

**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 21st November 2021**

*The Sunday Next 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

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## WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

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### “CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS”

Crown him with many crowns,  
the Lamb upon his throne;  
while Heaven's eternal anthem drowns  
all music but its own!  
Awake, my soul, and sing  
of him who died to be  
your Saviour and your matchless King  
through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of Life  
triumphant from the grave,  
who rose victorious from the strife  
for those he came to save:  
his glories now we sing  
who died and rose on high;  
he died eternal life to bring  
and lives that death may die.

Crown him the Son of God  
before the worlds began;  
and you who tread where he has trod,  
crown him the Son of Man,  
who every grief has known  
that wrings the human breast,  
and takes and bears them for his own,  
that all in him may rest.

*[SPK leave for their groups]*

Crown him the Lord of Love,  
who shows his hands and side –  
those wounds yet visible above  
in beauty glorified.  
No angel in the sky  
can fully bear that sight,  
but downward bends his burning eye  
at mysteries so bright.

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Crown him the Lord of Years,  
the Potentate of Time,  
Creator of the rolling spheres  
in majesty sublime:  
all hail, Redeemer, hail,  
for you have died for me;  
your praise shall never, never fail  
through all eternity!

*M. Bridges (1800-1894) and G. Thring (1823-1903)*

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## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**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.**

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## **BIBLE READING: 2 Timothy 3**

*read by Margaret Holden*

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

<sup>10</sup> You, however, have followed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, <sup>11</sup> 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. <sup>12</sup> Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, <sup>13</sup> while evil people and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. <sup>14</sup> But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it <sup>15</sup> 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. <sup>16</sup> All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup> that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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## **“O GREAT GOD OF HIGHEST HEAVEN”**

O great God of highest heaven,  
occupy my lowly heart;  
own it all and reign supreme,  
conquer every rebel power.  
Let no vice or sin remain  
that resists Your holy war —  
you have loved and purchased me  
make me Yours forevermore.

I was blinded by my sin,  
had no ears to hear Your voice;  
did not know Your love within,  
had no taste for heaven’s joys.  
Then Your Spirit gave me life  
opened up Your Word to me —  
through the gospel of Your Son  
gave me endless hope and peace.

Help me now to live a life  
that’s dependent on Your grace;  
keep my heart and guard my soul  
from the evils that I face.  
You are worthy to be praised  
with my every thought and deed —  
O great God of highest heaven,  
glorify Your Name through me.

*Bob Kauflin. © 2006 Sovereign Grace Praise (BMI).*

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## THE SERMON

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### 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.**

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### “PRAISE GOD FOR THOSE WHO BROUGHT US”

Praise God for those who brought us  
to know and love the Lord,  
who nurtured us and taught us  
the treasures of His Word;  
to read in Scripture's pages  
of God's eternal plan,  
fulfilled through all the ages  
in Christ, the Son of Man.

Give thanks that God has given  
His written Word of Life,  
The pilgrim's path to heaven,  
the Spirit's sword in strife.  
The eye of faith, beholding  
the way that Jesus trod,  
In Scripture finds unfolding  
the loving heart of God.

Proclaim the Gospel story,  
forgiveness for our sins,  
Exalt the Lord of Glory  
through whom new life begins.  
Our hearts be strong and steady  
to trust in Him alone,  
Alert prepared and ready  
to share the faith we own.

Rejoice in free salvation,  
through Christ who died to save,  
Who bore our condemnation,  
our guilt and cross and grave.  
Now risen and ascended,  
He makes His promise plain.  
When earthly time is ended  
the Lord will come again.

He comes when least expected  
at God's appointed hour,  
no more despised, rejected,  
but glorious in His power.  
Be ready, then, to greet Him  
according to His Word,  
prepared each day to meet Him,  
our risen, reigning Lord.

*Timothy Dudley-Smith*

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## THE NOTICES

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### THE PRAYERS

*led by Richard Lawn*

*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.**

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## “ALL MY DAYS”

All my days I will sing this song of gladness,  
give my praise to the Fountain of delights;  
for in my helplessness You heard my cry,  
and waves of mercy poured down on my life.

*[SPK return from their groups]*

I will trust in the cross of my Redeemer,  
I will sing of the blood that never fails:  
of sins forgiven, of conscience cleansed,  
of death defeated, and life without end.

*Beautiful Saviour, Wonderful Counsellor,  
clothed in majesty, Lord of history,  
You're the Way, the Truth, the Life;  
Star of the Morning, glorious in holiness,  
You're the Risen One, heaven's Champion,  
And You reign, You reign over all.*

I long to be where the praise is never-ending,  
yearn to dwell where the glory never fades;  
where countless worshippers will share one song  
and cries of 'worthy' will honour the Lamb!

*Beautiful Saviour...*

*Stuart Townend, © 1998, Thankyou Music*

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## 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*

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## 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.**

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## 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.**

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## THE ADMINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

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

**How deep the Father's love for us,  
how vast beyond all measure,  
that he should give his only Son  
to make a wretch His treasure;  
how great the pain of searing loss,  
the Father turns his face away,  
as wounds which mar the Chosen One  
bring many sons to glory.**

Behold the man upon a cross,  
my sin upon His shoulders;  
ashamed I hear my mocking voice  
call out among the scoffers.  
It was my sin that held Him there  
until it was accomplished;  
his dying breath has brought me life -  
I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything:  
no gifts, no power, no wisdom;  
but I will boast in Jesus Christ,  
his death and resurrection.  
Why should I gain from His reward?  
I cannot give an answer,  
but this I know with all my heart:  
his wounds have paid my ransom.

*Stuart Townend, © 1995, Thankyou Music*

### **O, to see the dawn of the darkest day:**

Christ on the road to Calvary.  
Tried by sinful men, torn and beaten, then  
nailed to a cross of wood.

*This, the power of the cross:  
Christ became sin for us,  
took the blame, bore the wrath:  
we stand forgiven at the cross.*

Oh, to see the pain written on Your face  
bearing the awesome weight of sin;  
every bitter thought, every evil deed  
crowning Your bloodstained brow.

*This, the power of the cross...*

Now, the daylight flees; now the ground beneath  
quakes as its Maker bows His head.  
Curtain torn in two, dead are raised to life,  
'Finished!' the victory cry.

*This, the power of the cross...*

Oh, to see my name written in the wounds,  
for through Your suffering I am free.  
Death is crushed to death, life is mine to live,  
won through Your selfless love.

*This, the power of the cross:  
Son of God, slain for us!  
What a life, what a cost:  
we stand forgiven at the cross.*

*Stuart Townend & Keith Getty, © 2005, Thankyou Music*

**My hope is built on nothing less,**  
than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame  
but wholly trust in Jesus' name.

My hope is built on nothing less,  
than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame  
but wholly trust in Jesus' name.  
*Christ alone, Cornerstone,  
weak made strong in the Saviour's love:  
through the storm, He is Lord, Lord of all.*

When Darkness seems to hide His face,  
I rest on His unchanging grace;  
in every high and stormy gale,  
my anchor holds within the veil.  
*Christ alone, Cornerstone...*

When He shall come with trumpet sound,  
O, may I then in Him be found—  
dressed in His righteousness alone,  
faultless stand before the throne.  
*Christ alone, Cornerstone...*

*Carl Gustaf et al, © 2012, Hillsong Music Publishing*

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## **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.**

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## **"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*

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## **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.**

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*Please be seated.*

*Refreshments will be brought to you in the pews.*

*Do please stay for a while.*