



Tavistock Parish Church

Sunday 19th November



Second Sunday before Advent

Welcome to St Eustachius' Church this morning as we gather to worship the Lord our God. A particular welcome if you are visiting us today or have recently moved to the area. Please stay after the service for refreshments if you can; we'd love to meet you.

Our Services Today

8am – Holy Eucharist

President – The Rev'd Matt Godfrey
Preacher – Mr Charles Herbert LLM

9.45am – Holy Eucharist

President & Preacher – The Rev'd Matt Godfrey
Processional – All hail the power of Jesus' name (163)
Offertory – I bind unto myself the name (203)
Anthem – Lord I trust thee (Handel)
Final – Praise is rising (sheet)

6pm – Civic Service

Officiant & Preacher – The Rev'd Matt Godfrey

Collect

Heavenly Lord, you long for the world's salvation: stir us from apathy, restrain us from excess and revive in us new hope that all creation will one day be healed in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Reading

Zephaniah 1.7, 12-18

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.

Second Reading

I 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 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.

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."

Prayer 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.

Your prayers are asked for

Monday – World Children’s Day

Tuesday – Little Deers

Wednesday – Families affected by conflict

Thursday – Victims of natural disasters

Friday – Our Choir and musicians

Saturday – All in positions of power and influence

The sick and infirm, including:

Sally Antrobus, Philip Askham, Janet Bilverstone, Jonathan Bradbury, Irene Brown, Beate Clay, Mavis Connor, Eric Cocking, Dan Credicott, Kathryn Crick, Vera Couch, Arthur Dunkley, Annie Gibbs, Anne Gore, Anne Gregory, Helen & Chris, Jack, Janet, Jay, Eileen Jones, Ian Jones, Tim Jones, Karen, Becky Keast, Geoff Luckman, Marie, Mark, Johanna Parkinson, Graham Phillips, Robin Pike, Roger and Wendy Pulleyblank, Dave Rich, Megan Silcox, Colin Sneddon, David Spacey, Sue, Tim, Tina, Pauline Townsend, Tracie, Wayne, Maurie Webber, Diane Westcott, Emily Wilkin, Tate Wilkin and June Woodland

The recently departed, including:

Peter Blake

Next Sunday’s Readings – 26th November

Old Testament – Ezekiel 34.11-16, 20-24

New Testament – Ephesians 1.15-23

Holy Gospel – Matthew 25.31-46

THE WEEK AHEAD	
Mon 20	Edmund, King of the East Angles, 870
8 am 10 am 4.30 pm	Morning Prayer Warm Welcome (Parish Centre) Evening Prayer
Tue 21	
8 am 9 am 4.30 pm	Morning Prayer Little Deers (Parish Centre) Evening Prayer
Wed 22	Cecilia, Martyr at Rome, c. 230
8 am 10.30 am 4.30 pm	Morning Prayer Holy Eucharist Evening Prayer
Thu 23	Clement, Bishop of Rome, Martyr, c. 100
8 am 4.30 pm	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer

Fri 24	
8 am 9 am 4.30 pm	Morning Prayer Holy Eucharist Evening Prayer
Sat 25	Catherine of Alexandria, Martyr 4th Century
8 am 10 am 4.30 pm 7.30 pm	Morning Prayer Intercessors’ Prayer Group Evening Prayer Tamar Valley Male Voice Choir Concert
Sun 26	Christ the King
8 am 9.45 am 6 pm	Holy Eucharist Family Eucharist Evening Prayer

Old Android phones or tablets

If you have an old android phone or tablet that you no longer need (preferably Lenovo or Samsung), please could we have it to use for the card machine donations for the church? We need additional terminals for big events like the Christmas Tree Festival and the Summer Fete, and the ones in the church are wearing out as well. Contact Martin Pendle on 01822 616642 or via m.pendle@icloud.com

Volunteers Needed

December is a busy time with extra carol and school services. We have a wonderful opportunity to welcome hundreds of people through our doors but need some help to do so; to greet and guide, hand out books and to tidy up afterwards. Please sign the rota if you can spare some time. Thank you.

Advent Promise Groups – Advance Notice

An Advent Bible study will be held on three Tuesday afternoons during Advent: 28 November, 5 & 12 December 2023, at 2.30pm in the Parish Hall. Leaflets are at the back of the church. Please contact Patti or Bob Owens if you plan to attend, either via bobowensreader@outlook.com or on 01822 762078 or 07507 805074.