

St Martin's Church, North Nibley
15th November 2020 2nd Sunday before Advent
A Service of the Word

Gathering as the People of God

Greeting

Welcome in the name of Christ!
God's grace, mercy and peace be with you
All **and also with you.**

The priest introduces the service.

Hymn

1. Soldiers of Christ, arise,
and put your armour on,
strong in the strength which God supplies
through his eternal Son.

2. Strong in the Lord of Hosts,
and in his mighty power,
who in the strength of Jesus trusts
is more than conqueror.

3. Stand then in his great might,
with all his strength endued;
but take, to arm you for the fight,
the panoply of God.

1. From strength to strength go on;
wrestle and fight and pray;
tread all the powers of darkness down,
and win the well-fought day.

2. That having all things done
And all your conflicts past,
Ye may o'ercome through Christ alone,
And stand entire at last.

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Preparing for the Word

We worship with Christians near and far, living and departed, old and young.
God's word is for all of us.
All **May it be a lamp to our feet
and a light to our path.**

A Bible is opened and candles near it are lit.

News and Notices

Opening Prayer

Lord, speak to us

All **that we may hear your word.**

Move among us

All **that we may behold your glory.**

Receive our prayers

All **that we may learn to trust you. Amen.**

Praise: Psalm 90

- 1 Lord, you have been our refuge ♦
from one generation to another.
 - 2 Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the earth and the world were formed, ♦
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.
 - 3 You turn us back to dust and say: ♦
'Turn back, O children of earth.'
 - 4 For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday, ♦
which passes like a watch in the night.
 - 5 You sweep them away like a dream; ♦
they fade away suddenly like the grass.
 - 6 In the morning it is green and flourishes; ♦
in the evening it is dried up and withered.
 - 7 For we consume away in your displeasure; ♦
we are afraid at your wrathful indignation.
 - 8 You have set our misdeeds before you ♦
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.
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- 12 So teach us to number our days ♦
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

The Collect, the prayer for the day:

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.

Proclaiming the Word of the Lord

First Reading 1 Thessalonians 5.1-11

Gospel Reading Matthew 25.14-30

Sermon

Anthem

If ye love me – music by Thomas Tallis

If ye love me, keep my commandments, and I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another comforter, that he may bide with you for ever, e'en the spirit of truth.

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Creed *[Priest]* Let us declare our faith in God.

We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.

We believe in God the Son,

who lives in our hearts through faith,

and fills us with his love.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit,

who strengthens us

with power from on high.

We believe in one God;

Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Praying for Ourselves: For Forgiveness:

Lord God,

we have sinned against you;

we have done evil in your sight.

We are sorry and repent.

Have mercy on us according to your love.

Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin.

Renew a right spirit within us

and restore to us the joy of your salvation,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The priest declares God's forgiveness

May God who loved the world so much

that he sent his Son to be our Saviour

forgive your sins

and make you holy to serve him in the world,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Praying for Others : our Intercessions

The Lord's Prayer

All **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.**

The Peace

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you.'

Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

All **and also with you. Amen**

Hymn Stand up, stand up for Jesus,

1. Stand up, stand up for Jesus,
Ye soldiers of the Cross!
Lift high his royal banner,
It must not suffer loss.
From victory unto victory
His army he shall lead,
Till every foe is vanquished,
And Christ is Lord indeed.
2. Stand up, stand up for Jesus,
The solemn watchword hear;
If while ye sleep he suffers,
Away with shame and fear.
Where'er ye meet with evil,
Within you or without,
Charge for the God of battles,
And put the foe to rout.
3. Stand up, stand up for Jesus,
Stand in his strength alone;
The arm of flesh will fail you,
Ye dare not trust your own.
Put on the Gospel armour,
Each piece put on with prayer;
When duty calls or danger
Be never wanting there.

4. Stand up, stand up for Jesus,
The strife will not be long;
This day the noise of battle,
The next the victor's song.
To him that overcometh
A crown of life shall be;
He with the King of Glory
Shall reign eternally.

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Going out to serve the Lord

Faithful Lord,
whose steadfast love never ceases
and whose mercies never come to an end:
grant us the grace to trust you
and to receive the gifts of your love,
new every morning, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Blessing

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
All **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

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