**25 October 2020 - 5th before Advent; BIBLE SUNDAY**

HYMN

Your kingdom come

*Page 201*

*Iain*

**THE GREETING**

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

**and also with you.**

*Iain*

**WELCOME**

*Iain*

**SENTENCE OF SCRIPTURE**

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness, let the whole earth stand in awe of him.

HYMN 652

Lead us Heavenly Father

*Iain*

**THE COLLECT FOR PURITY**

[Let us pray]

**Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden; Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Iain*

**PRAYERS OF PENITENCE**

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says:  
You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it. You shall love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets. *Matthew 22: 37-39*

**Lord, have mercy on us, and write these your laws in our hearts.**

*Iain*

**CONFESSION**

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ, to save us from our sins, to intercede for us in heaven, and to bring us to eternal life. Let us then confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God’s commandments and to live in love and peace:

*Silence*

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned in thought and word and deed, and in what we have left undone. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may walk in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy on you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Iain*

**GLORIA IN EXCELSIS**

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God’s people on earth. Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One: you alone are the Lord: you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the Glory of God the Father. Amen.**

*Bru*

**THE COLLECT** of the 5th Sunday before Advent

Blessed Lord,

who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning:

Help us to hear them,

to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them

that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word,

we may embrace and for ever hold fast

the blessed hope of everlasting life,

which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ.

**THE FIRST READING**  Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18

*Richard*

The lesson is from the Book Leviticus, in the 19th chapter, beginning at the first verse .

The Lord spoke to Moses, saying:

2 Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them: You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy.

15 You shall not render an unjust judgement; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbour. 16You shall not go around as a slanderer\* among your people, and you shall not profit by the blood\* of your neighbour: I am the Lord.

17 You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbour, or you will incur guilt yourself. 18You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbour as yourself: I am the Lord.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

Psalm 1

*David Murphy*

1 Blessed are they who have not walked

in the counsel of the wicked, ♦︎

nor lingered in the way of sinners,

nor sat in the assembly of the scornful.

2 Their delight is in the law of the Lord ♦︎

and they meditate on his law day and night.

3 Like a tree planted by streams of water

bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither, ♦︎

whatever they do, it shall prosper.

4 As for the wicked, it is not so with them; ♦︎

they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

5 Therefore the wicked shall not be able to stand in the judgement, ♦︎

nor the sinner in the congregation of the righteous.

6 For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, ♦︎

but the way of the wicked shall perish.

**THE EPISTLE** 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8

*Eileen McClean*

The Epistle is from the first Epistle to the Thessalonians, in the second chapter, beginning at the first verse.

2You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, 2but though we had already suffered and been shamefully maltreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. 3For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, 4but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts.

*Joyce*

5As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; 6nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, 7though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle\* among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. 8So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

THE GRADUAL HYMN

God whose almighty word

THE HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 22: 34-46

*Richard*

Hear the Gospel of our Saviour Christ, according to St Matthew, chapter 22, beginning at verse 34.

34 When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, 35and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. 36‘Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?’ 37He said to him, ‘ “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.” 38This is the greatest and first commandment. 39And a second is like it: “You shall love your neighbour as yourself.” 40On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.’

*Joyce*

41 Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: 42‘What do you think of the Messiah?\* Whose son is he?’ They said to him, ‘The son of David.’ 43He said to them, ‘How is it then that David by the Spirit\* calls him Lord, saying,

44 “The Lord said to my Lord,

‘Sit at my right hand,

until I put your enemies under your feet’ ”?

45If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?’ 46No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

HYMN FOR BIBLE SUNDAY

Lord, thy word abideth

**SERMON**

*The Rev'd Richard Moore*

**THE NICENE CREED** *Stand*

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION** PROPER 25 YEAR A

*Mike Buchanan*

Let us pray that the commandments of God shall be obeyed at all times and in all places.

Grant that all who call themselves Christians may have unreserved love for God, which is proclaimed in unselfish love for all people.

Lord, in your mercy:

**Hear our prayer.**

*Mike Buchanan*

Send a new spirit of love into the disputes between nations and races. We pray for that spirit in the talks between Britain and the European Union. Where there is suspicion, bring trust, where there is anger bring compassion. Give peace in all places of war and violence.

Lord, in your mercy:

**Hear our prayer.**

*Mike Buchanan*

Bless in this community all who show your love in their care for the poor and the helpless, when they find shelter for the homeless and minister to the sick. Make us more grateful for all that we have received and more willing to share it with others.

Lord, in your mercy:

**Hear our prayer.**

*Ailbhe Treadwell*

Have mercy on all who suffer: the anxious ones fearing the future, the lonely ones wishing for the past, the sick whose lives are weary with long suffering. Lay your loving hand upon them, bring them healing and peace.

Lord, in your mercy:

**Hear our prayer.**

*Ailbhe Treadwell*

In this time of pandemic, we pray for all who are affected by COVID-19: those who are ill and all who care for them; those whose lives and livelihoods are at risk; our leaders with the responsibility for making difficult decisions. Grant that each of us may act so that all are kept safe.

Lord, in your mercy:

**Hear our prayer.**

*Ailbhe Treadwell*

We give thanks for the memory of those whom we loved and now see no more. Help us to live as people who believe in the resurrection to eternal life, so that all may share in the joys of your eternal kingdom.

*Joyce and Richard*

**Merciful Father, accept these our prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS**

*Victor Whyte*

**We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord, whose nature is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him and he in us. Amen.**

**THE PEACE**

*Joyce*

Christ is our peace. He has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross. We meet in his name and share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

**and also with you.**

**AT THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE**

Be present, be present, Lord Jesus Christ our risen high priest; make yourself known in the breaking of bread. **Amen.**

**THE TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE**

*Stand. The Presiding Minister takes the bread and wine and may say*

Christ our passover has been sacrificed for us

**therefore let us celebrate the feast.**

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER 2**

The Lord is here.

**His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

All glory and honour, thanks and praise be given to you at all times and in all places, Lord, Holy Father, true and living God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For he is your eternal Word through whom you have created all things from the beginning and formed us in your own image.

In your great love you gave him to be made man for us and to share our common life.

In obedience to your will you Son our Saviour offered himself a perfect sacrifice, and died on the cross for our redemption. Through him you have freed us from the slavery of sin and reconciled us to yourself, our God and Father.

He is our great high priest whom you raise from death and exalted to your right hand on high where he ever lives to intercede for us.

He passed beyond our sight, not to abandon us but to be our hope, that where he is we might also be and reign with him in glory.

Through him you have sent upon us your holy and life-giving Spirit and made us a royal priesthood called to serve you for ever.

Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and singing:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

Merciful Father, we thank you for these gifts of your creation, this bread and this wine, and we pray that we who eat and drink them in the fellowship of the holy Spirit in obedience to our Saviour Christ in remembrance of his death and passion my be partakers of his body and his blood, who on the night he was betrayed took bread; and when he had given you thanks he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,

\* Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

After supper \* he took the cup; and again giving you thanks, he gave it to his disciples, saying, Drink from this, all of you \* This is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me. Father, with this bread and this cup we do as our Saviour has commanded:

We celebrate the redemption he has won for us; we proclaim his perfect sacrifice, made once for all upon the cross, his mighty resurrections and glorious ascension; and we look for his coming to fulfil all things according to you will.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Renew us by your Holy Spirit, unite us in the body of you Son, and bring us with all your people into the joy of your eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom and in whom, by the power of the Holy Spirit,, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of never-ending praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, so we pray

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; 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. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

**THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

**We being many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.**

**AGNUS DEI**

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, Redeemer of the world, grant us peace.**

**THE COMMUNION**

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you. Remember that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

 HYMN during communion

I am not worthy

The body of Christ keep you in eternal life. **Amen**

The blood of Christ keep you in eternal life. **Amen**

**THE GREAT SILENCE**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*Bru*

God of all grace,

your Son Jesus Christ fed the hungry

with the bread of his life and the word of his kingdom.

Renew your people with your heavenly grace,

and in all our weakness

sustain us by your true and living bread,

who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Father of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ’s body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Richard and Joyce*

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

*Joyce*

**THE BLESSING**

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen**.

**HYMN 429**

*(Sandra)*

Thy hand O God has guided

**DISMISSAL**

*Richard*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

**in the name of Christ. Amen.**

*Flugelhorn Gillian*

God whose almighty word



Iain 18 Preach, 25 Introduction

Richard 18 Celebrate, Gospel, 25 Preach

Joyce 18 Introduction, Gospel 25 Celebrate

David 18 Collect, 25 Psalm

Victor 18 Agnus Dei, 25 Humble Access

Bru 18 Psalm, 25 Collect, Post Communion

Drogheda 18 Hazel, 25 -

Ardee 18 Eileen, 25 Ruth

Collon 18 John, 25 -

Castlebellingham 18 Jean, 25 Ailbhe

Dunleer 18 Emma, 25 Mike

Introduction

Preach

Celebrate

Collect

Lead Confession

Humble Access

Agnus Dei

Post Communion Prayer

Lesson x3

Psalm

Epistle x2

Gospel

But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.