

**A very warm welcome to St Peter's Church!
Thank you for joining us this morning.**

Morning Service

with children's groups & Communion

10:30am, Sunday 7th November 2021

The Third Sunday before Advent

Let's help stop the spread of coronavirus.

Scan this QR code with your NHS COVID-19 App to check-in.



St Peter's Church, Colchester

The Vicarage, Balkeine Close, CO1 1NZ

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

“COME, PEOPLE OF THE RISEN KING”

Come, people of the risen king,
who delight to bring Him praise.
Come, all and tune your hearts to sing
to the Morning Star of grace.
From the shifting shadows of the earth
we will lift our eyes to Him,
where steady arms of mercy reach
to gather children in.

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Let every tongue rejoice!

One heart, one voice,

O Church of Christ, rejoice!

Come, those whose joy is morning sun
and those weeping through the night.
Come, those who tell of battles won,
and those struggling in the fight.
For His perfect love will never change,
and His mercies never cease,
but follow us through all our days
with the certain hope of peace.

Rejoice! Rejoice...

[SPK leave for their groups]

Come, young and old from every land,
men and women of the faith.
Come, those with full or empty hands,
find the riches of His grace.
Over all the world, His people sing,
shore to shore we hear them call
the Truth that cries through every age;
'Our God is all in all!'

Rejoice! Rejoice...

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PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Jesus says, 'Repent,
for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'
So let us turn away from our sin and turn to the Lord,
confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

May the God of love and power
forgive us and free us from our sins,
heal and strengthen us by his Spirit,
and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

"ONLY BY GRACE"

Only by grace can we enter,
only by grace can we stand;
not by our human endeavour,
but by the blood of the Lamb.
Into your presence you call us,
you call us to come.
Into your presence you draw us,
and now by your grace we come,
now by your grace we come.

*Lord, if you mark our transgressions,
who would stand?
Thanks to your grace we are cleansed
by the blood of the Lamb.*

Only by grace can we enter,
only by grace can we stand;
not by our human endeavour,
but by the blood of the Lamb.
Into your presence you call us,
you call us to come.
Into your presence you draw us,
and now by your grace we come,
now by your grace we come.

Gerrit Gustafson, © Integrity's Hosanna! Music, 1989.

BIBLE READING: 2 Timothy 3

read by Clare Reid

But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. ² For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, ³ heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, ⁴ treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, ⁵ having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people. ⁶ For among them are those who creep into households and capture weak women, burdened with sins and led astray by various passions, ⁷ always learning and never able to arrive at a knowledge of the truth. ⁸ Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so these men also oppose the truth, men corrupted in mind and disqualified regarding the faith. ⁹ But they will not get very far, for their folly will be plain to all, as was that of those two men.

¹⁰ You, however, have followed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, ¹¹ my persecutions and sufferings that happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra—which persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. ¹² Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, ¹³ while evil people and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. ¹⁴ But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it ¹⁵ and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

THE SERMON

preacher: Mark Wallace

THE NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit
and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic
and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

“WHEN TRIALS COME”

When trials come no longer fear,
for in the pain our God draws near —
to fire a faith worth more than gold,
and there His faithfulness is told;
and there His faithfulness is told.

Within the night I know Your peace,
the breath of God brings strength to me —
and new each morning mercy flows,
as treasures of the darkness grow;
as treasures of the darkness grow.

I turn to Wisdom not my own,
for every battle You have known —
my confidence will rest in You,
Your love endures Your ways are good;
Your love endures Your ways are good.

When I am weary with the cost,
I see the triumph of the cross —
so in its shadow I shall run,
till You complete the work begun;
till You complete the work begun.

One day all things will be made new,
I'll see the hope You called me to —
and in your kingdom paved with gold,
I'll praise your faithfulness of old;
I'll praise your faithfulness of old.

Keith & Kristyn Getty, (c) 2005, Thankyou Music

THE NOTICES

THE PRAYERS

led by Duncan Breckels

to finish with 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.**

“AMAZING GRACE”

Amazing grace - how sweet the sound -
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.

[SPK return from their groups]

God's grace first taught my heart to fear,
his grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come;
his grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,
his word my hope secures;
my shield and stronghold he shall be
as long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we've first begun.

John Newton (1725-1807)

THE COMFORTABLE WORDS

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened,
and I will give you rest. *Matthew 11.28*

For God so loved the world
that he gave his one and only Son,
that whoever believes in him shall not perish
but have eternal life. *John 3.16*

Here is a trustworthy saying
that deserves full acceptance:
Christ Jesus came into the world
to save sinners. *1 Timothy 1.15*

If anybody sins,
we have an advocate with the Father,
Jesus Christ the righteous;
he is the propitiation for our sins. *1 John 2.1-2*

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.**

COMMUNION PRAYERS

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we thank you that in your tender mercy
you gave your only Son Jesus Christ
to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption;
he made there a full atonement
for the sins of the whole world,
offering once for all his one sacrifice of himself.

He instituted,
and in his holy gospel commanded us to continue,
a perpetual memory of his precious death
until he comes again.

In the same night that he was betrayed,
he took bread and gave you thanks;
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 gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying,
**"Drink this, all of you;
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." Amen.**

THE ADMINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

Please wait to be ushered forwards.

*If you would prefer a prayer of blessing,
please hold this service-sheet in front of you.*

*During the administration of the communion,
please join in with the singing of these hymns...*

Immortal honours rest on Jesus' head;
my God, my portion, and my Living Bread;
in Him I live, upon Him cast my care;
He saves from death, destruction, and despair.

He is my refuge in each deep distress;
the Lord my strength and glorious righteousness;
through floods and flames He leads me safely on,
and daily makes His sovereign goodness known.

My every need He richly will supply;
nor will His mercy ever let me die;
in Him there dwells a treasure all divine,
and matchless grace has made that treasure mine.

O that my soul could love and praise Him more,
His beauties trace, His majesty adore;
live near His heart, rest in His love each day;
hear His dear voice and all His will obey.

William Gadsby (1773 - 1844)

Here is love, vast as the ocean,
loving-kindness as the flood,
when the Prince of Life, our Ransom,
shed for us his precious blood.
Who his love will not remember?
Who can cease to sing his praise?
He can never be forgotten,
throughout Heaven's eternal days.

On the Mount of Crucifixion,
fountains opened deep and wide;
through the flood-gates of God's mercy
flowed a vast and gracious tide.
Grace and love, like mighty rivers,
poured incessant from above,
and Heaven's peace and perfect justice
kissed a guilty world in love.

William Rees (1802-1883)

Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea:
a great High Priest, whose name is Love,
who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on His hands,
my name is written on His heart;
I know that while in heaven He stands
no tongue can bid me thence depart,
no tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair,
and tells me of the guilt within,
upward I look, and see Him there
who made an end to all my sin.
Because the sinless Saviour died,
my sinful soul is counted free;
for God the just is satisfied
to look on Him and pardon me,
to look on Him and pardon me.

Behold Him there, the Risen Lamb;
my perfect, spotless righteousness;
the great unchangeable I am,
the King of glory and of grace!
One with Himself I cannot die,
my soul is purchased by His blood,
my life is hid with Christ on high;
with Christ, my Saviour and my God,
with Christ, my Saviour and my God.

Vikki Cook (adapted from C.L. Bancroft), © 1997, Sovereign Grace Worship

THE 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.**

"BE THOU MY VISION"

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
naught be all else to me, save that Thou art;
thou my best thought in the day and the night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my great Father, and I thy true son;
thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Be thou my battle-shield, sword for the fight;
be thou my armour, and be thou my might;
thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower:
raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou and thou only, the first in my heart,
high king of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High king of heaven, when battle is done,
grant heaven's joys to me, bright Heaven's Sun!
heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Traditional Irish, 8th Century

THE CONCLUSION

May the peace of God,
which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge
and love of God,
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;
and may 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.
