we see You
we find strength to face the day
In Your presence all our fears are washed away,
washed away

Hosanna, Hosanna.....

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