

StF 403 Percy Dearmer

1 God is love: his the care,
tending each, everywhere,
God is love, all is there!
Jesus came to show him,
that we all might know him!

*Sing aloud, loud, loud!
sing aloud, loud, loud!
God is good! God is truth!
God is beauty! Praise him!*

2 None can see God above;
we can share life and love;
thus may we Godward move,
finding him in creation,
holding ev'ry nation. [Refrain]

3 Jesus lived on the earth,
hope and life brought to birth
and affirmed human worth,
for he came to save us
by the truth he gave us. [Refrain]

4 To our Lord praise we sing,
light and life, friend and King,
coming down, love to bring,
pattern for our duty,
showing God in beauty. [Refrain]

The Cotteridge Church

4th before Advent Sunday 3rd November 2024



Bible Readings

Ruth 1:1-18 and Psalm 146

Deuteronomy 6:1-9 and Psalm 119:1-8

Hebrews 9:11-14

Mark 12:28-34

Collect

God of glory,
touch our lips with the fire of your Spirit,
that we with all creation
may rejoice to sing your praise;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Mohandas Gandhi, a Hindu leader in India, challenged the British colonial rule in India with his principles of peace & non-violence. The British establishment dismissed him as a “silly, half-naked fakir” & tried to silence him by imprisonment. Later they found, to their horror, that the entire nation was behind him in its’ fight for freedom.

Nelson Mandela, ignored by the minority rulers, was jailed for years as a radical because of his demands for the poor & the oppressed in South Africa.

Dorothy Day was imprisoned in the U. S. for her beliefs & accused of being a Communist.

Martin Luther King Jr. challenged a nation’s policy of discrimination. He was under continual surveillance by the FBI & accused of inciting sedition & being unpatriotic.

There are Christians who still look on believers of non-Christian religions & members of other Christian denominations as heretics. In today’s gospel Jesus gives his disciples a lesson in Christian tolerance along with a warning against jealousy & scandal.

StF 117 Shutz, Cox & Thwaites

1 Sing praise to God who reigns above,
the God of all creation,
the God of power, the God of love,
the God of our salvation.

With healing balm my soul is filled
and every faithless murmur stilled:
To God all praise and glory.

2 The Lord is never far away,
but through all grief distressing,
an ever present help and stay,
our peace and joy and blessing.
As with a mother's tender hand,
God gently leads the chosen band:
To God all praise and glory.

3 Thus all my toilsome way along,
I sing aloud thy praises,
that earth may hear the grateful song
my voice unwearied raises.
Be joyful in the Lord, my heart,
both soul and body bear your part:
To God all praise and glory.

4 Let all who name Christ's holy name
give God all praise and glory;
let all who own his power proclaim
aloud the wondrous story!
Cast each false idol from its throne,
for Christ is Lord, and Christ alone:
To God all praise and glory.

The Cotteridge Church

3rd before Advent Sunday 10th November 2024



Bible Readings

Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17 and **Psalm 127**

1 Kings 17:8-16 and **Psalm 146**

Hebrews 9:24-28

Mark 12:38-44

Collect

God, our refuge and strength,
bring near the day when wars shall cease
and poverty and pain shall end,
that earth may know the peace of heaven
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

In the middle ages a juggler was juggling his coloured balls and pins in the market place when some monks came by. The juggler expressed his desire to be a monk. The monks said, "What can you do?"

The juggler replied, "I juggle".

The monks said, "Well, you will have to change your ways."

The juggler became Brother Lawrence in the monastery. Years passed and one Christmas the monks decided that each one would present a masterpiece to the infant Jesus. All but Lawrence came up with an idea.

On Christmas Eve, Lawrence locked himself in the church. The monks thought he had gone mad. They ran up the choir loft and looked down. There was Lawrence juggling before the crib scene. They were going to go down and seize him as one gone berserk. But as Lawrence finished his juggling, the monks saw the infant in the manger reach out with a smile.

Lawrence had given his all.

The Cotteridge Church
2nd before Advent Sunday 17th November 2024

StF 698 Fred Kaan
God! As with silent hearts we bring to mind
how hate and war diminish humankind,
we pause - and seek in worship to increase
our knowledge of the things that make for peace.

Hallow our will as humbly we recall
the lives of those who gave and give their all.
We thank you, Lord, for women, children, men
who seek to serve in love, today as then.

Give us deep faith to comfort those who mourn,
high hope to share with all the newly born,
strong love in our pursuit of human worth:
'lest we forget' the future of this earth.

So, Prince of Peace, disarm our trust in power,
teach us to coax the plant of peace to flower.
May we, impassioned by your living Word,
remember forward to a world restored.



Bible Readings

1 Samuel 1:4-20 and 1 Samuel 2:1-10

Daniel 12:1-3 and Psalm 16

Hebrews 10:11-14, (15-18), 19-25

Mark 13:1-8

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.

A tribal leader was dying, so he summoned his 3 sons and said: "Before my death, I must choose the head of our tribe. I have a task for all of you. I want you to climb the mountain and bring me something beautiful. The one whose gift is most outstanding will succeed me."

The next day the sons set out, each taking a different path up the mountain. After two days they returned.

One brought a rare and beautiful flower that grew near the summit of the mountain.

The second brought a valuable stone, round and colourful which had been polished by the wind and rain.

The third came empty handed, he said to his father: "I have brought nothing to show you father. As I stood on the mountain top I saw that on the other side was a beautiful land of green pastures and in the middle is a crystal lake. I have a vision of where our tribe could go for a better life. I was so overwhelmed by what I saw and by what I could see that I could not bring anything back."

The father replied: "You shall be our tribe's new leader, for you have brought back the most precious thing - the gift of a vision for a better future."

StF 591 Liturgy of St James, trans G. Moultrie

1 Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly minded,
for, with blessing in His hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
our full homage to demand.

2 King of kings, yet born of Mary,
as of old on earth He stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture,
in the body and the blood.
He will give to all the faithful
His own self for heav'nly food.

3 Rank on rank the host of heaven
spreads its vanguard on the way,
as the Light of light descendeth
from the realms of endless day,
that the pow'rs of hell may vanish
as the darkness clears away.

4 At His feet the six-winged seraph,
cherubim with sleepless eye,
veil their faces to the Presence,
as with ceaseless voice they cry,
"Alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia, Lord Most High!"

The Cotteridge Church

Christ the King

Sunday 24th November 2024



Bible Readings

2 Samuel 23:1-7 and Psalm 132:1-12, (13-18)

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 and Psalm 93

Revelation 1:4b-8

John 18:33-37

Collect

God the Father,
help us to hear the call of Christ the King
and to follow in his service,
whose kingdom has no end;
for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, one glory.

Once a village blacksmith had a vision, an angel of the Lord came to him and said "The Lord has sent me. The time has come for you to take up your place in his kingdom."

"I thank God for thinking of me" said the blacksmith, "but the season for sowing crops is here, village people will need their ploughs repaired, their horses shod. Do you think I might put off my place in the kingdom until I've finished?" The angel looked at him in the wise and loving

ways of angels. "I'll see what can be done" he said and vanished.

The blacksmith continued, he was almost finished when he heard of a neighbour who fell ill in the middle of the planting season. The next time he saw the angel, the blacksmith pointed to the bare fields and pleaded with the angel, "Do you think eternity can hold off a little longer? If I don't finish this job, my friend's family will suffer."

Again the angel smiled and vanished. The blacksmith's friend recovered, but another's barn burnt down, and a third was mourning the death of his wife. Whenever the angel reappeared, the blacksmith just spread out his hands in a gesture of resignation and compassion, and drew the angel's eyes to where the suffering was.

One evening the blacksmith began to think of the angel, he felt very old and tired and he prayed "Lord if you would like to send your angel again, I think I would like to see him now."

He'd no sooner spoken than the angel stood before him. "If you want to take me" said the blacksmith, "I am now ready to take my place in the kingdom of the Lord."

The angel of the Lord looked at the blacksmith, and smiled, as he said, "Where do you think you have been all these years?"