

Summer and winter,
 and springtime and harvest,
 sun, moon and stars
 in their courses above,
 join with all nature in manifold witness
 to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.
 Pardon for sin
 and a peace that endureth,
 thine own dear presence
 to cheer and to guide;
 strength for today
 and bright hope for tomorrow,
 blessings all mine,
 with ten thousand beside!
words: T. Chisholm (1866-1960)

This week:

- Mon 20.00 Julian Meeting**
Tues 9.30 Toddler Group
14.00 Mothers' Union AGM
Weds 11.00 Said Eucharist
Thurs 9.30 Toddler Group
14.00 Tea & Chat (Church Hall)

A Vintage Afternoon Tea will be held on Sunday 16th February, 3.30 for 4pm at the church hall.

Tickets £10 and are available from Beth and Debra.

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.

FAIRTRADE STALL

Monthly stall this morning in the coffee lounge. Thank you for your support which not only gives a fair wage to producers in the developing countries, helps to prevent exploitation, highlights environmental issues and supports Amrisha the little girl from Nepal who we support through the stall and the Children's Ministry writes to.

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St John the Baptist, Malden

4th Sunday before Lent

9th February 2025

COLLECT Eternal God,
 you know us to be set in the midst
 of so many and great dangers, that
 by reason of the frailty of our
 nature we cannot always stand
 upright: grant to us such strength
 and protection as may support us
 in all dangers and carry us through
 all temptations; through
 Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

IN OUR PRAYERS TODAY

We pray for those in particular need:

Josie, Corrie, Paula, Peter, Derek,
 June Rose, Bob, 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.

We pray for those whose Year's Mind occurs this week: Dorothy Hook, Joan Woolmer, Bert Reece, Gladys Pillai, Enid Clarke. Sister Ruth Ethelfreda

Today's hymns

NEH 443 Rejoice, the Lord is King
 (words overleaf) The kingdom of God

NEH 265 Lord of beauty

Post Communion:

This is the body of Christ
 (words overleaf) Great is thy faithfulness

Organ Voluntary:

Offertoire sur les grands jeux
 François Couperin

Post Communion:

This is the body of Christ
 Broken that we may be whole;
 This cup, as promised by God,
 true to his word, cradles our Lord:
 Food for the good of the soul.

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 6:1-8

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said: 'Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory.' The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: 'Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts! Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: 'Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.' Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I; send me!'

SECOND READING 1 CORINTHIANS 15:1-11

Now I should remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain. For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to someone untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace towards me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

GRADUAL HYMN

The kingdom of God
is justice and joy,
for Jesus restores
what sin would destroy;
God's power and glory
in Jesus we know,
and here and hereafter
the kingdom shall grow.

The kingdom of God
is mercy and grace,
the captives are freed,
the sinners find place,
the outcast are welcomed
God's banquet to share,
and hope is awakened
instead of despair.

The kingdom of God
is challenge and choice,
believe the good news,
repent and rejoice!
His love for us sinners
brought Christ to his cross,
our crisis of judgement
for gain or for loss.

God's kingdom is come,
the gift and the goal,
in Jesus begun,
in heaven made whole;
the heirs of the kingdom
shall answer his call,
and all things cry 'Glory!'
to God all in all.

words © Alexander Scott

GOSPEL READING

LUKE 5:1-11

FINAL HYMN

Great is thy faithfulness,
O God my Father,
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions,
they fail not;
as thou hast been thou for ever wilt be.

*Great is thy faithfulness!
Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see,
all I have needed t
hy hand hath provided,
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!*

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