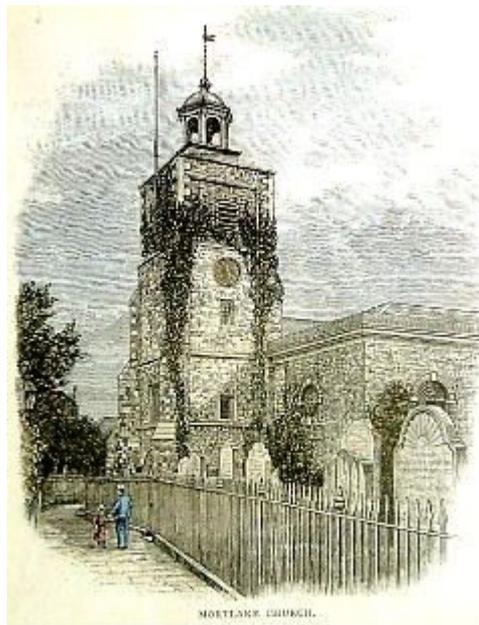


## St Mary the Virgin, Mortlake



A service for the  
Sunday before Advent  
Christ the King

22nd November 2020 at 10am

The Greeting

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

The Lord be with you

**And also with you**

*Informal words of welcome are said.*

Opening Hymn

Christ triumphant, ever reigning,  
Saviour, Master, King!  
Lord of heaven, our lives sustaining,  
hear us as we sing:  
*Yours the glory and the crown,  
the high renown, the eternal name.*

Word incarnate, truth revealing,  
Son of Man on earth!  
power and majesty concealing  
by your humble birth:  
*Yours the glory...*

Suffering servant, scorned, ill - treated,  
victim crucified!  
death is through the cross defeated,  
sinners justified:  
*Yours the glory...*

Priestly king, enthroned for ever  
high in heaven above!  
sin and death and hell shall never  
stifle hymns of love:  
*Yours the glory...*

So, our hearts and voices raising  
through the ages long,  
ceaselessly upon you gazing,  
this shall be our song:  
*Yours the glory...*

Michael Seward (born 1932)  
© Michael Seward/Jubilate Hymns  
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### The Prayers of Penitence

We come to God as one from whom no secrets are hidden,  
to ask for his forgiveness and peace.

*Silence is kept*

Where we have wilfully misused your gifts of creation;  
Lord, be merciful:

**forgive us our sin.**

Where we have seen the ill-treatment of others  
and have not gone to their aid;

Lord, be merciful:

**forgive us our sin.**

Where we have condoned evil and dishonesty  
and failed to strive for justice;

Lord, be merciful:

**forgive us our sin.**

Where we have not loved you with all our heart,  
nor our neighbours as ourselves;

Lord, be merciful:

**forgive us our sin.**

### Absolution

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,  
have mercy upon you,  
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,  
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,  
and keep you in life eternal;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### The 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. **Amen**

### Old Testament Reading: Ezekiel 34.11–16,20–24

For thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will  
seek them out. 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. 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. 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. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. 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. Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep. I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 95:1-7 (sung by members of St Mary's choir)

New Testament Reading: Ephesians 1.15–23

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading Matthew 25. 31-46

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

'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. 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, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. 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; 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, 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." 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? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" 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." 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; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, 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." 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?" 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." And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon (Mr William Arnold parish reader)

*After the sermon a short period of silent reflection is kept.*

Prayers of Intercession

*The prayers conclude with*

Merciful Father,

**Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer (*we sit or kneel*)

*As our Saviour taught us, so we pray*

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever.  
Amen**

The Peace

We are the body of Christ.  
In the one Spirit we were all baptised into one body.  
Let us then pursue all that makes for peace  
And builds up our common life.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Anthem: "Cantate Domino" by Giuseppe Ottavioni Pitoni (1657-1743)  
(sung by the choir)

Spiritual Communion

Loving Lord, we know that you are with us wherever we are. Since we cannot at this moment receive you in the bread and wine of the Eucharist, we ask you to open our eyes to your presence now in these quiet moments and in our daily lives, leading and guiding us in the week ahead. May we know that though we are for a time physically separated from one another, we are united in your Spirit and we can never be separated from you.

**Amen**

*A time of silence follows as we open our hearts to God.*

### Closing Prayers

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. **Amen.**

**Eternal God,  
our beginning and our end,  
accompany us in this week's journey.  
Dawn on our darkness,  
open our eyes to praise you for your creation  
and strengthen us for the challenges which lie before us.  
Take us and use us to share with others  
the love we find in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

### Notices

#### The Blessing

The love of the Lord Jesus draw you to himself,  
the power of the Lord Jesus  
strengthen you in his service,  
the joy of the Lord Jesus fill your hearts;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

#### Dismissal

Go in the peace of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**

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