

*Christ Church New  
Southgate & Friern Barnet*

*27 November 2022*

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Welcome

*Psalm 145*

<sup>1</sup>We will exalt you, our God the King;  
**We will praise your name  
for ever and ever**

<sup>6</sup>We will tell of the power of your awesome  
works  
**and proclaim your great deeds**

<sup>7</sup> Today we celebrate your abundant  
goodness  
**and joyfully sing  
of your righteousness.**

We will exalt you, our God the King;  
**We will praise your name  
for ever and ever**

Song: Let praise resound  
From life's beginning  
to all eternity,  
there is a song to be sung;  
in deepest oceans,  
across the galaxies,  
in every nation and tongue.

*Let praise resound,  
let praise resound, all around.  
Creation, sing with one voice  
to the glory of the Maker of all things:  
let praise resound.*

Come, every creature  
alive at his command,  
join the eternal refrain.

Sing, joyful mountains,  
you rivers, clap your hands;  
all nature, breathe out his name.

Sing together:  
holy, holy, holy is the Lord.  
Glory to the one who lives  
and reigns for evermore:  
(repeat)  
let praise resound.

So join the anthem,  
let every voice be heard,  
come lift your praises up high  
as songs of worship  
ring out across the earth,  
as heaven sings in reply.

Song: Happy day  
The greatest day in history  
Death is beaten, You have rescued me  
Sing it out, Jesus is alive  
The empty cross, the empty grave  
Life eternal, You have won the day  
Shout it out, Jesus is alive  
He's alive

*Oh, happy day, happy day  
You washed my sin away  
Oh, happy day, happy day  
I'll never be the same  
Forever I am changed*

When I stand in that place  
Free at last, meeting face to face  
I am yours, Jesus, You are mine  
Endless joy, perfect peace  
Earthly pain finally will cease  
Celebrate, Jesus is alive  
He's alive

Oh no, forever I am changed  
Oh, what a glorious day  
What a glorious way  
That You have saved me  
And oh, what a glorious day  
What a glorious name

## Prayer

Song: E ti tobi

The splendour of the King,  
clothed in majesty;  
let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice.  
He wraps himself in light  
and darkness tries to hide,  
and trembles at his voice, and trembles at his  
voice.

*How great is our God,  
sing with me: how great is our God.  
And all will see how great, how great is our God.*

And age to age He stands,  
and time is in His hands;  
beginning and the end, beginning and the  
end.  
The Godhead, Three in One,  
Father, Spirit, Son,  
the Lion and the Lamb, the Lion and the  
Lamb,  
How great is our God...

Name above all names, worthy of all praise;  
my heart will sing: how great is our God.  
How great is our God...

*Reading: Psalm 145*

<sup>1</sup>I will exalt you, my God the King;  
I will praise your name for ever and ever.

<sup>2</sup>Every day I will praise you  
and extol your name for ever and ever.

<sup>3</sup>Great is the Lord and most worthy of  
praise;  
his greatness no one can fathom.

<sup>4</sup>One generation commends your works to  
another;  
they tell of your mighty acts.

<sup>5</sup>They speak of the glorious splendour of  
your majesty—  
and I will meditate on your wonderful  
works.<sup>[a]</sup>

<sup>6</sup>They tell of the power of your awesome  
works—  
and I will proclaim your great deeds.

<sup>7</sup>They celebrate your abundant goodness  
and joyfully sing of your righteousness.

*Testimonies & Prayers*

*Advent candle lighting*

We light this candle as a reminder that you  
have been with us and will be with us as we  
wait for Jesus at Christmas. Great is the  
Lord.

Song: How great (psalm 145)P  
I'll bless Your name, O God, each day that I  
awake  
From dawn to setting sun, Your greatness  
I'll proclaim  
Your glory far exceeds all human thought  
So with each breath I'll bless Your name, O  
God

Your name will be revered by children yet to  
come  
As generations sing of wonders You have  
done  
Your strong and mighty deeds are always  
near  
O God Most High, Your name will be  
revered

*How great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!*

*How great is the Lord our God*

*How great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!*

Your gracious hand provides for all who live  
and breathe  
Your mercy runs to find the helpless and the  
weak  
When we call out to You, You hear our cries  
And all our needs Your gracious hand  
provides

Forever without end, creation will rejoice  
When works of wicked men, You finally  
destroy  
Your power we'll proclaim till Christ  
descends  
And You will reign forever without end

## Waiting for God

The waiting we have done, is not like waiting for a bus to arrive on a winters day, it's not like waiting for exam results, it's not even been like waiting for your prince to arrive. The waiting we have done, is waiting for God.

Waiting for plans to be drawn up  
Waiting for plans to be agreed  
Waiting for plans to be amended  
Waiting for reports to be made and submitted  
Waiting to draw down funds  
Waiting for listed buildings committees to start and finish  
Waiting for synod to meet  
Waiting for synod to vote and grant  
Waiting for surveyor's reports  
Waiting for a buyer with a good price  
Waiting for lawyer's bills  
Waiting for Enfield council planning department  
Waiting for Enfield planning committee  
Waiting for Enfield planning committee  
Waiting for Enfield planning committee

I've been here only 5 years, and pretty much all we've done is be in a perpetual state of waiting.

It's probably a good thing too, because there is more waiting coming. Waiting for section 106 to be finalised with buyer and planning department, waiting for judicial review for this is a major development.

But now we wait with the certainty that we have planning permission to be able to sell Grove Road. We have gone through to the next waiting room which actually means something will happen. We've moved out of the zigzag rope lines and into the official waiting area.

On this Advent Sunday we are reminded that as part of the people of God, it is in our DNA, in our very bones to wait on God. And as the people of God, we wait on God for

change. For too long the people had longed for light, longed for hope from the oppression of the Romans – and all the oppressors before them.

The God we hope in is great, and worthy to be praised, he is mighty to act, the splendour of his majesty is glorious, and that makes us sing in thanksgiving to God.

The outpouring of every Christian heart is worship. Every heart that is sad should lament his troubles before God. Every heart that is anxious should intercede for her situation. Every heart that is joyful should praise God.

We wait because we know God is great, we wait because we know he is faithful. Our waiting has been demanding but it has shaped us as a people who are desperate for God's light, desperate for change in our world. To John the Baptist, God spoke and he said: prepare the way. Now is the time. Christ Church may our Advent come and may we give glory to the only God whose plans are waiting for. As we prepare to celebrate Christ coming to this world, may we remember afresh that God is present with us in this time of celebration today and all the waiting that is still to come, for we wait for God, our great and glorious God.

Song: The Lord Almighty reigns  
How sweet the name of Jesus sounds  
Amid the chaos of this world  
His Word is true, His arm is strong  
He is my Refuge and my Rock  
He never tires, He's always in control  
My life is held safe within His hands  
And I will trust, my praise is faith  
My faithful God will work all things for good

*Chorus*  
*The Lord Almighty reigns*

*Your kingdom shall never end  
You're the Anchor, secure  
Hope that never fades  
And on Christ our Rock we stand  
On Christ our Rock we stand!*

Verse 2

Where can I go? Where is my help?  
When dreams lie broken on the ground  
When strength is gone, if faith grows weak  
When fear is waiting to be found  
Look up my soul: the Lord is on His throne  
My hope is found not within this world  
But in His life, His mighty power  
My soul rejoice, and trust in Christ alone!

Bridge

Now to stand in the evil day  
To stand in the eye of the storm  
To stand and be confident  
You are able to do more than I can ask  
And more than I could ever know

*Communion*

*Prayers for the world*

Hymn: Thine be the glory, risen, conquering  
Son,  
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast  
won;  
angels in bright raiment rolled the stone  
away,  
kept the folded grave-clothes where thy  
body lay.

*Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,  
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.*

Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;  
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and  
gloom;  
let the Church with gladness hymns of  
triumph sing,  
for her Lord now liveth; death hath lost its  
sting.  
Thine be the glory...

No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of  
life;  
life is nought without thee: aid us in our  
strife;  
make us more than conquerors, through thy  
deathless love:  
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home  
above.  
Thine be the glory...

*Blessing*