

# PEW NEWS

***MILBORNE PORT, MILBORNE WICK, GOATHILL, CHARLTON HORETHORNE AND STOWELL.***

**Sunday 22 November 2020  
Christ the King - Sunday next before Advent**

Dear friends,

Today was once called Stir up Sunday. Do you recognise this?

*"Stir-up, we beseech thee, O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people;  
that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works,  
may of thee be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."*

It was the collect for this Sunday out of the old prayer book and in our common worship it has become the post communion prayer for today. When people heard this collect in Church it reminded them that if they hadn't already stirred up the ingredients and made their Christmas pudding they needed to hurry up as Christmas is coming. So I hope you have already made yours.

In the collect we are praying that God will stir up our wills, so that we might get on with doing the good works that he has planned for us to do. In the end, it is our will, rather than our feelings, that is the most important governor of our actions.

Real love is not about feeling it is about choosing, by our wills, to do good to others. And so we pray that God will "stir up" our wills, so that they will be in charge of us, doing what we know is right.

This Sunday is a special one, and the last Sunday of the Church year. Next week we begin the church year with the four Sundays of Advent. It used to be called stir up Sunday but now we call it Christ the King. It is a time to look back and recall the stories of Jesus and his reign. What type of king is he? Soon we will be looking forward in Advent to him coming to us again in human form as a tiny little baby but for today we are thinking of him as a king reigning in glory. 'Christ triumphant ever reigning' 'Crown him with many crowns' 'Thine be the glory', 'At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow' are all hymns that would usually be sung in our services today as we celebrate Christ's reign, here on earth and in heaven.

## 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.

## Readings

### Ezekiel 34.11–16, 20–24

<sup>11</sup> For thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. <sup>12</sup> As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. <sup>13</sup> I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. <sup>14</sup> I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. <sup>15</sup> I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. <sup>16</sup> I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

<sup>20</sup> Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. <sup>21</sup> Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, <sup>22</sup> I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

<sup>23</sup> I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd.

<sup>24</sup> And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

### Matthew 25.31–end

<sup>31</sup> ‘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. <sup>32</sup> 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, <sup>33</sup> and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. <sup>34</sup> 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; <sup>35</sup> 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, <sup>36</sup> 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.’’ <sup>37</sup> 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?’’ <sup>38</sup> And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing?’’ <sup>39</sup> And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’’ <sup>40</sup> 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.’’ <sup>41</sup> 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; <sup>42</sup> for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, <sup>43</sup> 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.’’ <sup>44</sup> 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?’’ <sup>45</sup> 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.’’ <sup>46</sup> And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.’

## 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.

## 22nd November - Sunday Service on Zoom

Sarah Godfrey is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Sunday service

Time: Nov 22, 2020 10:30 AM London

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89855472512?pwd=SkVzVHQrbHpuM1dmeXc5aEtZc2dCQT09>

Meeting ID: 898 5547 2512

Passcode: 362692

### A call to prayer for the nation

The Archbishops of Canterbury and York and Bishop of London have called the Church of England to pray for the nation throughout the month of November.

The Archbishop's have suggested 6pm as a good time. But please pray sometime in the day

Here are the themes for each day.

**Sunday:** For family friend and loved ones

**Monday:** Schools and colleges, children and young people

**Tuesday:** The elderly isolated and vulnerable

**Wednesday:** Businesses, workplaces and economic well-being

**Thursday :** The NHS and other key workers

**Friday:** National and local government

**Saturday:** all who are grieving and all who are suffering with physical or mental ill health

***This is the prayer for the coming week***

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-churches/call-prayer-nation#sunday>

Lord Jesus Christ,

in these dark and difficult days, we turn our hearts to you.

In ages past, you have delivered our nation from disaster.

Do it again, we pray.

Give wisdom beyond human wisdom to our leaders,

Give strength beyond human strength to the NHS and all our frontline workers.

Give comfort beyond human comfort to the elderly and all who grieve.

Lord Jesus Christ,

in these dark and difficult days,

turn your face towards us,

have mercy upon us,

and heal our land, we pray.

Amen.

## Watch this space-worship in the waiting

*“In everything that is anxious and traumatic and heart breaking; in everything that is busy and rushed and burdensome; in everything that never seems to stop or slow we dig out with bare hands a well from which to drink finally sitting back as the water impossibly rises up. And so we watch this space and give thanks for the blessing of a moment of being and not doing”*

“Watch this Space” is very much the head- line for these times of uncertainty. We watch and wait to see what the government will tell us next. It is also an Advent theme as we watch this space and wait for God. Are you thirsting for God in these difficult times? Do you long for God to fill the space? Or have you forgotten how to thirst for God?

Throughout Advent we will be holding a weekly gathering on Zoom on the theme of ‘worship in the waiting’

They will be held at 7pm on Thursday evenings

26<sup>th</sup> November: Waiting for a King

3<sup>rd</sup> December: Holy suspense

10<sup>th</sup> December: Active Patience

17<sup>th</sup> December: Hope-filled expectation

### **Joining details.**

Topic: Advent meeting

Time: Nov 26, 2020 07:00 PM London

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86279003669?pwd=S0dQRG0xU2t5UkhZQXlUb2VkbjRXUT09>

Meeting ID: 862 7900 3669

Passcode: 211161

# Planning for Christmas Day

It is very hard to plan services in our church buildings when we don't know what restrictions will be in place. My best guess is that social distancing will still be in place which will reduce the numbers we can fit into the churches on Christmas Day. We may have to ask you to attend just one service over the Christmas week so that we can accommodate everyone.

It would help me to know if you wish to attend a service on **Christmas Day** so that I can plan. I will send round a separate survey in due course.

At the moment the pattern for the run up to Christmas (which is subject to change) looks like this

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> at 10.30am Christmas communion

- *Charlton Horethorne*

4pm Christmas service

-*Goathill*

6pm Candle lit service

- *Milborne Port (Ticket only)*

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6pm Candle lit service (over flow if necessary)

- *Milborne Port (Ticket only)*

Christmas Eve at 10.30am Christmas Communion

- *Goathill (15 max)*

4pm Crib service

- *possibly outside Milborne Port*

Christmas Day 9am Morning service

- *Charlton Horethorne (30 max)*

10.30am Christmas Communion

- *Milborne Port (60 max/Ticket only)*

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> 9am Benefice Breakfast Zoom Service

10.30am Christmas Communion

- *Milborne Wick or Stowell*