

15th November 2020
Service of Holy
Communion

The Second Sunday
before Advent

Lytham St Cuthbert
 **VISION**2026
HEALTHY CHURCHES TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES
and Lytham St John
Joining in Worship

The Greeting

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

Prayer of Preparation

God, of our times and years, we set this time
apart for you.
Form us in the likeness of Christ so that our
lives may glorify you. Amen.

Prayers of Penitence

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

Lord, you are gracious and compassionate:
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

You are loving to all and your mercy is over all
your creation:
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Your faithful servants bless your name and
speak of the glory of your kingdom:
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Almighty God, who in Jesus Christ has given us
a kingdom that cannot be destroyed, forgive
you your sins, open your eyes to God's truth,
strengthen you to do God's will and give you
the joy of his kingdom, through Jesus Christ
our Lord. **Amen.**

2.

The Collect

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was
revealed to destroy the works of the devil and
to make us the children of God and heirs of
eternal life: grant that we, having this hope,
may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that
when he shall appear in power and great glory
we may be made like him in his eternal and
glorious kingdom; where he is alive and reigns
with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one
God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Epistle

1 Thessalonians 5. 1-11

Now concerning the times and the seasons,
brothers and sisters, you do not need to have
anything written to you. For you yourselves
know very well that the day of the Lord will
come like a thief in the night. When they say,
"There is peace and security," then sudden
destruction will come upon them, as labour
pains come upon a pregnant woman, and
there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are
not in darkness, for that day to surprise you
like a thief; for you are all children of light and
children of the day; we are not of the night or
of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as
others do, but let us keep awake and be
sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and
those who are drunk get drunk at night. But
since we belong to the day, let us be sober,
and put on the breastplate of faith and love,
and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For
God has destined us not for wrath but for
obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus
Christ, who died for us, so that whether we
are awake or asleep we may live with him.
Therefore encourage one another and build
up each other, as indeed you are doing.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

3.

Matthew 25. 14-30

“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money.

After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’

And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’

Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’

But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away.

4.

As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

The Creed

Let us say together The Apostles’ 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.

Prayers of Intercession

The response is

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

And, at the end,

Merciful Father,

accept these prayers

for the sake of your Son,

our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen.

5.

The Peace

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.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

Preparation of the Table

Look upon us in mercy, not in judgement;
draw us from hatred to love; make the frailty
of our praise a dwelling place for your glory.
Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer

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 thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, Lord God, our light and our
salvation; to you be glory and praise for ever.

From the beginning you have created all
things and all your works echo the silent
music of your praise. In the fullness of time
you made us in your image, the crown of all
creation.

You give us breath and speech, that with
angels and archangels and all the powers of
heaven we may find a voice to speak your
praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
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.

6.

How wonderful the work of your hands, O
Lord. As a mother tenderly gathers her
children, you embraced a people as your own.
When they turned away and rebelled your
love remained steadfast.

From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour,
born of Mary, to be the living bread, in whom
all our hungers are satisfied.

He offered his life for sinners, and with a love
stronger than death he opened wide his arms
on the cross.

On the night before he died, he came to
supper with his friends and, taking bread, he
gave you thanks. He broke it and gave it to
them, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which
is given for you: do this in remembrance of
me.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,
he gave you thanks, and said: Drink 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.

Christ is the bread of life:

**When we eat this bread and drink this
cup we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,
until you come in glory.**

Father, we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross; we
remember his dying and rising in glory, and
we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your
right hand.

Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before
you these gifts of your creation; and build us
into a living temple to your glory.

Bring us at the last with Cuthbert, Aidan and
all the saints to the vision of that eternal
splendour for which you have created us;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord, by whom, with
whom, and in whom, with all who stand
before you in earth and heaven, we worship

7.

you, Father almighty, in words of everlasting praise:

Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

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.
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.

Breaking of the Bread

Every time we eat this bread and drink this
cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Giving of Communion

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

*The priest will receive the bread and wine
on behalf of us all.*

Prayers after Communion

Gracious Lord, in this holy sacrament you give
substance to our hope: bring us at the last to
that fullness of life for which we long; through
Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

8.

Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us
with 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.

The Blackburn Diocesan Vision Prayer for Vision 2026

Heavenly Father, we embrace your call for us
to make disciples, to be witnesses and to
grow leaders. Give us the eyes to see your
vision, ears to hear the prompting of your
Spirit and courage to follow in the footsteps
of your Son, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

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 among you and remain with you
always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

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