

Holsworthy Benefice November News Sheet

	Bridgerule	Hollacombe	Holsworthy	Pancrasweek	Pyworthy
31st Oct			3.30pm - Celtic worship at Halloween with family activities. Music, story & refreshments.		
2nd Nov	11am Sung Eucharist	9.30am Mass	9.30am Sung Eucharist		9.30am Family Service 6pm All Souls Service
9th Nov	10.55am Acts of Remembrance	11.30am Anvil Corner	10am Eucharist with Acts of Remembrance 3pm Remembrance Service Bodmin Methodist Church		
11th Nov			10.50am Civic Service Stanhope Park		10.50am Acts of Remembrance
16th Nov		9.30am Mass	11am Sung Eucharist		9.30am Sung Eucharist
23rd Nov	11am All Age Eucharist		11am Cafe style Church	9.30am All Age Service	9.30am Morning Prayer
30th Nov	10am Benefice Service at Pyworthy				
30th Nov		3pm Advent Carols			

	Bridgerule	Hollacombe	Holsworthy	Pancrasweek	Pyworthy
7th Dec	11am Sung Eucharist	9.30am Mass	9.30am Sung Eucharist 6pm Carol Service		4pm Christingle
14th Dec	11am Morning Prayer	3pm Christingle	11am Tree Festival Memorial Service		9.30am Sung Eucharist
16th Dec	6pm Bridgerule Primary School Christingle				
21st Dec	11am Joint Service at Methodist Chapel 6.30pm Carol Service	9.30am Mass	11am Sung Eucharist	9.30am Crib Service	3pm Crib Service
24th Dec	3pm Crib Service	11.30pm Midnight Mass	11pm Midnight Mass		8pm Christmas Eve Mass
25th Dec	10am Eucharist	10am Christmas Day Mass			
27th Dec		2.30pm Carol Service			
28th Dec		9.30am Morning Prayer	10am Benefice Eucharist at Holsworthy		
4th Jan	11am Sung Eucharist	9.30am Mass	9.30am Sung Eucharist 6pm Carol Service		4pm Christingle

Dear Friends

November is the month of Remembrance. Our public acts of Remembrance fall on Sunday 9th November and Tuesday 11th November, please see the diary for details.

Other observances of Remembrance fall throughout the month. Sunday 2nd includes both remembrance of All Saints and also of All Souls – each occasion call to mind those who have lived on earth: past and present; and our own loved ones. Again, please see the diary for further details.

A final act of remembrance occurs at the end of the month, when we remember victims of Domestic Abuse. Last year there were 262 domestic abuse deaths recorded in England and Wales to the year ending March 2024. The majority of the deaths were women. The display of knitted chains in Pyworthy aim to contain 262 links to raise awareness of the prevalence of domestic abuse which is largely hidden. Further details are in the diary.

Our annual Act of Remembrance honours those who have died and involves a commitment to do all in our power to prevent unnecessary death. This calls for champions of peace, both in the nation and in the home. When we make our Remembrance promises this year, please consider how you could become a champion of peace in your areas of influence.

We stand together in peace before God as we remember those who have gone before.

Yours in Christ

Alison



Pupils from Bridgerule School visited St Bridget's church to plant spring bulbs along the pathway.

Shoebbox appeal is due to be collected between 10th to 16th Nov 2025. Alison will bless any boxes on Nov 9th service here in St Peter and St Pauls. We would like any Boxes to be brought to church by then for her blessing. We will hand them over to the Methodist Church for onward passage. (Details for items to be put in them are on the website Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child Shoebbox Appeal)

All Hallows Eve

31st October 3.30pm Celtic worship at Halloween with family activities. Music, story & refreshments.

Local Worship Training

1st November 9.30am – 12. 30pm. Contact Libby for further details.

Baptisms St Peter & Paul

8th November 2pm We welcome Grace Rolinson.

16th November 11am We welcome Noah & Archie Dart

Christians Together in Holsworthy & District

17th November (& 24th, 1st Dec) 6.30 – 9.30pm. 3-Week introduction to Christianity called Hope Explored. Bodmin Street Methodist Church. Evening meal 7pm. Please see poster enclosed.

Pyworthy Christmas Fair

29th & 30th November. See poster for details.

Advent Carols at Hollacombe

30th November 2.30pm. You may enjoy Christmas Carols, but did you know there are many Advent Carols too? They may not be so well known but there is a chance to enjoy singing some of them on Advent Sunday.

The winners of the St Peter's Monthly Jackpot Draw drawn in Oct were:

The winners of the St. Peter's Monthly Jackpot Draw for September were:

1st Prize, £17.50 - ticket number 20, Victoria O

2nd Prize, £3.50 - ticket number 12, Jose A

If you would like to purchase tickets for the next Jackpot Draw, or know anyone who might wish to support Holsworthy Parish Church in this way, please contact the Treasurer on 07790 380119.

Can you Help?

Pyworthy Church celebrate Christingle on 7th Dec 2025 at 4pm, St Swithuns Church, Pyworthy. Its a family service, where lots of the local children attend and take part in. During the service the congregation can offer wrapped toy donation, these don't have to be brand new, as long as they are clean and not broken. These gifts are passed to a Devon Women's Refuge for the children who get caught up in domestic violence to open on Christmas Day. These children leave their homes with very little, or often nothing, just to be safe.

If you would like to help we ask that each gift is wrapped with a label suggestion age/gender appropriate. If unable to make the Christingle Service, the gifts can be left in Pyworthy church from 1st Dec 2025. If you are having problems getting the gifts to the church please email Libby on holsworthybenefice@icloud.com

Every year Mothers' Union raises the profile of social injustice during their 16 days of Activism against gender based violence. This year the focus is on domestic violence. Pyworthy Church is gathering knitted chain links to put together as part of a display to highlight the awareness of domestic violence: each chain represents a victim. They will be displayed during Pyworthy Christmas Fair and remain in place until Pyworthy Christingle Service when the proceeds will be sent to a women's refuge. Please join in the knitting and bring your links to Pyworthy Church on the afternoon of Wednesday 26th November to put them all together.



A plea to all who knit to become part of a 'Chain' reaction to highlight the growing number of incidents related to domestic violence being reported across the county of Devon in the past few years. Every link in the chain represents a victim of domestic abuse.

All that is required to create these knitted chains is to 'cast on 60 stitches, knit 6 rows and then cast off' [size 8 or 4mm needles]. Then arrange for your completed knitted chains to be delivered to Pyworthy Church before 25th November, allowing time for them to be added together into one large chain.

You can **Join Us** and **Join In** alongside Mothers' Union members, who have been knitting chains to be used in displays in different locations during the 16 Days of Activism which runs from the 25th November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, through to 5th December, Human Rights Day, to highlight the appalling statistics as they join the Campaign for #NoMore1in3 to end abuse and violence now. Thank you.





Christmas Fair



The Fair will be opened by the
Town Cryer and will be held
on:

Saturday 29th November 2025

in:

**Pyworthy Village Hall,
11.00am until 3.00pm.**



There will be lots of crafts, books, cakes, grand raffle,
chocolate tombola, face painting, plus lots, lots more.

Refreshments will be available.

Come along and start your Christmas shopping.

PLEASE PUT THE DATE IN YOUR DIARY!

I will be looking for:

- ❁ **Books,**
- ❁ **Raffle prizes and**
- ❁ **Chocolate for the tombola, also**
- ❁ **Cakes for the cake stall.**

For further information contact:

Janet Grant on:

01409 259356.

Thank you for your support.



*Merry
Christmas*





Christmas Tree Festival

*St Peter & St Paul's Church
Holsworthy*

WEDNESDAY 10TH DECEMBER
12.00 NOON- 6.00PM

THURSDAY 11TH DECEMBER
12.00 NOON- 6.00PM

FRIDAY 12TH DECEMBER
12.00 NOON - 6.00PM

SATURDAY 13TH DECEMBER
10.00AM - 6.00PM

SUNDAY 14TH DECEMBER
12.00 NOON - 4.00PM

Free Entry

Refreshments, Raffle,
Chocolate Tombola,
Children's Craft Table,
Vote For Your Favourite Tree



HOPE EXPLORED

Bodmin Street

Monday evenings

17th, 24th November, 1st December

Doors open at 6:30pm for food at 7pm

An evening of exploration

What is your HOPE for the future?
Are we a "Christian Kingdom"?
What is Christianity about?



HOPE|EXPLORED

WHAT'S THE BEST FUTURE
YOU COULD EVER IMAGINE?

Suggested donation of £4 / person, to include supper

Please contact Libby for more information
Holsworthybenefice@icloud.com

Readings for November and December

2nd Nov-White All Saints' Day –

Daniel 7:1-3. 15-18, Psalm 149, Ephesians 1:11-end, Gospel Luke 6: 20-31

9th Nov-Green/Red Third Sunday before Advent –

Job 19:23-27a, Psalm 17: 1-9 (1-8), 2 Thessalonian 2:1-5. 13-end., Gospel Luke 20:27-38

16th Nov-Green/Red Second Sunday before Advent –

Malachi 4:1-2a, Psalm 98, , 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13, Gospel Luke 21:5-19

23rd Nov-Red/White Christ the King–

Jeremiah 23:1-6, Psalm 46, Colossians 1:11-20, Gospel Luke 23:33-43

30th Nov-Purple First day of Advent –

Isaiah 2:1-5, Psalm 122, Romans 13: 11-end, Gospel Matthew 24: 36-44

7th Dec-Purple Second Sunday of Advent –

Isaiah 11:1-10, Psalm 72: 1- 7. 18-19, Romans 15: 4-13, Gospel Matthew 3: 1-12

14th Dec-Purple Third Sunday of Advent –

Isaiah 35:1-10, Psalm 146: 4-10. 18-19, Luke 1:46b-55, James 5:7-10 , Gospel Matthew 11: 2-11

21st Dec-Purple Forth Sunday of Advent –

Isaiah 7:10--16, Psalm 80: 1-8. 18-20, Romans 1: 1-7, Gospel Matthew 1: 18-end

25th Dec-White Christmas Day –

Isaiah 52:7-10, Psalm 98, Hebrews 1: 1-4 (5-12) , Gospel John 1: 1-14

28th Dec-White The Holy Innocents –

Jeremiah 31: 15-17, Psalm 124, 1 Corinthians 1:26-29, Gospel Matthew 2: 13-18,

All Hallows Eve Light Festival

31st October 15:30-16:30 st Peters & Pauls

FREE

**events for the whole family
including hook a duck, apple
bobbing, scavenger hunt,
making pomander oranges
all with prizes as well as a
tombola!**

**please
come
dressed
up!**

**a range of refreshments
including hot drinks and
cakes**

**we will be hosting
a small service
with a story book
as well as a
chance for a
costume parade**

**please may all children be accompanied and
supervised by an adult**



Contacts

Bridgerule Church Wardens

Trevor Bowden – 01288 381247

Peter Harris – 01288 381 149

Bridgerule Safeguarding Lead

Val Harris -01409 259192

Holsworthy Church Warden

Mary Osborne – 01409 25311

Holsworthy Deputy Church Wardens

Helen Flaherty & Sam Hatter.

Holsworthy Safeguarding Lead

Libby Cullimore – 07717750198

Hollacombe Church Warden

Paul Dymond – 01288 381309

Hollacombe Safeguarding Lead

Libby Cullimore - 07717 750198

Pyworthy Church Wardens

Liffy Lowes - 01409 254423

Ali Davies - 01409 251281

Pyworthy Safeguarding Lead

Ali Davies -01409 251281

Pancrasweek Church Wardens

Adam Rivett – 07941 940524

Libby Cullimore - 07717 750198

Pancrasweek Safeguarding Lead

Libby Cullimore – 07717750198

Holsworthy Foodbank

Samaritans

Age UK -

Domesic Abuse – Womens Aid

Domesic Abuse – Mens Advice Line

Childline

01271 377077

116 123

0808 055 6112

0808 2000 247

0808 8010 327

0800 111

COLLECT

Almighty God,
you have knit together your elect
in one communion and fellowship
in the mystical body of your Son
Christ our Lord:
grant us grace so to follow your blessed
saints
in all virtuous and godly living
that we may come to those
inexpressible joys
that you have prepared for those who
truly love you;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Daniel 7:1-3. 15-18

A reading from the book of Daniel.

In the first year of King Belshazzar of Babylon, Daniel had a dream and visions of his head as he lay in bed. Then he wrote down the dream: I, Daniel, saw in my vision by night the four winds of heaven stirring up the great sea, and four great beasts came up out of the sea, different from one another. As for me, Daniel, my spirit was troubled within me, and the visions of my head terrified me. I approached one of the attendants to ask him the truth concerning all this. So he said that he would disclose to me the interpretation of the matter: "As for these four great beasts, four kings shall arise out of the earth. But the holy ones of the Most High shall receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom for ever – for ever and ever."

PSALM Psalm 149

R *Sound praises to the Lord, all the earth.*

Alleluia.

O sing to the Lord a new song;
sing his praise in the congregation of
the faithful.

Let Israel rejoice in their maker;
let the children of Zion be joyful in their
king. **R**

Let them praise his name in the dance;
let them sing praise to him with timbrel
and lyre.

For the Lord has pleasure in his people
and adorns the poor with salvation. **R**

Let the faithful be joyful in glory;
let them rejoice in their ranks,
With the praises of God in their mouths
and a two-edged sword in their hands; **R**

To execute vengeance on the nations
and punishment on the peoples;
To bind their kings in chains
and their nobles with fetters of iron;
To execute on them the judgement
decreed;

such honour have all his faithful servants.
Alleluia. **R**

SECOND READING

Ephesians 1:11-end

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance towards redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory. 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.

GOSPEL Luke 6:20-31

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Jesus looked up at his disciples and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets. But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you."

POST COMMUNION

God, the source of all holiness
and giver of all good things:
may we who have shared at this table
as strangers and pilgrims here on
earth

be welcomed with all your saints
to the heavenly feast on the day of your
kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



COLLECT

Almighty Father,
whose will is to restore all things
in your beloved Son, the king of all:
govern the hearts and minds of those
in authority,
and bring the families of the nations,
divided and torn apart by the ravages
of sin,
to be subject to his just and gentle
rule;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING

Job 19:23-27a

A reading from the book of Job.

Job said to his companions: "O that my words were written down! O that they were inscribed in a book! O that with an iron pen and with lead they were engraved on a rock for ever! For I know that my Redeemer lives, and that at the last he will stand upon the earth; and after my skin has been thus destroyed, then in my flesh I shall see God, whom I shall see on my side, and my eyes shall behold, and not another. My heart faints with me!"

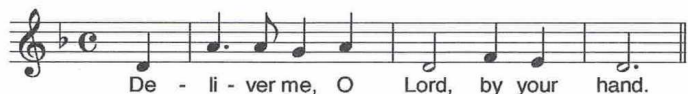
PSALM Psalm 17:1-9 [or 1-8]

R Deliver me, O Lord, by your hand.

Hear my just cause, O Lord; consider my complaint;
listen to my prayer, which comes not from lying lips.
Let my vindication come forth from your presence;
let your eyes behold what is right. **R**

Weigh my heart, examine me by night,
refine me, and you will find no impurity in me.
My mouth does not trespass for earthly rewards;
I have heeded the words of your lips.
My footsteps hold fast in the ways of your commandments;
my feet have not stumbled in your paths. **R**

I call upon you, O God, for you will answer me;
incline your ear to me, and listen to my words.



Show me your marvellous loving-kindness,
O Saviour of those who take refuge at your right hand from those who rise up against them. **R**

Keep me as the apple of your eye;
hide me under the shadow of your wings,
From the wicked who assault me,
from my enemies who surround me to take away my life. **R**

SECOND READING

2 Thessalonians 2:1-5. 13-end

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

As to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we beg you, brothers and sisters, not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as though from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord is already here. Let no one deceive you in any way; for that day will not come unless the rebellion comes first and the lawless one is revealed, the one destined for destruction. He opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, declaring himself to be God. Do you not remember that I told you these things when I was still with you? But we must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the first fruits for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and through belief in the truth. For this purpose he called you through our proclamation of the good news, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by word of mouth or by our letter. Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and through grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope, comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word.

GOSPEL Luke 20:27-38

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Some Sadducees, those who say there is no resurrection, came to Jesus, and asked him a question, "Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies, leaving a wife but no children, the man shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother. Now there were seven brothers; the first married, and died childless; then the second and the third married her, and so in the same way all seven died childless. Finally the woman also died. In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had married her." Jesus said to them, "Those who belong to this age marry and are given in marriage; but those who are considered worthy of a place in that age and in the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage. Indeed they cannot die any more, because they are like angels and are children of God, being children of the resurrection. And the fact that the dead are raised Moses himself showed, in the story about the bush, where he speaks of the Lord as the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. Now he is God not of the dead, but of the living; for to him all of them are alive."

POST COMMUNION

God of peace,
whose Son Jesus Christ proclaimed the kingdom
and restored the broken to wholeness of life:
look with compassion on the anguish of the world,
and by your healing power
make whole both people and nations;
through our Lord and Saviour
Jesus Christ.

Sunday

16 November 2025 Second Sunday before Advent

COLLECT

Heavenly Father,
whose blessed Son was revealed to
destroy the works of the devil
and to make us the children of God
and heirs of eternal life:
grant that we, having this hope,
may purify ourselves even as he
is pure;
that when he shall appear in power
and great glory
we may be made like him in his
eternal and glorious kingdom;
where he is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Malachi 4:1-2a

A reading from the book of the prophet Malachi.

See, the day is coming, burning like
an oven, when all the arrogant and
all evildoers will be stubble; the day
that comes shall burn them up, says
the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave
them neither root nor branch. But for
you who revere my name the sun of
righteousness shall rise, with healing
in its wings. You shall go out leaping
like calves from the stall.

PSALM Psalm 98

R *The Lord has made known his
salvation.*

Sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvellous things.
His own right hand and his holy arm
have won for him the victory.
The Lord has made known his
salvation;
his deliverance has he openly shown
in the sight of the nations. **R**

He has remembered his mercy and
faithfulness towards the house of
Israel,
and all the ends of the earth have
seen the salvation of our God.
Sound praises to the Lord, all the
earth;
break into singing and make music. **R**

Make music to the Lord with the lyre,
with the lyre and the voice of melody.
With trumpets and the sound of the
horn
sound praises before the Lord, the
King. **R**

Let the sea thunder and all that fills it,
the world and all that dwell upon it.
Let the rivers clap their hands
and let the hills ring out together
before the Lord, for he comes to
judge the earth.
In righteousness shall he judge the
world
and the peoples with equity. **R**

SECOND READING

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

*A reading from the second letter of
Paul to the Thessalonians.*

We command you, beloved, in the
name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to
keep away from believers who are
living in idleness and not according
to the tradition that they received
from us. For you yourselves know how
you ought to imitate us; we were not
idle when we were with you, and we
did not eat anyone's bread without
paying for it; but with toil and labour
we worked night and day, so that we
might not burden any of you. This
was not because we do not have
that right, but in order to give you an
example to imitate. For even when
we were with you, we gave you this
command: Anyone unwilling to work
should not eat. For we hear that some
of you are living in idleness, mere
busybodies, not doing any work. Now
such persons we command and exhort
in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their
work quietly and to earn their own
living. Brothers and sisters, do not be
weary in doing what is right.

GOSPEL Luke 21:5-19

*Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus
Christ according to Luke.*

When some were speaking about
the temple, how it was adorned with

beautiful stones and gifts dedicated
to God, Jesus said, "As for these
things that you see, the days will
come when not one stone will be
left upon another; all will be thrown
down." They asked him, "Teacher,
when will this be, and what will be
the sign that this is about to take
place?" And Jesus said, "Beware
that you are not led astray; for many
will come in my name and say, 'I
am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do
not go after them. When you hear
of wars and insurrections, do not be
terrified; for these things must take
place first, but the end will not follow
immediately." Then he said to them,
"Nation will rise against nation, and
kingdom against kingdom; there will
be great earthquakes, and in various
places famines and plagues; and
there will be dreadful portents and
great signs from heaven. But before
all this occurs, they will arrest you
and persecute you; they will hand
you over to synagogues and prisons,
and you will be brought before kings
and governors because of my name.
This will give you an opportunity to
testify. So make up your minds not to
prepare your defence in advance; for
I will give you words and a wisdom
that none of your opponents will be
able to withstand or contradict. You
will be betrayed even by parents and
brothers, by relatives and friends; and
they will put some of you to death.
You will be hated by all because of
my name. But not a hair of your head
will perish. By your endurance you will
gain your souls."

POST COMMUNION

Gracious Lord,
in this holy sacrament
you give substance to our hope:
bring us at the last
to that fullness of life for which we
long;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.



COLLECT

Eternal Father,
whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to
the throne of heaven
that he might rule over all things as
Lord and King:
keep the Church in the unity of the
Spirit
and in the bond of peace,
and bring the whole created order to
worship at his feet;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Jeremiah 23:1-6

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD. The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

PSALM Psalm 46

R The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble;

Therefore we will not fear, though the
earth be moved,
and though the mountains tremble in
the heart of the sea; **R**

Though the waters rage and swell,
and though the mountains quake at the
towering seas.

There is a river whose streams make
glad the city of God,
the holy place of the dwelling of the
Most High. **R**

God is in the midst of her;
therefore shall she not be removed;
God shall help her at the break of day.
The nations are in uproar and the
kingdoms are shaken,
but God utters his voice and the earth
shall melt away. **R**

Come and behold the works of the
Lord,
what destruction he has wrought upon
the earth.

He makes wars to cease in all the world;
he shatters the bow and snaps the spear
and burns the chariots in the fire.
"Be still, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations;
I will be exalted in the earth." **R**

SECOND READING

Colossians 1:11-20

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians.

Brothers and sisters: May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers – all things have been created

through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

GOSPEL Luke 23:33-43

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." Jesus replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

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.

