

1 Thessalonians 4. 13-18

In common with most, if not all of the early Christians, Paul expected the second coming of Christ to happen soon. Here he consoles the Thessalonians who are worried about the fate of their loved ones before the return of the Lord. He tells them they are with the risen Jesus and that the living and the dead will be reunited in the final revelation of the kingdom. The Thessalonians are facing what we all experience, the loss of a loved one. Grief is never straightforward. Paul's message to them and to us is clear. He doesn't tell them and us NOT to grieve. That is alright and normal in such circumstances. What he states unequivocally is 'Do not grieve like those who have no hope. Our confidence rests in Jesus who has conquered death on the Cross and is alive through the Resurrection. There lies our true hope now and for the future. Following Paul's pastoral advice to the Thessalonians: 'We are to comfort one another with these thoughts.'

O Sing unto the Lord

It has sometimes been said that the Church of England receives her theology from her hymns, and thus it is unsurprising that some of our great hymns have been a long-standing source of controversy. *O valiant hearts, who to your glory came* was written in 1917 by Sir John Stanhope Arkwright (1872-1954) and sung at a service in Westminster Abbey on the 5th August 1917 to mark the third anniversary of the outbreak of the First World War. Titled *The Supreme Sacrifice* the words were widely printed in newspapers and soon became exceedingly popular, particularly when accompanied by the wonderfully sentimental tune by Charles Harris (1865-1936), rector of Colwall, Herefordshire. It was sung at the burial service of the Unknown Warrior in Westminster Abbey on the 11th November 1920, on that occasion to the tune *Ellers* by E.J. Hopkins. The words are poignant and moving: Proudly you gathered, rank on rank, to war / All you had hoped for, all you had, you gave / Splendid you passed, the great surrender made. They have, however been a source of controversy, suggesting that soldiers were responding to God's call and that their sacrifice was akin to the sacrifice of Our Lord. Perhaps for this reason the hymn does not appear in any of the major hymn books, though it remains much loved by many.

Prayers to Remember

O GOD the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our only Saviour, the Prince of Peace: Give us grace seriously to lay to heart the great dangers we are in by our unhappy divisions. Take away all hatred and prejudice, and whatsoever else may hinder us from godly union and concord: that, as there is but one Body, and one Spirit, and one hope of our calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all; so we may henceforth be all of one heart, and of one soul, united in one holy bond of truth and peace, of faith and charity, and may with one mind and one mouth glorify thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer for Unity from the Book of Common Prayer (1662)

8th November
2020

The Third Sunday
Before Advent
32nd Sunday
of the Year

The Present Moment

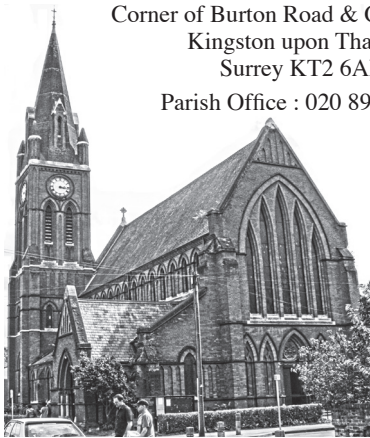


In Jewish weddings in New Testament times, the groom took the bride from her father's house to his own, but only when family negotiations were finished. This explains the delay in this case and why the guests were left waiting in today's Gospel. The foolish bridesmaids went off to find oil, hoping to find a late-night merchant perhaps, so they were too late to welcome the couple. The message here is to be ready because there are always things to do that could never have been predicted.

The technology available to us today can mean we think that what is happening somewhere else is more important than what is happening in front of us. It can be more important to talk to someone who's not there, rather than someone we are actually with. Today's Gospel also reminds us not everything is instantaneous and underlines the importance of waiting. We need to focus on the here and now because it is important to live in the present. That's where we will find God. Whether the groom arrives early or late does not matter if He is always part of our everyday life, through prayer and sacrament.

St Luke's Parish Church Kingston upon Thames

Corner of Burton Road & Gibbon Road
Kingston upon Thames,
Surrey KT2 6AB
Parish Office : 020 8974 8079



We welcome you to St Luke's Kingston, a traditional Forward in Faith parish under the jurisdiction of the Bishop of Fulham the Rt Rev'd Jonathan Baker SSC. His website is: <http://www.bishopoffulham.org.uk>.

As a community we are dedicated to making the love of Christ known through excellence in worship and active care and concern for others.

St Luke's Church is kept open most days during the daylight hours for prayer and meditation.

SUNDAY SERVICES

10.30am Mass by Zoom

WEEKDAYS

Fr Martin will offer Mass privately at 9.00am
Tuesday/ Wednesday/ Thursday & Friday

Remembrance Sunday

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ANTIPHON *Isaiah 40.31*

Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run
and not be weary they shall walk and not faint.

GREETING

Priest: In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All: **Amen.**

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with your spirit.**

The celebrant introduces the Mass.

PENITENTIAL ACT

The celebrant asks the people to acknowledge their sins.

After a pause for silence:

All: **I confess to almighty God,
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done,
and in what I have failed to do;**

And, striking their breast, they say:

HEALING PRAYER

Especially we pray for:-

Alan Ridley, Brenda & Michael Cotton, Maundy & Diane
Todd, Alan Sherlock, Peter, Barry, Tom Kelly, Richard T, Annie
Truffert & David Laws.

THE RECENTLY DEPARTED

Christine Lang, John Lewis

ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH:

TODAY: George Watkinson

MONDAY: Edith Burch, John Richardson, Marjorie O'Neill

TUESDAY: Elsie King (Benefactor), John Cook

WEDNESDAY: Attwood Lowrie, Joan Smoothey,
Leonard Still

THURSDAY: John Hunt (Priest), Mary Burgess,
Colin Prestiage

FRIDAY: John Fleet, Margaret Bedson, Joyce Tanner

SATURDAY: Walter Wright (Priest)

THIS WEEK

MONDAY 9th November: Feria

Titus 1:1-9; Ps 24:1b-2,3-4ab,5-6; Luke 17:1-6

TUESDAY 10th November: Feria

Titus 2:1-8,11-14; Ps 37:3-4,18&23,27&29; Luke 17:7-10
9.00am Private Mass

WEDNESDAY 11th November: Feria

Titus 3:1-7; Ps 23:1b-3a,3bc-4,5,6; Luke 17:11-19
9.00am Private Mass

THURSDAY 12th November: Feria

Philemon 7-20; Ps 146:7,8-9a,9bc-10; Luke 17:20-25
9.00am Private Mass

FRIDAY 13th November: Feria

2 John 4-9; Ps 119:1,2,10,11,17,18; Luke 17:26-37
9.00am Private Mass

SATURDAY 14th November: Feria

3 John 5-8; Ps 112:1-2,3-4,5-6; Luke 18:1-8



**Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation:
but deliver us from evil.**

Priest: Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil graciously grant peace in our days, that by the help of your mercy we may always be free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

All: **For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.**

Priest: Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles: Peace I leave you, my peace I give you: look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will. Who live and reign for ever and ever.

All: **Amen.**

Priest: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
All: **And with your spirit.**

Then is said:

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
grant us peace**

Priest: Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

All: **Lord, I am not worthy
that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word
and my soul shall be healed.**

CONCLUDING RITE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Priest: Merciful God, we offer to you the fears in us that have not yet been cast out by love: may we accept the hope you have placed in the hearts of all people, and live lives of justice, courage and mercy; through Jesus Christ our risen redeemer.

All: **Amen.**

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Priest: The Lord be with you.
People: **And with your spirit.**

Priest: God grant to the living grace, to the departed rest, to the Church, the Queen, the Commonwealth and all people, unity, peace and concord, and to us and all God's servants, life everlasting; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

People: **Thanks be to God**



**through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;
therefore I ask blessed Mary, ever-Virgin,
all the angels and saints,
and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God.**

Priest: May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

People: **Amen.**

KYRIE ELEISON

Priest: Kyrie eleison.
People: **Kyrie eleison.**

Priest: Christe eleison
People: **Christe eleison**

Priest: Kyrie eleison.
People: **Kyrie eleison.**



COLLECT

Priest: Ever-living God, we remember those whom you have gathered from the storm of war into the peace of your presence; may that same peace calm our fears, bring justice to all peoples and establish harmony among the nations, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen**

LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE FIRST READING *Micah 4:1-5 (ESV)*

A reading from the book of Micah.

In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised up above the hills. Peoples shall stream to it, and many nations shall come and say: 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between many peoples, and shall arbitrate between strong nations far away; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more; but they shall all sit under their own vines and under their own fig trees, and no one shall make them afraid; for the mouth of the Lord of hosts has spoken. For all the peoples walk, each in the name of its god, but we will walk in the name of the Lord our God for ever and ever.

The Word of the Lord.

THE RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps 127 (128)*

R. I will sing praise to my God as long as I live

Do not put your trust in princes,
Blessed are those whose help is the God of Israel
I will sing praise to my God as long as I live
God is the Maker of heaven and earth,
the sea, and everything in them
He upholds the oppressed
and gives food to the hungry. **R**

The LORD gives sight to the blind
and lifts up those who are bowed down,
The LORD watches over the foreigner
and supports the fatherless and the widow,
The LORD our God reigns for ever,
throughout all generations. **R**

THE SECOND READING *Romans 8:31- end (ESV)*

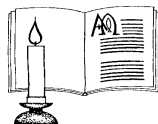
A reading from the letter to the Romans

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, 'For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.' No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

- V. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- R. **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
- V. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- R. **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**



THE GOSPEL *Gospel Matthew 5.1-12 (ESV)*

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: “

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
 Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
 Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
 Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
 Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
 Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
 Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

- Priest: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- People: **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

THE ODE

**They shall grow not old,
 as we that are left grow old;
 age shall not weary them,
 nor the years condemn.
 At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
 we will remember them.
 We will remember them.**

Two-minute silence

The National Anthem

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

At the end of each bidding, silence is kept, followed by:
Lord, hear us.

People: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

At the end of the prayers:

People: **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

INVITATION TO PRAYER

Priest: Pray, brothers and sisters, that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

People: **May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his holy Church.**

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Priest: Grant, O Lord, we pray, that what we offer in the sight of your majesty may obtain for us the grace of being devoted to you and gain us the prize of everlasting happiness. Through Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with your spirit.**

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right and just.**

Priest: It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Christ our Lord. For out of compassion for the waywardness that is ours, he humbled himself and was born of the Virgin; by the passion of the Cross he freed us from unending death, and by rising from the dead he gave us life eternal. And so, with Angels and Archangels, with Thrones and Dominions, and with all the hosts and Powers of heaven, we sing the hymn of your glory, as without end we acclaim:

All: **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts,
 heaven and earth are full of your glory.
 Hosanna in the highest.
 Blessed is he who comes
 in the name of the Lord.
 Hosanna in the highest.**



During this prayer, by the Word of God and the power of the Holy Spirit, the bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ.

After the Lord's Words of Institution:

Priest: The mystery of faith.

All: **We proclaim your Death, O Lord,
 and profess your Resurrection
 until you come again**

THE COMMUNION RITE

Priest: At the Saviour's command, and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say

All: **Our Father, who art in heaven;
 hallowed be thy name.
 Thy kingdom come.**