

The Parish Church of St Matthew  
Northampton

# All Saints' Day



## Solemn Evening Prayer

*according to  
The Book of Common Prayer  
during the Coronavirus Pandemic*

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2020

5.30 pm



## ¶ Keeping everyone safe at St Matthew's

***If you have any of the recognised Covid-related symptoms, please self-isolate immediately and seek a test.***

*For all others, and in accordance with Government guidance and local decision,  
we respectfully request and require you to:*

**Go directly to a chair where there is an order of service booklet, and remain there.** Please fill up the available chairs in the centre of the nave and transepts first. Do not move from chair to chair, or remove a booklet from another chair. (NB - some chairs in the side aisles have a restricted view).

**Please do not move the chairs**, or handle any other furniture. Soft furnishings such as church kneelers (hassocks) cannot be used.

You are required to **wear a face covering throughout** unless you belong to one of the medically exempted groups. This must cover both your mouth and your nose. (Plastic visors do not protect others).

**At communion** - you are asked to ensure that your face covering is in place until the words of administration have been spoken by the priest and you have responded by saying 'Amen'.

**After the service** - you may wish to light a candle. Please departed via the north door. A monetary offering for your booklet, candle, and towards parish funds may be made there. Please sanitise your hands as you leave.

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# Order of Service

*At the sound of the bell, **please stand.** The procession enters*

*The Officiant welcomes the congregation*

## ¶ Introduction

*Officiant* † In the name of the Father, and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Ghost.

*All*           **Amen.**

Seeing we are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.

## Invitation to Confession

Beloved, we are come together in the presence of almighty God and of the whole company of heaven to offer unto him through our Lord Jesus Christ our worship and praise and thanksgiving; to make confession of our sins; to pray, as well for others as for ourselves, that we may know more truly the greatness of God's love and shew forth in our lives the fruits of his grace; and to ask on behalf of all men such things as their well-being doth require.

Wherefore let us sit in silence, and remember God's presence with us now.

***Please be seated***

## Confession

**All**      **Almighty and most merciful Father,**  
**we have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep.**  
**We have followed too much the devices and desires**  
**of our own hearts.**  
**We have offended against thy holy laws.**  
**We have left undone those things**  
**which we ought to have done;**  
**and we have done those things**  
**which we ought not to have done;**  
**and there is no health in us.**  
**But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders.**  
**Spare thou them, O God, which confess their faults.**  
**Restore thou them that are penitent;**  
**according to thy promises declared unto mankind**  
**in Christ Jesu our Lord.**  
**And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,**  
**that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life,**  
**to the glory of thy holy name.**  
**Amen.**

## Absolution

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who desireth not the death of a sinner,  
but rather that he may turn from his wickedness and live;  
and hath given power, and commandment, to his ministers  
to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent,  
the absolution and remission of their sins:  
he pardoneth † and absolveth all them that truly repent  
and unfeignedly believe his holy gospel.  
Wherefore let us beseech him to grant us true repentance,  
and his Holy Spirit,  
that those things may please him which we do at this present;  
and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure and holy;  
so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All**      **Amen.**

**Our Father, which art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done,  
in earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive them that 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.**

## **¶ Evening Prayer**

**All**      **○ Lord, open thou our lips,  
and our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.**

**All**      **○ God, make speed to save us.  
○ Lord, make haste to help us.**

***Please stand***

**All**      **Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:  
world without end. Amen.**

**All**      **Praise ye the Lord.  
The Lord's name be praised.**

*Psalm 148*

O PRAISE the Lord of heaven :  
praise him in the height.  
Praise him, all ye angels of his :  
praise him, all his host.  
Praise him, sun and moon :  
praise him, all ye stars and light.  
Praise him, all ye heavens :  
and ye waters that are above the heavens.  
Let them praise the Name of the Lord :  
for he spake the word, and they were made;  
he commanded, and they were created.  
He hath made them fast for ever and ever :  
he hath given them a law which shall not be broken.  
Praise the Lord upon earth :  
ye dragons, and all deeps;  
Fire and hail, snow and vapours :  
wind and storm, fulfilling his word;  
Mountains and all hills :  
fruitful trees and all cedars;  
Beasts and all cattle :  
worms and feathered fowls;  
Kings of the earth and all people :  
princes and all judges of the world;  
Young men and maidens, old men and children,  
praise the Name of the Lord :  
for his Name only is excellent, and his praise above heaven and earth.  
He shall exalt the horn of his people; all his saints shall praise him :  
even the children of Israel, even the people that serveth him.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son :  
and to the Holy Ghost.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be :  
world without end. Amen.

*Psalm 150*

O PRAISE God in his holiness :  
praise him in the firmament of his power.  
Praise him in his noble acts :  
praise him according to his excellent greatness.  
Praise him in the sound of the trumpet :  
praise him upon the lute and harp.  
Praise him in the cymbals and dances :  
praise him upon the strings and pipe.  
Praise him upon the well-tuned cymbals :  
praise him upon the loud cymbals.  
Let every thing that hath breath :  
praise the Lord.

***All stand***

Glory be to the Father and to the Son :  
and to the Holy Ghost.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be :  
world without end. Amen.

## Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 65:17-25

*Reader*      A reading from the propheet of Isaiah.

For I am about to create new heavens  
and a new earth;  
the former things shall not be remembered  
or come to mind.  
But be glad and rejoice for ever  
in what I am creating;  
for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy,  
and its people as a delight.  
I will rejoice in Jerusalem,  
and delight in my people;  
no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it,  
or the cry of distress.  
No more shall there be in it  
an infant that lives but a few days,  
or an old person who does not live out a lifetime;



for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth,  
 and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed.  
 They shall build houses and inhabit them;  
 they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.  
 They shall not build and another inhabit;  
 they shall not plant and another eat;  
 for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be,  
 and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.  
 They shall not labour in vain,  
 or bear children for calamity;<sup>[a]</sup>  
 for they shall be offspring blessed by the Lord—  
 and their descendants as well.  
 Before they call I will answer,  
 while they are yet speaking I will hear.  
 The wolf and the lamb shall feed together,  
 the lion shall eat straw like the ox;  
 but the serpent—its food shall be dust!  
 They shall not hurt or destroy  
 on all my holy mountain,  
 says the Lord.

Here ends the First Reading.

## Magnificat *(The Song of Mary)*

**All stand**

**All † My soul doth magnify the Lord :**  
**and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.**  
**For he hath regarded :**  
**the lowliness of his handmaiden.**  
**For behold, from henceforth :**  
**all generations shall call me blessed.**  
**For he that is mighty hath magnified me :**  
**and holy is his Name.**  
**And his mercy is on them that fear him :**  
**throughout all generations.**  
**He hath shewed strength with his arm :**  
**he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.**  
**He hath put down the mighty from their seat :**  
**and hath exalted the humble and meek.**

**He hath filled the hungry with good things :  
and the rich he hath sent empty away.  
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel :  
as he promised to our forefathers,  
Abraham and his seed for ever.**

*Luke 1:46-55*

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son :  
and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :  
world without end. Amen.**

***All sit***

## **New Testament Reading**

Hebrews 11:32 – 12:2

*Reader* A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented— of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, without us, be made perfect.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

Here ends the Second Reading.

***All stand***

## Nunc Dimittis *(The Song of Simeon)*

**All** Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace :  
according to thy word.  
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation.  
Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;  
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles :  
and to be the glory of thy people Israel. *Luke 2:29-32*

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son :  
and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :  
world without end. Amen.**

*All face the high altar*

## The Apostles' Creed

**All** I believe in God the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth:  
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried.  
He descended into hell;  
the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Ghost;  
the holy catholic Church;  
the communion of saints;  
the forgiveness of sins;  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.

# The Lesser Litany

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.  
*All* **And with thy spirit.**

Let us pray.

*All sit*

*All* Lord, have mercy upon us.  
**Christ, have mercy upon us.**  
Lord, have mercy upon us.

*Officiant* Our Father,  
*All* **which art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done,  
in earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive them that trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil. Amen.**

*All* O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.  
**And grant us thy salvation.**

*All* O Lord, save the Queen.  
**And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.**

*All* Endue thy ministers with righteousness.  
**And make thy chosen people joyful.**

*All* O Lord, save thy people.  
**And bless thine inheritance.**

*All* Give peace in our time, O Lord.  
**Because there is none other that fighteth for us,  
but only thou, O God.**

*All* O God, make clean our hearts within us.  
**And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.**

## The Collect of the Day

*Officiant* O Almighty God,  
who hast knit together thine elect  
in one communion and fellowship,  
in the mystical body of thy Son Christ our Lord;  
grant us grace so to follow thy belled saints  
in virtuous an godly living,  
that we may come to those unspeakable joys,  
which thou hast prepared  
for them that unfeignedly love thee;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All** **Amen.**

## The Collect for Peace

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels,  
and all just works do proceed;  
give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give;  
that both, our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments,  
and also that, by thee,  
we being defended from the fear of our enemies  
may pass our time in rest and quietness;  
through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

**All** **Amen.**

## The Collect for Aid against all Perils

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord;  
and by thy great mercy defend us  
from all perils and dangers of this night;  
for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

**All** **Amen.**

## The Grace

† The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost,  
be with us all evermore.

**All**        **Amen.**

*Here ends the Office of Evening Prayer*

## The Sermon

**All sit**

## The Prayers

**All kneel or sit**

## The Blessing

**All stand**

May Christ who makes saints of sinners,  
who has transformed those we remember today,  
raise and strengthen you that you may transform the world;

and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son †, and the Holy Spirit,  
be upon you and remain with you always.

**All**        **Amen.**

*The procession departs*

Please take this booklet home with you

You are welcome to light a votive candle,  
we suggest a donation of 20p.

Please leave church via the north door.  
A monetary offering may be made there

You are most welcome to join us on the green  
at the east end of the church  
in physically distanced groups of up to six.



*A suggested donation towards the production of this booklet*