

St Michael and All Angels with St Mark Preston,
Sunday next before Advent, 23rd November 2025,
Holy Communion 10.00am
'Christ the King' and 'Stir up Sunday'



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.

Mission Prayer

God of Mission, who alone brings growth to your Church,
send your Holy Spirit to give vision to our planning,
wisdom to our actions, and power to our witness.
Help our church to grow in numbers, in spiritual commitment
to you, and in service to our local community,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Welcome to St Michael's Church

Large print newsletters and service leaflets are available, please ask the sides-people if there is anything you need or let them know if you require a gluten free wafer. Everyone is warmly invited to stay for refreshments after the service.

You are invited to stand for the hymns and some other parts of the service if you are able, but if standing is difficult or uncomfortable for you, just remain seated, no one will mind.

Hymns:

Opening:	227	Crown him with many crowns
Gradual:	157	When I survey
Offertory:	489	From heaven you came
Communion:	731	
Final:	704	Let all the world

First reading: Jeremiah 23.1-6

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."

Gospel Reading: *Luke 23.33-43*

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." He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

Services:

Weekday Communion: Thursdays at 10.30am

Holy Communion: Advent Sunday 30th November at 10.00am

BCP Communion: Sunday 7th December at 8.30am

Junior Church: The next meeting will be Sunday 14th December at 10.00am

Regular Events:

Bible Study: the next meeting will be on Friday 5th December at 7.00pm. We will be exploring Exodus 19:16-25. All are welcome.

Cupboard Love: the next session of Cupboard love will be on Saturday 6th December 9.30am - 10.30am

Coffee Morning: the next coffee morning will be on Saturday 6th December 10.00am – 12.00pm

Farmers' Market: The next market will be on Saturday 20th December 9.00am to 12.30pm

Welcome Group: Thank-you to everyone who attended the meeting last Sunday and has agreed to be on the new Welcome Group. We realise that not everyone was able to stay for the meeting. Please see Jane or Elaine if you would still like to go on the rota.

Toy collection: We are collecting new and 'good as new' toys for the Salvation Army. Please bring any donations to church next Sunday.

Advance notices:

Junior Church Movie Night: Friday 28th November at 6.00pm

Advent course: Sunday lunchtimes from 30th November at 12.00pm

Christingle Service: Sunday 21st December at 3.00pm

Christmas Eve Annual Carol Service: Wednesday 24th December at 6.30pm

Christmas Eve Midnight Eucharist: Wednesday 24th December at 11.30pm.

Christmas Day Holy Communion: Thursday 25th December at 10.00am.

Supporting St Michael's:

If you would like to make a donation today but have no cash, you might like to use the contactless payment device at the back of church. Many people prefer to give monthly by direct debit through the Parish Giving Scheme. Please ask for details.

Please do stay after today's service for a drink and a chat.

Facebook: search St Michael and All Angels with St Mark's Preston.

Instagram: search St_michaels_church_preston

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