

This week:

Tues 9.30 Toddler Group
14.00 Bereavement Cafe
Weds 11.00 Said Eucharist
Thurs 14.00 Tea & Chat (Church Hall)

Another Tea and Cake Concert

Last February the Maeldune Consort gave a "Tea and Cake Concert" in St John's Hall. Over £600 was raised towards the Restore Project. We plan to give another Tea and Cake Concert in the Hall, on **Saturday 22 March at 3pm**. The theme is "Agony and Ecstasy", exploring expressions of love, lust and loss in the music of the 16th and 17th centuries. Music ranging from the charming, seductive and mournful to the earthy and humorous. Our instruments will be viols and recorders with soprano Susana de Oliveira and tenor Tristram Clucas. Space is limited, so **do please reserve your place(s) in advance** by emailing me at c.benson87@ntlworld.com and pay £10 at the door.

Registered charity no, 1145155
CCL Licence No. 88083
www.stjohnsoldmalden.org.uk



As Ash Wednesday is on March 5th please return your Palm Crosses in the next two weeks so that they can be burned to make the ash for the Imposition of Ashes. There is a box in the porch.



St John the Baptist, Malden 3rd Sunday before Lent

16th February 2025

WELCOME to this act of worship.
St John's is a Parish Church.
We are here to welcome everyone in the name of Christ.



COLLECT: Eternal God,
brought healing with his touch:
help whose Son went among the
crowds and us to show his love,
in your Church as we gather together;
and by our lives as they are
transformed
in the image of Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Worship for All - 9.45am Service today

IN OUR PRAYERS TODAY

We pray for those in particular need:

Josie, Corrie, Paula, Peter, Derek,
June Rose, Elsie, Janet, Lizzie, Alice,
Anne, Jean, Mike, Neia, Rita, Muriel,
Pat, Alan, Charles, Jennie, Emma,
Hilary, Joanne, Rita.

We pray for those who have died recently: Michael Howe, Faith Bowers, Martin Seddon. Mike Burns.

We pray for those whose Year's Mind occurs this week: Bob Zilles, Job Pillai, Eddie Ridout, Lawrence Collins, Gladys Vincent, Lena Hutchinson, Roy Meredith.

Today's hymns

NEH 408 Love Divine
NEH 367 Gracious Spirit
(words overleaf) Gracious God
NEH 413 Now thank we
Post Communion - please join in
Bread is blessed and broken,
Wine is blessed and poured
Take this and remember
Christ the Lord.

Today we welcome Peter Lutton
as our organist.

FIRST READING JEREMIAH 17:5-10

Thus says the LORD:

Cursed are those who trust in
mere mortals
and make mere flesh their strength,
whose hearts turn away from the LORD.
They shall be like a shrub in the desert,
and shall not see when relief comes.
They shall live in the parched places of
the wilderness,
in an uninhabited salt land.
Blessed are those who trust in the LORD,
whose trust is the LORD.
They shall be like a tree planted
by water,
sending out its roots by the stream.
It shall not fear when heat comes,
and its leaves shall stay green;
in the year of drought it is not anxious,
and it does not cease to bear fruit.
The heart is devious above all else;
it is perverse—
who can understand it?
I the LORD test the mind
and search the heart,
to give to all according to their ways,
according to the fruit of their doings.

SECOND READING 1 CORINTHIANS 15:12-20

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

OFFERTORY HYMN

Gracious God, in adoration
Saints with joy before you fall;
Only when our hearts are leaden
Can we fail to hear their call:
'Come with wonder, serve with gladness
God whose power created all.

Earth and sky in silent praises
Speak to those with eyes to see;
All earth's living creatures echo
'God has made us!' So may we
Come with wonder, serve with gladness
Him through whom they came to be.

You have made us in your image,
Breathed your Spirit, given us birth;
Jesus calls, whose cross has given
Every life eternal worth,
'Come with wonder, serve with gladness,
Let God's will be done on earth!'

Earth by war and want is threatened;
Deep the roots of fear and greed;
Let your mercy be our measure
As we see our neighbour's need,
Come with wonder, serve with gladness,
Share your gift of daily bread.

Holy Spirit, urging, striving,
Give us love that casts out fear,
Courage, seeking peace with justice,
Faith to make this message clear -
'Come with wonder, serve with gladness,
Live in hope; the Lord is near!'

Words: Basil Bridge (b.1927)

GOSPEL READING

LUKE 6:17-26