

St Paul's Church, Bedford
A Service of the Word and Address on the
Feast of Christ the King 2020

Welcome

The Vicar

Greeting

Deacon

The Lord be with you
And also with you

Confession

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.

All **Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen**

The deacon says

May Almighty God have mercy upon us
Forgive us our sins,
And bring us to everlasting life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Collect for the Feast of Christ the King

The Lord be with you
All **And also with you**

Let us pray.

Silence is kept

Eternal Father, whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven that he might rule over all things as Lord and King: keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace, and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

The Gospel Reading

Minister A reading from the Holy Gospel, according to Matthew.
All **Glory to you, O Lord**

Matthew 25.31-end

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left.

25:34 Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.'

25:37 Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?'

And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'

Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.'

Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?'

Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

All This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ

Address

Canon Kevin Goss, Vicar

Prayers

The Response to the words
Lord, hear us. is
Lord, graciously hear us.

All Lord, hear us.
Lord, graciously hear us.

Let us seek his intercession,
that our prayers may be perfected by his prayer.
Jesus Christ, great high priest, living for ever to intercede for us:
pray for your Church, your broken body in the world ...
Lord, hear us.

All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Jesus Christ, King of righteousness,
enthroned at the right hand of the majesty on high:
pray for the world, and make it subject to your gentle rule ...
Lord, hear us.

All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Jesus Christ, Son of man, drawing humanity into the life of God:
pray for your brothers and sisters in need, distress or sorrow ...
Lord, hear us.

All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Jesus Christ, pioneer of our salvation,
bringing us to your glory through your death and resurrection:
pray for all who are dying,
that they may trust in your promises ...
Lord, hear us.

All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Jesus Christ, Lord of all things,
ascended far above from the heavens and filling the universe:
pray for us who receive the gifts you give us for
work in your service ...
Lord, hear us.

All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Jesus Christ, first-fruits of the new creation,
keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit
and in the bond of peace,
until you bring the whole created order to worship at your feet;
for you are alive and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

Collect

Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people, that they bringing forth
the fruit of good works, may by you be richly rewarded: through Jesus
Christ Our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

**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 that 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.**

Blessing

The Vicar introduces the Blessing

Christ our King make you faithful and strong to do his will,
That you may reign with him in glory;
And the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
Come down upon you and remain with you always.

All

Amen.