FIRST READING Zephaniah 1.7, 12–18

7 Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is at hand; the LORD
has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests.

12 At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who
rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, 'The LORD will
not do good, nor will he do harm.' 13 Their wealth shall be plundered, and their
houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though
they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them. 14 The great day of the
LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter,
the warrior cries aloud there. 15 That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress
and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of
clouds and thick darkness, 16 a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the
fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. 17 I will bring such distress upon
people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the
LORD, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. 18 Neither
their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the Lord's wrath;
in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible
end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

PSALM 90.1-8,12

R/ Satisfy us by your loving-kindness;
so shall we rejoice and be glad.

1 Lord, you have been our refuge
from one generation to another.
2 Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the land and the earth were born,
from age to age you are God.
3 You turn us back to the dust and say,
'Go back, O child of earth.' **R/**

4 For a thousand years in your sight
are like yesterday when it is past
and like a watch in the night.
5 You sweep us away like a dream;
we fade away suddenly like the grass.
6 In the morning it is green and flourishes;
in the evening it is dried up and withered. **R/**

7 For we consume away in your displeasure;
we are afraid because of your wrathful indignation.
8 Our iniquities you have set before you,
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance. **R/**

12 So teach us to number our days
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom. **R/**

SECOND READING 1 Thessalonians 5.1–11

1 Concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to
have anything written to you. 2 For you yourselves know very well that the day of
the Lord will come like a thief in the night. 3 When they say, 'There is peace and
security,' then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labour pains come upon
a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! 4 But you, beloved, are not in
darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; 5 for you are all children of light
and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. 6 So then let us not
fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; 7 for those who sleep
sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. 8 But since we belong
to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a
helmet the hope of salvation. 9 For God has destined us not for wrath but for
obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, 10 who died for us, so that
whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. 11 Therefore encourage one
another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

GOSPEL Matthew 25.14–30

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples,
14 'The kingdom of heaven is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves
and entrusted his property to them; 15 to one he gave five talents, to another two, to
another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. 16 The one who
had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five
more talents. 17 In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more
talents. 18 But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in
the ground and hid his master's money.

19 After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them.
20 Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more
talents, saying, “Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five
more talents.” 21 His master said to him, “Well done, good and trustworthy slave;
you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things;
enter into the joy of your master.” 22 And the one with the two talents also came
forward, saying, “Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two
more talents.” 23 His master said to him, “Well done, good and trustworthy slave;
you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things;
enter into the joy of your master.” 24 Then the one who had received the one talent
also came forward, saying, “Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping
where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; 25 so I was
afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.”
26 But his master replied, “You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I
reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? 27 Then you ought to
have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received
what was my own with interest. 28 So take the talent from him, and give it to the
one with the ten talents. 29 For to all those who have, more will be given, and they
will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have
will be taken away. 30 As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness,
where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”’

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Refreshments follow the Parish Eucharist in the Church Hall. Please join us.

Choral Evensong is celebrated at 4.00 pm today at St Ives Church, Leadgate.

Also this week…

Mon	16	7.00 pm **Parish’s Vacancy Audit Profile for PCC and others** – *Committee Room, St Cuthbert’s Hall*
Sat	21	10.30-12.00 noon **Coffee Morning** – *St Cuthbert’s Hall*

Next Sunday, 22 November is
The Feast of Christ the King
Eucharist: 10.30 am
with the Revd Ian Waugh

Readings:
Ezekial 34.11-16,20-24;
Ephesians 1.15-23;
Matthew 25.31-46

Parish of St Cuthbert, Benfieldside

Part of the Derwent Valley Team

The Parish is currently in vacancy please contact:
Wardens: Mrs Linda Short ☎ 01207 503750/07734 355911
Mrs Carol O’Malley **e-mail:** carolomalley@talktalk.net
Web-site: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/13511/
Facebook pages : facebook.com/benfieldside

2nd SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT 15 November 2026

God created the world in love and saw that it was good. We all have our individual part to play in enhancing creation, using wisely the gifts and resources we have been given by God for the purpose.

Eucharist: 10.30 am – We welcome the Revd Anthony Bash today.

Hymns - *(AMRW)*:

Introit	676 – Immortal, invisible
Gradual	356 – All the nations of the world
Offertory	648 – God of grace and God of glory
During Communion	421 – All for Jesus, all for Jesus
	425 – Be known to us in breaking bread
After Communion	780 – Soldiers of Christ, arise

Collect:

Heavenly Lord,
you long for the world’s salvation:
stir us from apathy,
restrain us from excess
and revive in us new hope
that all creation will one day be healed
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**



Eucharistic Prayer E is used with an extended Seasonal Preface

*We welcome communicant members of any Christian Church to **receive communion** - if you don’t receive communion, you are invited to receive a blessing.*

We don’t take a **collection** during the service. *But offerings may be left in the plates at the back of church*. Thanks for your support!