

Celebration Sunday



**Sunday 21st November
2021**

1 The Gathering

STAND

OPENING HYMN

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

*Yn enw'r Tad,
a'r Mab,
a'r Ysbryd Glân. Amen.*

Jesus said that no-one lights a lamp only to put it under a tub. The lamp must be in a place where it can give light to take away the darkness. In the same way the Eucharist, that we are so blessed to receive, cannot be hidden within. Its power needs to show itself through our words and actions. It is a gift not only for ourselves but, through us, the gift of God's presence and God's love for the world. Wherever we go we carry Christ within us.

Kingly Light, shine upon our Diocese
Fill us with your Presence
As we join together in worship.

(Light the Candle)

Come, Creator God; bring us out of darkness:
and out of the shadow of death.

Come, Light of Christ:
the Light no darkness can put out.

Come, Holy Spirit:
and search our hearts with the light of Christ.

THE PENITENTIAL PRAYERS

KNEEL or SIT

Come, let us return to the Lord and say:

**Lord our God,
in our sin we have avoided your call.
Our love for you is like a morning cloud,
like the dew that goes away early.
Have mercy on us;
deliver us from judgement;
bind up our wounds and revive us;
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

May almighty God,
who sent his Son into the world as a light to save sinners
blundering in the darkness, bring us his pardon and peace and
his face to shine upon us, now and for ever. **Amen.**

STAND

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his 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.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let us pray in the light of the glory of the Lord:

Eternal Father,
whose Son Jesus Christ
ascended to the throne of heaven
that he might rule over all things as Lord and King:
keep this Diocese and the whole Church
in the unity of the Spirit
and in the bond of peace,
and bring the whole created order
to worship at his feet;
grant this for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit,
be the kingdom, the power and the glory
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

SIT

2 The Proclamation of the Word

The First Reading - Genesis 1:1-19

A reading from the book of Genesis.

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day.

And God said, "Let there be a vault between the waters to separate water from water." So God made the vault and separated the water under the vault from the water above it. And

it was so. God called the vault “sky.” And there was evening, and there was morning—the second day.

And God said, “Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear.” And it was so. God called the dry ground “land,” and the gathered waters he called “seas.” And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, “Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds.” And it was so. The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the third day.

And God said, “Let there be lights in the vault of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark sacred times, and days and years, and let them be lights in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth.” And it was so. God made two great lights—the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars. God set them in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth, to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the fourth day.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Psalm - 145:8-15

Every day will I bless you,
and praise your name for ever.

**Response: Every day will I bless you,
and praise your name for ever.**

The Lord is gracious and merciful:
long-suffering and of great goodness.

The Lord is loving to everyone:
and his mercy is over all his creatures. **Response**

All your works praise you, O Lord:
and your faithful servants bless you.
They tell of the glory of your kingdom:
and speak of your mighty power, **Response**

To make known to all peoples your mighty acts:
and the glorious splendour of your kingdom.
Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom:
your dominion endures throughout all ages. **Response**

The Lord is sure in all his words:
and faithful in all his deeds.
The Lord upholds all those who fall:
and lifts up all those who are bowed down. **Response**

The Second Reading - 1 Peter 2:1-10

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good. As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him—you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through

Jesus Christ. For in Scripture it says:

“See, I lay a stone in Zion,
a chosen and precious cornerstone,
and the one who trusts in him
will never be put to shame.”

Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe,

“The stone the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone,” and,
“A stone that causes people to stumble
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for.

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

STAND

The Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia! **Alleluia!**

I am the light of the world, says the Lord.

Whoever comes to me will have the light of life.

Alleluia!

The Gospel Reading - John 12:23-35

Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to Saint John

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus replied, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it

produces many seeds. Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honour the one who serves me. “Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. Father, glorify your name!” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and will glorify it again.” The crowd that was there and heard it said it had thundered; others said an angel had spoken to him. Jesus said, “This voice was for your benefit, not mine. Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die. The crowd spoke up, “We have heard from the Law that the Messiah will remain forever, so how can you say, ‘The Son of Man must be lifted up’? Who is this ‘Son of Man’?” Then Jesus told them, “You are going to have the light just a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, before darkness overtakes you. Whoever walks in the dark does not know where they are going.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The Gospel Acclamation may be repeated.

THE SERMON

SIT

RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

STAND

As brothers and sisters in this Diocese of Monmouth, we now renew the promises made at our baptism, affirming our allegiance to Christ as our King. In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light.

Do you renew and affirm the promises made when you were baptized?

I do.

Do you turn in faith to Christ?

I do.

Do you repent of your sins?

I do.

Do you then renounce all evil?

I do, by God's help.

Will you obey and serve Christ?

I will, by God's help.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
Creator of heaven and earth?

I believe and trust in God the Father.

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ,
who redeemed the world?

I believe and trust in God the Son.

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God?

I believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit.

This is the Faith of the Church.

This is our Faith.

**We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen**

May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith that you may be rooted and grounded in love and bring forth the fruit of the Spirit. **Amen.**

3 The Intercession

KNEEL or SIT

After each intercession:

Lord, in your mercy,
Make us one in the light of Christ.

After the final petition:

Either:

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

or:

Let us commend ourselves,
and one another and all our
life to Christ our God.
**Holy God, holy and strong,
holy and immortal
have mercy on us.**

4 The Peace

STAND

Good and gracious God, who loves and delights in all people, we stand in awe before you, knowing that the spark of life within each person on earth is the spark of your divine life. Differences among cultures and races are multi-coloured manifestations of your Light. Fill us with your Peace.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

A sign of peace may be exchanged.

OFFERTORY HYMN by Newport Cathedral Choir

5 The Thanksgiving

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.

It is truly right to give you thanks,
truly just to give you glory,
Father, most holy,
for you are the one God living and true,
existing before all ages and abiding for all eternity,
dwelling in unapproachable light;
yet you, who alone are good, the source of life,
have made all that is,
so that you might fill your creatures with blessings
and bring joy to many of them by the glory of your light.
And so, in your presence are countless hosts of Angels,
who serve you day and night
and, gazing upon the glory of your face,
glorify you without ceasing.
With them we, too, confess your name in exultation,
giving voice to every creature under heaven as we acclaim:

**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.**

Blessed are you, almighty God,
because on the night he was betrayed
the Lord Jesus took bread,
and when he had given you thanks,
he broke it, gave it to his disciples and said,
Take, eat; this is my body
which is given for you:
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup;
when he had given you thanks
he gave it to them and said,
Drink this, all of you;
this cup is the new covenant in my blood
poured out for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins:
do this as often as you drink it
in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of Faith:
Christ has died.
Christ is risen
Christ will come in glory.

Therefore, loving God,
recalling now the sacrifice of Christ your Son
once for all upon the cross
and the triumph of his resurrection,
we ask you to accept this our sacrifice of praise.

Send your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts
that we may be fed
with the body and blood of your Son
and be filled with your life and goodness.
Unite us in Christ and give us your peace
that we may do your work
and be his body in the world.

Through him, with him, in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit
all honour and glory are yours almighty Father,
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

KNEEL

In the words of Christ our King
let us pray that our Father's kingdom may come among us:

**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.
Save us from
the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

**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.**

6 The Communion

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
**Though we are many, we are one body
for we all share in one bread.**

Either: **Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world: give us your peace.**

or: **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.**

The priest invites the people to 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.**

7 The Sending Out

STAND

Give thanks to the Lord for he is gracious:
his love is everlasting.

Stir up, O Lord,
the wills of your faithful people;
that they, plenteously bringing forth
the fruit of good works
may by you be plenteously rewarded;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**God our Father,
help us throughout this Diocese of Monmouth
to hear and heed the call of Christ the King
and by the power of the Spirit
to follow in his service,
whose kingdom has no end;
for he reigns with you in the unity of the same Spirit,
one God, one glory, now and for ever. Amen**

HYMN – *During which the congregational candles are lit*

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Christ the Son of God gladden your hearts
with the good news of his kingdom.

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

We have received the Light,
we have prayed to become the Light,
now, through Christ our King,

We are the Light.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the Name of Christ. Amen.