

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP ON 21<sup>st</sup> NOVEMBER 2021**  
**THE SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE ADVENT - CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY**  
The Benefice of St.Mary, Alderley & St.Catherine, Birtles

**Hymns at St.Mary's Church this morning (from Hymns Old & New):**

148 From heaven you came

56 Be thou my vision

5 Abba, Father

46 At the name of Jesus (tune 2)

**Today's Bible readings:**

**Revelation 3: 7-end**

<sup>7</sup> "To the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: These are the words of him who is holy and true, who holds the key of David. What he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open. <sup>8</sup> I know your deeds. See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut. I know that you have little strength, yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name. <sup>9</sup> I will make those who are of the synagogue of Satan, who claim to be Jews though they are not, but are liars—I will make them come and fall down at your feet and acknowledge that I have loved you. <sup>10</sup> Since you have kept my command to endure patiently, I will also keep you from the hour of trial that is going to come on the whole world to test the inhabitants of the earth. <sup>11</sup> I am coming soon. Hold on to what you have, so that no one will take your crown. <sup>12</sup> The one who is victorious I will make a pillar in the temple of my God. Never again will they leave it. I will write on them the name of my God and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which is coming down out of heaven from my God; and I will also write on them my new name. <sup>13</sup> Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

<sup>14</sup> "To the angel of the church in Laodicea write: These are the words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the ruler of God's creation. <sup>15</sup> I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! <sup>16</sup> So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth. <sup>17</sup> You say, 'I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.' But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked. <sup>18</sup> I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see. <sup>19</sup> Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest and repent. <sup>20</sup> Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me. <sup>21</sup> To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I was victorious and sat down with my Father on his throne. <sup>22</sup> Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

**John 18: 33-37**

<sup>3</sup> Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' <sup>34</sup> Jesus answered, 'Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?' <sup>35</sup> Pilate replied, 'I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?' <sup>36</sup> Jesus answered, 'My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not

from here.’<sup>37</sup> Pilate asked him, ‘So you are a king?’ Jesus answered, ‘You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.’

**Zoom worship for our benefice this evening is at 6.30pm.** Email [alderleyandbirtles@gmail.com](mailto:alderleyandbirtles@gmail.com) to be sent the Zoom link.

**The death occurred on 23<sup>rd</sup> October of Mrs Bets SPARROW.** Bets’ funeral has taken place. A memorial service for Bets will be held on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 2.00pm at St.Mary’s Church, Alderley.

**The Knitted Bible.** Planning is well underway for the grand opening of the Knitted Bible Exhibition on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November at 10.00 by Bishop Mark of Chester. Please come along just before 10.00 to see the cutting of the wool by Bishop Mark and a preview of this fabulous exhibition which is touring the country. All are welcome so bring friends and family along! There will be refreshments. Are you available to help unpack the exhibition when it arrives from its previous location at 2pm on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November? Please let Julie Wilson know you will be coming, many hands will make light work! Lastly, we need two volunteers to host the exhibition on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2-4pm. Can you help? Speak to Jo Wilson

**Choral Evensong next Sunday – the 28<sup>th</sup> (Advent Sunday) at St.Mary’s Church at 6.30pm.** Can you help with providing refreshments for the choir at 5.45pm in the Parish Hall? Please let the Rector know.

**A Knitted Bible Family Service** will be held at St.Catherine’s Church at 11.15am on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December.

**A Christingle Service** will be held at St.Mary’s Church at 9.45am on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December.

**A Family Christmas carol sing-along** will be held at Nether Alderley Parish Hall at 7.00pm on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December. More details later.

**The Birtles Nativity this year will be at St.Catherine’s Church on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 11.15am**

**There will be a Nine Lessons & Carols Service at St.Mary’s Church on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30pm**

**The Diocesan Lay Conference takes place at Swanwick, Derbyshire the weekend of 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> March next year.** There is a free place at the conference for one person for each parish church and additional places at the conference are charged for. Please talk with the Revd Jon Hale if you are interested in attending the conference.

**The Revd Jon Hale writes. This announcement came to me by email on 17<sup>th</sup> November. ‘Cranmer Award is a regional and national competition for young people between the ages of 11 – 18 in which they are invited to read aloud sections of the Prayer Book.** Further details are at <https://www.pbs.org.uk> This year’s competition will be held at the Church of St. Oswald, Lower Peover during the afternoon of Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> November. The winners will represent the Diocese at the National Final early next year. Head judge is Ian Bishop, Archdeacon of Macclesfield’. **If any young people would like to take part, please let me know.**

**St.Mary’s Church, Alderley SK10 4TW in the Benefice of Alderley & Birtles.** The Churchwarden is Mr Ken Wilkinson (tel: 0161 4323490). The Rector is the Reverend Jon Hale (tel: 01625 585440 and email [alderleyandbirtles@gmail.com](mailto:alderleyandbirtles@gmail.com)). The Honorary Treasurer is Mr Will Ablett (tel: 01625 585180). **You can now give online to St.Mary’s Church by using the Collectin giving machine on the table at the back of church or by using this QR code:**



**St.Catherine’s Church, Birtles SK10 4RU in the Benefice of Alderley & Birtles.** The Churchwardens are Mr Michael Norbury (tel: 01625 583788) and Mr Chance Wilson (tel: 01625 861310). The Vicar is the Reverend Jon Hale (tel: 01625 585440 and email [alderleyandbirtles@gmail.com](mailto:alderleyandbirtles@gmail.com)). The Honorary Treasurer is Mrs Nicola Folkes (tel: 01625 860815 & [nicolajaynefolkes@gmail.com](mailto:nicolajaynefolkes@gmail.com)) **To give to St.Catherine’s Church go to the St.Catherine’s Church website and click on ‘Donate Here’ to give via PayPal.**

**Mrs Rachel Roberts (Reader)** is on secondment to the Benefice of Alderley & Birtles.