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. **Amen**

Wisdom of Solomon 6: 12-16

Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her, and is found by those who seek her. She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her. One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty, for she will be found sitting at the gate. To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding, and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care, because she goes about seeking those worthy of her, and she graciously appears to them in their paths, and meets them in every thought.

1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord for ever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Matthew 25: 1-13

Jesus said to his disciples, 'The kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, "Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him." Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out." But the wise replied, "No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves." And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, "Lord, lord, open to us." But he replied, "Truly I tell you, I do not know you." Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.'

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. **Amen**

Notices

Saturday 21st November 12noon to 4pm we are hosting the St Thomas Winter Festival in the Church, Churchyard and the Hall. We will be serving inexpensive tea and coffee, selling cakes etc in the Hall. Anyone interested in volunteering for this please speak to Ian or Hannah

Table top games evening in the Hall from 6pm

Tuesday November 24th from 4pm there will be a Crafternoon session in the Hall making Advent windows. See Liz and Hannah for details.

Advance Notices

Sunday 6th December. **Christingl**e as part of our service.

Sunday 13th December **Carol service and tree lighting.** Late afternoon to early evening**.**

Reflection Matthew 23: 1-13

We might ask what has this Parable got to do with remembering those who gave of their lives in conflicts over the years? This Parable, as all the Parables do, reminds us of how we need to keep ourselves aware that Jesus comes to us in so many ways. Are we always aware of that? Do we then miss the wonderful relationship that is offered to us? Jesus seeks us out and we need to give Him attention. Martin Luther King junior said we have a choice do we want a world at peace or do we want a world in pieces? Just think of Jesus saying "I wanted to know you, to give my love to you, but you were otherwise engaged". If we engage with the Lord we will treat each other with care not conflict.

Fr Terry



NEXT SUNDAY 15.11.26 ***2nd Sunday before Advent***

10.30am in the Hall

OT Zephaniah 1: 7, 12-end
NT 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11
GOSPEL Matthew 25: 14-30

6pm Evening Sanctuary Service n the church

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St Thomas, Exeter

8th November 2026
Remembrance Sunday

Today

10.50am at the memorial then into church for Sung Eucharist

Hymn Numbers
15 All my hope on God is founded
54 Be still, my soul
325 Make me a channel of your peace
114 Eternal Father, strong to save
177 National Anthem

6pm Sanctuary Service

Tuesday 10th November

7.30pm House group at Helen's house.

Wednesday 11th November

10am Holy Communion (BCP)

Thursday 12th November

9.30-11am St Thomas Tots (in the hall)
10.30-12noon Knit & Natter at Jenny's house

Friday 13th November

9.45am Morning Prayer
10.15am Staff Meeting

Saturday 14th November

9am St Thomas Breakfast at the Sawyers. All welcome