

St Mary, Whitegate and St Peter, Little Budworth
Readings for Sunday 23rd November – Christ the King
Morning Prayer or Holy Communion

COLLECT:

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.

PSALM: 46

1 God is our refuge and strength, ♦
a very present help in trouble;

2 Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, ♦
and though the mountains tremble in the heart of the sea;

3 Though the waters rage and swell, ♦
and though the mountains quake at the towering seas.

4 There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, ♦
the holy place of the dwelling of the Most High.

5 God is in the midst of her; therefore shall she not be removed; ♦
God shall help her at the break of day.

6 The nations are in uproar and the kingdoms are shaken, ♦
but God utters his voice and the earth shall melt away.

7 The Lord of hosts is with us; ♦
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

8 Come and behold the works of the Lord, ♦

what destruction he has wrought upon the earth.

9 He makes wars to cease in all the world; ♦

he shatters the bow and snaps the spear and burns the chariots in the fire.

10 'Be still, and know that I am God; ♦
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.'

11 The Lord of hosts is with us; ♦
the God of Jacob is our stronghold. God of Jacob,
when the earth shakes and the nations are in uproar, speak, and let the storm be still; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit

As it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. AMEN

FIRST READING:

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. Therefore, thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD.

Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. 6 In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: 'The LORD is our righteousness.'

SECOND READING:

Luke 23:33-43

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.' And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, 'He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!' The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, 'If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!' There was also an inscription over him: 'This is the King of the Jews.'

One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, 'Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!' But the other rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.'

Then he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' He replied, 'Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.'

POST COMMUNION:

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.

SAFEGUARDING:

St Mary's & St Peter's take our duty and obligation to protect all extremely seriously. We have adopted the national Church of England's procedures and guidelines. You can find out more about the national policies and procedures at www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding

If you have any safeguarding concerns or issues of a safeguarding matter then you can find useful contact information at: <https://www.chesterdiocese.org> and click on the "Safeguarding" tab

AFTER THE SERVICE:

Please join us for refreshments. At St Mary's these are served in the Mews which is at the bottom of the steps leading to the village green. Toilets are available in the Mews.

At St Peter's refreshments are served in Church and there is a toilet at the back of church.

