Holy Trinity Headington Quarry



Second Sunday Before Advent 19th November 2023

Words of welcome.

During the opening hymn, children are welcome to join the forest Sunday school taking place

Hymn 648ii

Please stand

God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power; now fulfil thy church's story; bring her bud to glorious flower. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour.

Lo, the hosts of evil round us scorn thy Christ, assail his ways; from the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the living of these days.

Cure thy children's warring madness; bend our pride to thy control; shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in goods and poor in soul. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

Set our feet on lofty places, gird our loves that they may be armoured with all Christlike graces in the fight till all be free.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage that we fail not earth nor thee.

Harry Emerson Fosdick (1878-1969)

The president says

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit **Amen**

The Greeting

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

Prayers of Penitence

A minister says

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.

Silence is kept.

Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy
forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly,
love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God.
Amen.

The president says

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 God's kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gloria in Excelsis

Glory to God, we give you thanks and praise Of heavenly joy and earthly peace we sing. We worship you, to you our hearts we raise, Lord God, Almighty Father, heavenly King.

Lord Jesus Christ, the Father's only Son, You bore for us the load of this world's sin. O Lamb of God, your glorious victory won, Receive our prayer, grant us your peace within.

Alone, O Christ, you are the only Lord, At God's right hand, in majesty most high. Who with the Spirit, worshipped and adored With all the heavenly host, we glorify.

Tune: 'Woodlands'

The Collect

Let us pray:

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 Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Zephaniah 1. 7, 12-end

Please be seated

Be silent before the Lord GoD! For the day of the LORD is at hand; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests.

At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people
who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts,

'The LORD will not do good, nor will he do harm.'

Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste.

Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them.

The great day of the LORD is near,
near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter,
the warrior cries aloud there.
That day will be a day of wrath,
a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness,
a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

I will bring such distress upon people
that they shall walk like the blind;
because they have sinned against the LORD,
their blood shall be poured out like dust,
and their flesh like dung.
Neither their silver nor their gold
will be able to save them
on the day of the LORD's wrath;
in the fire of his passion
the whole earth shall be consumed;
for a full, a terrible end
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

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

Please stand. We repeat the refrain.

CELTIC ALLELUIA



Gospel Reading

Please stand

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel reading: 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. 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

Revd Dr Laura Biron-Scott

Nicene Creed

Please stand

Let us declare our faith in God. 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 from the Holy Spirit and 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

Please sit or kneel. The following response may be used:

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

We pray for those who are sick or in particular need:
Natalia Stoneman, Naomi Lawrence, Kate Samuel,
Grace, Josie, Kitty Datta, Bob Southgate, Benji,
Astrid Brooke, Caroline Winwood, Penny Champion, Doreen Jarvis.

Those who have died recently:

Polly Friedhoff, David Prince.

Those whose anniversary of death falls at this time: Roger Lock, Joan Stopps, George Self, Clive Staples Lewis, Ian Wylie, Zena Vass.

And at the end

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

Please stand

To crown all things there must be love to bind all together and complete the whole. Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts. The peace of the Lord be always with you and also with you.

A minister says

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

Hymn 621

Dear Lord and Father of mankind, forgive our foolish ways! re-clothe us in our rightful mind, in purer lives thy service find, in deeper reverence, praise.

In simple trust like theirs who heard, beside the Syrian sea, the gracious calling of the Lord, let us, like them, without a word rise up and follow thee.

O Sabbath rest by Galilee!
O calm of hills above,
where Jesus knelt to share with thee
the silence of eternity,
interpreted by love!

Drop thy still dews of quietness, till all our strivings cease; take from our souls the strain and stress, and let our ordered lives confess the beauty of thy peace. Breathe through the heats of our desire thy coolness and thy balm; let sense be dumb, let flesh retire; speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire, O still small voice of calm.

John Greenleaf Whittier (1807-1892)

Taking of the Bread and Wine

To you we come, Father of lights, with angels and saints, where heaven and earth unite.

May Jesus meet us in the breaking of the bread.

Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer

Please sit or stand as you are most comfortable

The Lord be with you and also with you.

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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should always sing of your glory, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

For you are the hope of the nations, the builder of the city that is to come. Your love made visible in Jesus Christ brings home the lost, restores the sinner and gives dignity to the despised. In his face your light shines out, flooding lives with goodness and truth, gathering into one in your kingdom a divided and broken humanity.

Therefore with all who can give voice in your creation we glorify your name, for ever praising you and singing:

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord; holy is the Lord God almighty. Holy, holy, holy is the Lord; holy is the Lord God almighty, who was, and is and is to come. Holy, holy, holy is the Lord!

Blessed, blessed, blest the one who comes; Blest the one who comes in the Lord's name. Blessed, blessed, blest the one who comes; Blest the one who comes in the Lord's name. who was, and is and is to come. Holy, holy, holy is the Lord!

We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you. He broke the bread, gave it to them and said: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me. When supper was ended he took the cup of wine. Again he praised you, gave it to them 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.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith: **Christ has died:**

Christ has died Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth. Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints to feast at your table in heaven. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Please sit or kneel

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.

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.



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.

This is God's table and all are welcome. Please follow the directions of the steward.

With the North aisle inaccessible, you will be directed down and back up the central aisle. To make this as smooth as possible, please allow everyone in your pew to come out before queueing. Those sitting towards the back on each side will be invited to come forwards first.

If you are wearing a mask, it is most practical if you remove it before receiving communion. If you wish to receive the chalice, please hold the base of the chalice and guide it towards your lips – the person administering the chalice will not let go of it in the process. Please do not dip your wafer into the chalice. Please note that there is no obligation to take the chalice and it is fine still to receive communion in one kind only (the bread).

If you do not wish to receive communion and would prefer a blessing instead, please do come forwards as well.

Music during communion: Mane nobiscum (Taizé)

Please join in with the chant as it repeats.



Mane nobiscum, Domine Jesu Christe Stay with us, Lord Jesus Christ.

Holy and blessed God, you have fed us with the body and blood of your Son and filled us with your Holy Spirit: may we honour you, not only with our lips but in lives dedicated to the service of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Prayer after Communion

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.

The Sending Out

Please stand

Hymn 511 (tune 490)

Your voice, O God, outsings the stars of morning, your art in sky and season is displayed, your complex ways we trace in awe and wonder, and marvel --- in your image we are made.

What can we say? Can words express our wonder? How shall we live? Can we reflect your grace? Come Spirit, come, disturb our cautious living, be known in us, your human dwelling place.

You call your Church from every land and nation; you reconcile, for we in Christ are one. We yearn to see creation's full redemption: all things restored in Christ, the risen Son.

O holy God, we worship and adore you, your Word made flesh shared human joy and strife, in him you draw us in love's dance of freedom: your church, your people, in your common life.

Rosalind Brown (b. 1953)

The Blessing

The love of the Lord Jesus draw you to himself, the power of the Lord Jesus strengthen you in his service, the joy of the Lord Jesus fill your hearts; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The Dismissal

A minister says

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

Please do join us for refreshments in the Coach House via the Quarry Road path.

Please take this booklet away with you, and recycle it when you have finished with it. We no longer pass the collection plate around during the service, but you are welcome to use the collection plate at the back of church, or the contactless machine, if you would like to make a donation to support the work of our church. If you would like to sign up to regular monthly giving, please visit www.hthq.uk/giving-to-the-church for more information.

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Notices: November 19th

Sunday November 19th: The Second Sunday before Advent

8am Holy Communion 10am Parish Eucharist and Forest Sunday School

Midweek Services

Morning Prayer: Monday and Tuesdays at 9am in the Coach House until further notice.

Eucharist Service: Wednesdays at 10am. We intend to continue meeting in the church building, but there will be no post-service refreshments.

Sunday November 26th: The Third Sunday before Advent

8am Holy Communion

10am Parish Eucharist and Forest Sunday School

Upcoming Special Services

Next Sunday November 26th: Christ the King At our Parish Eucharist at 10am we will mark the end of this church year - our 'year to build' - and look forward to the year ahead which will see the completion of our building project and our church's 175th birthday on November 22nd 2024. We are delighted to welcome the Archdeacon of Oxford, the Ven. Jonathan Chaffey, as our preacher.

Sunday December 3rd: Advent Sunday Join us at 6pm for a special Taizé service of music and readings for Advent.

Sunday December 17th: Joint Carol Service at All Saints

Headington, 6pm Our choirs and congregations will join together for this special service of lessons and carols for Christmas, at All Saints Church, Lime Walk, Headington.

Housekeeping matters during the building work:

Please kindly note that toilet facilities are available at the Coach House, and the vestry is now strictly out of use.

Seating is more restricted inside the church - please be considerate when choosing a pew, and allow space for latecomers if possible. The back pews are reserved for children and families attending Sunday school.

In the event of an emergency, fire exits are at the main church door and the chancel door.

2023: A time to build: Exciting Updates! We are so thankful that our building work has started! Please note that the church path will not be in use between 8am and 4pm Monday to Friday, and the Coach House car park will not be in use during the project. Toilet facilities and post-church coffee will be at the Coach House. If access to the vestry toilet becomes possible at any stage of the project, and likewise with post-church coffee, we will let people know, but we are preparing for the maximum possible disruption at this stage. Although the church will look and feel quite different over the coming months of building work, we remember that we have laboured for a very long time to bring these plans to fruition, and we all look forward in faith and hope to the completion of the works in 2024.

Finance We are able to forwards with our project thanks to the generous support of individual donors, grant bodies, and a loan from Methodist Chapel Aid. Thank you so much to everyone who has contributed to our fundraising campaign, and to everyone who has supported the process with their prayers. We still need to raise money to repay our loan, and so our fundraising will continue for as long as needed. If you haven't yet been able to send in a pledge form, we would love to hear from you! We hope that everyone who has sent in a pledge has now been contacted. Please do contact David Knight in the first instance (contact details from the parish office) if you have not heard about this.

If you would like to make a donation directly into our building fund account, the details are:

Account name: HTHQ Sort Code: 20-65-20.

Account no: 83117634 (Please include your name as a reference)

Prayer requests Please continue to hold the project in your prayers. As the psalmist writes: 'unless the Lord builds the house, those who labour build it in vain' (Psalm 127.1). We ask you all to pray especially for wisdom for our architect and contractors, and for peaceful relations with our neighbours and local residents affected by the work.

God of vision and hope,

we thank you for our church building;

a place of prayer and pilgrimage, witnessing to your love and presence in our midst. We pray for our plans to develop the building to further the work of your kingdom in this and future generations. We pray for the guidance, resources and skills we need to bring the project to completion, and that we would be united in vision and focus as we work to wards this goal, in the name of Jesus Christ our Cornerstone.

Today The Christmas Event will be held from **11.30 -12.30pm after** the 10 am service. Please come along and buy what you can for this important church fundraiser. *Our thanks as always, go to the hard working Fete Committee*, and to all those who supported the event yesterday in so many ways. Fete Committee: Derek and Margaret Taylor (765051), Mike and Lisa Hill (768077), Janet Foot (762450) and Linda & Howard Pearce (765003).

Posada 2023. Despite our church building being a little disrupted at the moment, why not sign up for our Posada to make Advent even more special? What is Posada all about? During the evenings leading up to Christmas Day, a nativity set of Mary and Joseph travel around the parish, visiting a different member of our church family every night. This provides a great opportunity to meet new church members, or get to know others a little better as you transport Mary and Joseph to the next home on the rota. There is a prayer to say as you welcome them into your home and as you set them off on their journey to the next one. If you would like to offer Mary and Joseph a home for the night this Advent, please contact Helen Dancer at helen@nsolve.com or phone: 07854173016 (text probably best), giving me suitable dates and I add you to the rota. I have also given Helen Day access to the rota, so you can contact her in the office to take part. I will have the rota with me in church, so catch me after the service to sign up. I hope there will be room in your inn this year!

Come have a festive fun, we are hosting a **Gingerbread House building events** on **Sunday 3rd December at 3pm** at the Coach House, build a gingerbread house as a family/ group or a mini individual house is also available please RSVP by 24 November with the number of people and preferred house type to Frances at frances.farrar@tiscali.co.uk donations will go towards the building fund

Oxford Big Sing for Christian Aid needs volunteers

This popular annual event is being held this year at the Oxfordshire County Music Centre, Bayswater Road, Barton every evening from **Monday**

27th November to Friday 1st December. Five school choirs perform each evening and there are about 500 parents and teachers in the audience. A large sum of money is raised for Christian Aid. Volunteers are needed to help with car parking, stewarding, selling raffle tickets anor holding a collecting bucket. If you are able to help even just one evening, please contact Phil Evans at pevans@christian-aid.org or ring him on 01865 246988 or 07814 141 812.

Advent Quiet Day: finding rest and refreshment with the icon of the Woman at the Well. Saturday 2nd December 10am-3pm, St Andrew's Headington. Please let Fr Darren, Fr Luke, or Ginny Thomas (qinnytea@gmail.com) if you would like to attend.

New Bible Study Group Do you find studying the Bible on your own difficult? I know I do, I feel God is leading me to start a Bible Study group in my home in Headington. If you are interested and want to know more please contact me: margaretatbodsey@gmail.com or 01865 761718. It will be a help to know what days and times folk are available, and I will try and fit around the majority. There will be six Bible Studies to start with in January to March 2024 and then we can see how it goes. I look forward to hearing from you, Margaret Jackson.

Eco Resources List: To view the Autumn recommended resources go to: https://www.hthq.uk/eco-church-resources/
Hilary Rollin (Eco Church Group)

Eco Tips Eco Tip of the Week: Charity shops report that 50% of the clothing donated is not good enough to be sold. Why not cut up and re-use items such as old T-shirts? They make excellent dusters, polishing cloths etc. (Hilary Rollin for Eco Church Group)

Pastoral care team Are you in need of support or would you like to talk to someone? We rely on you to let us know of anyone who is ill, or in hospital or who might welcome a visit. Please contact any of the clergy (numbers overleaf) or Helen Day, Janet Masters, or Anne Tarassenko.

Holy Trinity Headington Quarry

An open door between heaven and earth, showing God's love to all.

As the Anglican parish in Headington Quarry, Risinghurst and Wood Farm, we are here for every local resident. Our church is open every day. We hope that you will find God's peace as you come to pray or just sit and rest awhile. If you have questions about the Christian faith or would like to find out more about church life, please get in touch:

Contact us

Vicar: Revd Dr Laura Biron-Scott vicar@hthq.uk 01865 762835

Associate Priest: Revd Prof Rob Gilbert

associatepriest@hthq.uk

Curate: Revd Emily Hockliffe Essex curate@hthq.uk 07979 931889

Parish Office: office@hthq.uk 01865 762931

Churchwardens: wardens@hthq.uk

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