A very warm welcome to St Peter's Church!
Thank you for joining us this morning.

St Peter's

COLCHESTER

Morning Service

10:30am, Sunday 27th November 2022

MINISTRY ROTAS *(also available on ChurchSuite)*

for this Sunday (27th November)

– Duty Warden: Matt Cox
– 'Get Ready' Team: Tash & Gabi Froude
– Refreshments Team: Matt & Tom Van Den Broek
– Tech Team: Noah Froude (audio), Josh Wallace (video)
– Musicians: Duncan Ng (keyboard), Ed Bradley (drums) & Alan Gray (guitar)
– Service Leadership Team: Mark Wallace (leading & preaching), Stephen Lloyd (prayers), Val Morris (reading)
– SPK: Karen Van Den Broek & Chris Gray (Bible Tots & Diggers), Andrew Lawn & John Hartwell (Spark)
– 'Tidy Up' Team: Simona Cerkauskiene & Wendy Whitfield

for next Sunday (4th December)

– Duty Warden: Trevor Froude
– 'Get Ready' Team: Tim Hearn, Bernice & Isabel Watts
– Refreshments Team: Matt Wallace & Dan Watts
– Tech Team: Noah Froude (audio), Josh Wallace (video)
– Musicians: Richard Lawn (keyboard) & Ed Bradley (drums)
– Service Leadership Team: Mark Wallace (leading & preaching), Paul Larkin (prayers), Anne Kavanagh (reading)
– Communion Steward: Duncan Breckels
– SPK: Lizzie Wallace & Chris Gray (Bible Tots & Diggers), Clare Reid & Cherry Palmer (Spark)
– 'Tidy Up' Team: Simona Cerkauskiene & Wendy Whitfield

THE COLLECT

for the first Sunday of Advent

Almighty God,
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness
and to put on the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life,
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us
    in great humility;
that on the last day,
when he shall come again in his glorious majesty
to judge the living and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

COPYRIGHT INFORMATION

Readings. Scripture quotations are from the Holy Bible, English Standard Version Anglicised (ESVUK) Copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. **Prayers.** Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England, material from which is included in this service, is copyright © The Archbishops' Council (2000). **Hymns.** All hymn words reproduced under CCL Licence No. 36619.

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION
including the Advent Candle

"O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL"

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here,
until the Son of God appears:
    Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
    shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free
thine own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell thy people save,
and give them vict'ry o'er the grave:
    Rejoice! Rejoice…

O come, thou Day-spring, come and cheer
our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight:
    Rejoice! Rejoice…

[pre-school and primary-school children
leave for their SPK groups in the Hall]

O come, thou Key of David, come,
and open wide our heav'nly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery:
    Rejoice! Rejoice…

O come, O come, thou Lord of Might,
who to thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
in ancient times didst give the law
in cloud, and majesty, and awe:
    Rejoice! Rejoice…

Tr. J. .M. Neale (1818-66) and others

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

When the Lord comes,
he will bring to light the things
now hidden in darkness,
and will disclose the purposes of the heart.
Therefore in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have wandered and strayed from your ways
like lost sheep.
We have followed too much
the devices and desires
of our own hearts.
We have offended against your holy laws.
We have left undone those things
that we ought to have done;
and we have done those things
that we ought not to have done;
and there is no health in us.
But you, O Lord, have mercy upon us sinners.
Spare those who confess their faults.
Restore those who are penitent,
according to your promises declared to mankind
in Christ Jesus our Lord.
And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,
that we may live a disciplined, righteous
and godly life,
to the glory of your holy name.
Amen.

May the God of love and power
forgive us and free us from *your* sins,
heal and strengthen us by his Spirit,
and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord.
Amen.

BIBLE READING: John 1.1-18

page 886; read by Val Morris

At the end of the reading…
This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

"FROM THE SQUALOR"

From the squalor of a borrowed stable,
by the spirit and a virgin's faith;
to the anguish and the shame of scandal
came the Saviour of the human race.
But the skies were filled, with the praise of heav'n,
shepherds listen as the angels tell
of the Gift of God, come down to man –
at the dawning of Immanuel!

King of heaven now the Friend of sinners,
humble servant in the Father's hands,
filled with power and the Holy Spirit,
filled with mercy for the broken man.
Yes, he walked my road, and He felt my pain,
joys and sorrows that I know so well;
yet His righteous steps, give me hope again –
I will follow my Immanuel!

Through the kisses of a friend's betrayal,
He was lifted on a cruel cross;
He was punished for a world's transgressions,
He was suffering to save the lost.
He fights for breath, He fights for me,
loosing sinners from the claims of hell;
and with a shout, our souls are free –
Death defeated by Immanuel!

Now He's standing in the place of honour,
crowned with glory on the highest throne,
interceding for His own beloved
till His Father calls to bring them home!
Then the skies will part, as the trumpet sounds:
hope of heaven or the fear of hell;
but the Bride will run, to her Lover's arms –
Giving glory to Immanuel!

Stuart Townend © 1999 Thankyou Music

THE SERMON

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.

"COME, THOU LONG-EXPECTED JESUS"

Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us;
let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of ev'ry longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver;
born a child and yet a king;
born to reign in us for ever;
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal Spirit,
rule in all our hearts alone:
by thine all-sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne.

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

THE PRAYERS

led by Stephen Lloyd

to finish with the Lord's Prayer…
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.

"CHRIST, WHOSE GLORY FILLS THE SKIES"

Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true, the only light;
Sun of righteousness, arise,
triumph o'er shades of night:
Dayspring from on high, be near;
Daystar, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn
unaccompanied by thee;
joyless is the day's return,
till thy mercy's beams I see,
till they inward light impart,
glad my eyes and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine,
pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
fill me, radiancy divine,
scatter all my unbelief;
more and more thyself display,
shining to the perfect day.

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

"SING WE THE SONG OF EMMANUEL"

Sing we the song of Emmanuel:
this the Christ who was long foretold.
Lo! in the shadows of Bethlehem,
promise of dawn now our eyes behold.
God Most High in a manger laid,
lift your voices and now proclaim:
Great and glorious! Love has come to us!
Join now with the hosts of heaven.

Come we to welcome Emmanuel:
King who came with no crown or throne;
helpless He lay, the Invincible;
maker of Mary, now Mary's son.
O what wisdom to save us all,
shepherds, sages before Him fall:
Grace and majesty! What humility!
Come, on bended knee, adore Him.

Go, spread the news of Emmanuel:
Joy and peace for the weary heart.
Lift up your heads for your King has come,
sing, for the Light overwhelms the dark.
Glory shining for all to see,
hope alive, let the gospel ring:
God has made a way! He will have the praise!
Tell the world His name is Jesus.

Glory shining for all to see,
hope alive, let the gospel ring:
God has made a way! He will have the praise!
Tell the world His name is Jesus.

Words and music by Matt Boswell, Matt Papa, and Stuart Townend

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.

Please be seated.

Refreshments will be brought to you in the pews.
Do please stay for a while.