

## First Reading

Read by

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

**11** Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. <sup>2</sup> Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. <sup>3</sup> By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

<sup>8</sup> By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. <sup>9</sup> By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. <sup>10</sup> For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. <sup>11</sup> By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. <sup>12</sup> Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, ‘as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.’ <sup>13</sup> All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, <sup>14</sup> for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. <sup>15</sup> If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. <sup>16</sup> But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God**

## Gradual Hymn

**601** Blessed Assurance

## Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia,, **Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Stay awake and be ready, for you do not know on what day your Lord will come.

Alleluia, **Alleluia, Alleluia.**

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Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

## Glory to You O Lord

<sup>32</sup> ‘Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. <sup>33</sup> Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. <sup>34</sup> For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

<sup>35</sup> ‘Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; <sup>36</sup> be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. <sup>37</sup> Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. <sup>38</sup> If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves. <sup>39</sup> ‘But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he<sup>[a]</sup> would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>40</sup> You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord

## Praise to you O Christ

## The Prayers

The prayers are led by Jim Manning

## Those for whom prayer has been asked:

For those on active service in places of danger.

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Dick and Caroline Seed our CMS Missionaries

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The Migrant and Refugee Crisis

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Visitors to The Top Up Shop and Family First

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3 Sonia Steggall,, Sam, Debbie Shaves, Jayne Versey,  
2 Ross Champkin.

1 Linda Best, Rosie & John Gray, Gavin, Eileen,  
Becki Cook, Kevin Kelly, Tanya, Jeanette Budinger,  
Roy Stephenson.

## Those who have died recently

Celia Bass

## We remember the anniversary of death of

Judith Everett 12 August 2022

Gwen Curtis 16 August 2016

## Offertory Hymn

**595:** Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart

## Communion Hymn

**732:** My Jesus, my Saviour

**Anthem** Saints Richards Prayer

## Post Communion Prayer:

Strengthen for service, Lord,  
the hands that have taken holy things;  
may the ears which have heard your word  
be deaf to clamour and dispute;  
may the tongues which have sung your praise be free  
from deceit;  
may the eyes which have seen the tokens of your love  
shine with the light of hope;  
and may the bodies which have been fed with your body  
be refreshed with the fullness of your life;  
glory to you for ever.

## Recessional Hymn

**643** God beyond earth’s fine treasures

**Please remember to pray for the following friends of our  
Parish who are not able to worship with us at this time**

Vera Emeny, Rita Appleton