



Welcome to St Botolph's Church

Jesus said "If anyone is thirsty,
let them come to me and drink"

Sunday 3rd October 2024

Welcome

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you

All and also with you.

This is the day that the Lord has made.

All Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

We have come together in the name of Christ to offer our praise and thanksgiving, to hear and receive God's holy word, to pray for the needs of the world, and to seek the forgiveness of our sins, that by the power of the Holy Spirit we may give ourselves to the service of God.

Hymn

For all the Saints who from their labours rest,

Who thee by faith before the world confest.

Thy name, O Jesu, be for ever blest.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou wast their Rock, their Fortress, and their Might;

Thou, Lord, their Captain in the well fought fight;

Thou in the darkness drear their one true Light.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

O may thy soldiers, faithful, true, and bold,

Fight as the Saints who nobly fought of old,

And win, with them, the victor's crown of gold.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

O blest communion! fellowship divine!

We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;

Yet all are one in thee, for all are thine.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,
Steals on the ear the distant triumph-song,
And hearts are brave again, and arms are strong.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

The golden evening brightens in the west;
Soon, soon to faithful warriors cometh rest:
Sweet is the calm of Paradise the blest.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

But lo! there breaks a yet more glorious day;
The Saints triumphant rise in bright array:
The King of glory passes on his way.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Prayers of penitence

Jesus says, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand."
So let us turn away from our sin and turn to Christ, confessing
our sins in penitence and faith.

All Almighty God, long-suffering and of great goodness: I confess to you, I confess with my whole heart my neglect and forgetfulness of your commandments, my wrong doing, thinking, and speaking; the hurts I have done to others, and the good I have left undone. O God, forgive me, for I have sinned against you; and raise me to newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

May the Father of all mercies cleanse you from your sins, and restore you in his image to the praise and glory of his name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Blessed is the Lord,

All for he has heard the voice of our prayer;

therefore shall our hearts dance for joy

All and in our song will we praise our God.

First reading John 11. 32-44 *read by David Branson*

³² When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' ³³ When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. ³⁴ 'Where have you laid him?' he asked. 'Come and see, Lord,' they replied.

³⁵ Jesus wept.

³⁶ Then the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!'

³⁷ But some of them said, 'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?'

³⁸ Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. ³⁹ 'Take away the stone,' he said. 'But, Lord,' said Martha, the sister of the dead man, 'by this time there is a bad odour, for he has been there four days.' ⁴⁰ Then Jesus said, 'Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?' ⁴¹ So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, 'Father, I thank you that you have heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me.' ⁴³ When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' ⁴⁴ The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Take off the grave clothes and let him go.'

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 24. 1-6 Of David. A psalm.

¹ The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it,
the world, and all who live in it;

² for he founded it on the seas
and established it on the waters.

³ Who may ascend the mountain of the Lord?

Who may stand in his holy place?

⁴ The one who has clean hands and a pure heart,
who does not trust in an idol
or swear by a false god.

⁵ They will receive blessing from the Lord
and vindication from God their Saviour.

⁶ Such is the generation of those who seek him,
who seek your face, God of Jacob.

Second reading Revelation 21. 1-6a *read by David Branson*

Then I saw 'a new heaven and a new earth,' for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. ² I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'Look! God's dwelling-place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. ⁴ "He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death" or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.'

⁵ He who was seated on the throne said, 'I am making everything new!' Then he said, 'Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.' ⁶ He said to me: 'It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life.'

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn

Ye holy angels bright,
who wait at God's right hand,
or through the realms of light
fly at your Lord's command,
assist our song,
for else the theme
too high doth seem
for mortal tongue.

Ye blessèd souls at rest,
who ran this earthly race,
and now, from sin released,
behold the Saviour's face,
his praises sound,
as in his sight
with sweet delight
ye do abound.

Ye saints, who toil below,
adore your heavenly King,
and onward as ye go
some joyful anthem sing;
take what he gives
and praise him still,
through good and ill,
who ever lives.

My soul, bear thou thy part,
triumph in God above,
and with a well-tuned heart
sing thou the songs of love;
let all thy days
till life shall end,
whate'er he send,
be filled with praise.

Sermon

The Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! all the saints adore Thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim, falling down before Thee,
which wert and art and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide Thee,
though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see;
only Thou art holy, there is none beside Thee,
perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy name, in earth and sky and sea;
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Prayers of intercession inc. the Collect of the Day led by David Poppleton

Let your merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of your humble servants; and that they may obtain their petitions make them to ask such things as shall please you; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

At the end of the prayers...

Gathering our prayers and praises into one, as our Saviour taught us, so we pray

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.**

Hymn

Awake, my soul, and with the sun
thy daily stage of duty run;
shake off dull sloth, and joyful rise
to pay thy morning sacrifice.

Redeem thy mis-spent time that's past,
and live this day as if thy last;
improve thy talent with due care;
for the great day thyself prepare.

Let all thy converse be sincere,
thy conscience as the noon-day clear;
think how all-seeing God thy ways
and all thy secret thoughts surveys.

Wake, and lift up thyself, my heart,
and with the angels bear thy part,
who all night long unwearied sing,
high praise to the eternal King.

Glory to thee, who safe hast kept
and hast refreshed me whilst I slept;
grant, Lord, when I from death shall wake,
I may of endless light partake.

The Conclusion

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all
evermore. Amen.**

*Today's voluntary is Fugue in E flat major BWV 876 by J.S. Bach
This comes from a collection of keyboard works by the great master
published by Edition Peters. We believe roughly two thirds of Bach to be
drawn from other composers both sometimes before Bach and at other
times during his own lifetime. The fugue is an excellent example of his
effortless polyphony (harmonised musical lines)*

Please stay for refreshments in the hall (at the end of the corridor)

Giving is an important part of our worship.

Did you know, one of the easiest way to give is by using the Parish Giving Scheme?

<https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/colchester-st-botolph-colchester/>

NOTICES

Saturday, 2nd November - An All-Saints' Service at 3.00 pm at Christ Church

Monday, 3rd November WGT at Castle Methodist at 2.30pm when the Speaker will be Lewis Robert from Reeman & Dansie Auctioneers. All are welcome.

Thursday, 7th November – Soup 'n' Snack at Castle Methodist, 12. noon – 1.15 pm.

Monday, 11th November – Advent Study Day. For more information, please pick up a from in the Welcome Area and please do join us.

Bible Study Group – Wednesdays, 10:30am-12:00pm

Whether you're a regular or a complete beginner, we'd love to welcome you to join us as we study God's Word together, beginning with refreshments.

Midday Prayer Space – Wednesdays, 12-1pm

A quiet, reflective space in the church for prayer and/or a peaceful space away from the hustle and bustle of the city. All are welcome to pop in during this open hour.

FORTHCOMING SERVICES

10th November Remembrance Sunday 10.30 am - Holy Communion led by Revd. Chris Smith with Junior Church

17th November at 10.30 am – Morning Worship led by Sara Humphreys

24th November at 10.30 am – Holy Communion led by Ven. Michael Fox

1st December 10.30 am – Morning Worship; Covenant Renewal service led by Rev. Chris and Rev. Emma Smith. Castle Methodists are joining us.

Churchwardens: David Poppleton 01206 570725 and Colin Nicholson 01206 577905

Vicar: Revd Chris Smith 07458 197461