GRADUAL HYMN

Jesus Christ is waiting, waiting in the streets: no one is his neighbour, all alone he eats. Listen, Lord Jesus, I am lonely too; make me, friend or stranger, fit to wait on you.

Jesus Christ is raging, raging in the streets, where injustice spirals and real hope retreats. Listen, Lord Jesus, I am angry too; in the Kingdom's causes let me rage with you.

Jesus Christ is healing, healing in the streets, curing those who suffer, touching those he greets. Listen Lord Jesus, I have pity too; let my care be active, healing just like you.

Jesus Christ is dancing, dancing in the streets, where each sign of hatred he, with love, defeats. Listen, Lord Jesus, I should triumph too; where good conquers evil, let me dance with you.

Jesus Christ is calling, calling in the streets, 'Who will join my journey? I will guide their feet.' Listen, Lord Jesus, let my fears be few: walk one step before me, I will follow you.

words: John Bell & Graham Maule GOSPEL READING: LUKE 4:14-21

This week:

9.30 Toddler Group Tues Weds 11.00 Said Eucharist Thurs 9.30 Toddler Group

14.00 Tea & Chat (Church Hall)

19.30 Choir Practice Fri

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.

Registered charity no, 1145155 CCL Licence No. 88083

www.stjohnsoldmalden.org.uk



St John the Baptist, Malden **EPIPHANY III**

26th January 2025

COLLECT God of all mercy, vour Son proclaimed good news to the poor, release to the captives, and freedom to the oppressed: anoint us with your Holy Spirit and set all your peoples free to praise you in Christ our Lord. Amen

IN OUR PRAYERS TODAY

We pray for those in particular need: Derek, June Rose, Bob, Elsie, Janet, Jackie, Lizzie, Alice, Anne, Jean, Mike, Neia, Muriel, Pat, Alan, Charles, Jennie.

We pray for those who have died recently:

Faith Bowers.

We pray for those whose Year's Mind occurs this week: Charlotte Whaymand, Frederick Woolmer, Violet Griffin, Leslie Jeal, Elsie Adams, Marjorie Vernon, Lilian Charman.

Today's hymns

(words overleaf) Jesus come! (words overleaf) Jesus Christ is waiting **NEH 343** Bright the vision **NEH 440** Praise to the Lord Organ Voluntary: Sonata No. 4 in A minor (1st mvt.)

Rheinberger

POST COMMUNION:

Laudate Dominum, laudate Dominum, Omnes gentes, alleluia!

It is with great sadness that we have learned of the death of Faith Bowers. Faith died in hospital last Sunday. Her family was with her. Richard, Keith and the family are in our thoughts and prayers. May Faith rest in peace and rise in glory.

FIRST HYMN

Jesus, come! for we invite you, Guest and Master, Friend and Lord; now, as once at Cana's wedding, speak, and let us hear your word: lead us through our need or doubting, hope be born and joy restored.

Jesus, come! transform our pleasures, guide us into paths unknown; bring your gifts, command your servants, let us trust in you alone: though your hand may work in secret, all shall see what you have done.

Jesus, come in new creation, heaven brought near in power divine; give your unexpected glory changing water into wine: rouse the faith of your disciples come, our first and greatest Sign.

Jesus, come! surprise our dullness, make us willing to receive more than we can yet imagine, all the best you have to give: let us find your hidden riches, taste your love, believe, and live! words: Christopher Idle (based on John 2:1-4)

FIRST READING Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10 All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of the LORD had Moses. which given Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, 'Amen, Amen', lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshipped the LORD with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, 'This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn

or weep.' For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, 'Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.'

SECOND READING 1 CORINTHIANS 12:12-31a For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body-Jews or Greeks. slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot were to say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear were to say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you', nor again the head to the feet, 'I have no need of you.' On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honourable we clothe with greater honour, and our less respectable members treated with greater are our respect; whereas more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honour to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it._Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.