

# Church Alive

## Zoom and at Home Worship Sheet

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Before Advent Sunday - 15<sup>th</sup> November



*(For the Zoom service:*

*Welcome to Zoom Church Alive.*

*You might like to have the following ready prepared with you for the service:*

- *Drink and snack!*
- *Candle and matches/lighter*

*We will meet at 11am and start the service at 11.05am. Please use MUTE on your computer at 11.05am for the service, especially wherever we are singing together, except in the sections where marked. If you'd like to say something at other times, please 'raise your hand' (you will find this in the Participants section) or type it in under 'chat' and it will appear on the screen. )*

*In our worship today we focus on the importance of how we live as we hear the parable of the three servants. Do we take a risk and embrace life, enjoying and using the talents God has given in his love for us and sharing our hope, joy and love with others? Or do we live fearful, hiding away, not enjoying the gifts of love, joy, and the blessings of life and the beautiful world that God has created?*

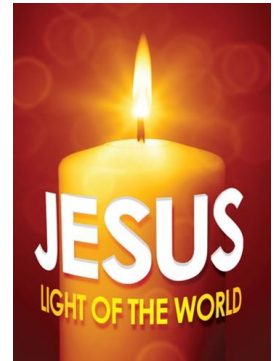
**Opening Song:** Sing of the Lord's goodness

<https://youtu.be/ezf5vJ0iDp8>

**Opening Prayer:**

*If you are able, and it is safe to do so, you might like to light a candle at this point as well and hold up your candle as we say our prayer together.*

**All:** Lord, we light this candle,  
to remind us that you are the light of the world.  
As we gather together in spirit,  
make our voices ready to sing your praise;  
our hearts open to receive your love  
and our minds alive to your Spirit.  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



**We seek God's healing and forgiveness:**

We come to God as one from whom no secrets are hidden, to ask for his forgiveness and peace.

For the times we fail to appreciate and embrace the gift of life you have given us:

**Father forgive us**

For the times we fail to bring hope to others:

**Father forgive us**

For our times we waste or ignore the gifts you have given us instead of sharing them:

**Father forgive us**

**We hear words assuring us of God's forgiveness**

May almighty God have mercy on *us*, forgive *us our* sins,  
and bring *us* to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All Amen.**

**Thanksgiving:** What talent or gift do you have that you would like to thank God for?

**Bible Reading** – Matthew 25:14-30 The Parable of the Three Servants (Good News Bible)

<sup>14</sup> “At that time the Kingdom of heaven will be like this. Once there was a man who was about to leave home on a trip; he called his servants and put them in charge of his property. <sup>15</sup> He gave to each one according to his ability: to one he gave five thousand gold coins, to another he gave two thousand, and to another he gave one thousand. Then he left on his trip. <sup>16</sup> The servant who had received five thousand coins went at once and invested his money and earned another five thousand. <sup>17</sup> In the same way the servant who had received two thousand coins earned another two thousand. <sup>18</sup> But the servant who had received one thousand coins went off, dug a hole in the ground, and hid his master's money.

<sup>19</sup> “After a long time the master of those servants came back and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup> The servant who had received five thousand coins came in and handed over the other five thousand. ‘You gave me five thousand coins, sir,’ he said. ‘Look! Here are another five thousand that I have earned.’ <sup>21</sup> ‘Well done, you good and faithful servant!’ said his master. ‘You have been faithful in managing small amounts, so I will put you in charge of large amounts. Come on in and share my happiness!’ <sup>22</sup> Then the servant who had been given two thousand coins came in and said, ‘You gave me two thousand coins, sir. Look! Here are another two thousand that I have earned.’ <sup>23</sup> ‘Well done, you good and faithful servant!’ said his master. ‘You have been faithful in managing small amounts, so I will put you in charge of large amounts. Come on in and share my happiness!’ <sup>24</sup> Then the servant who had received one thousand coins came in and said, ‘Sir, I know you are a hard man; you reap harvests where you did not plant, and you gather crops where you did not scatter seed. <sup>25</sup> I was afraid, so I went off and hid your money in the ground. Look! Here is what belongs to you.’ <sup>26</sup> ‘You bad and lazy servant!’ his master said. ‘You knew, did you, that I reap harvests where I did not plant, and gather crops where I did not scatter seed? <sup>27</sup> Well, then, you should have deposited my money in the bank, and I would have received it all back with interest when I returned. <sup>28</sup> Now, take the money away from him and give it to the one who has ten thousand coins. <sup>29</sup> For to every person who has something, even more will be given, and he will have more than enough; but the person who has nothing, even the little that he has will be taken away from him. <sup>30</sup> As for this useless servant—throw him outside in the darkness; there he will cry and gnash his teeth.’

**On Zoom - Talk**

**At Home - please use the Picture Reflection and Bible Study on the separate sheet.**

Song: Sent by the Lord, am I  
<https://youtu.be/VqI2RTgCR2U>

**Prayers**

*(On zoom - We will play a very short piece of music, during which you can add your prayers to the chat and then they will be included in the prayer time).*

*Today we might particularly pray for:*

*God to show us where and how we can use our talents for his glory and the building of his kingdom.*

*All churches as we navigate this second lockdown and worship from home.*

*Those suffering with COVID and the staff at hospitals which are overwhelmed with people needing care.*

*Leaders making the difficult decisions about restrictions to keep people safe.*

*Those working in the prime minister's office with the changes to staffing.*

*The people of Hong Kong and the upholding of democracy there.  
Our friends and families  
Those we know who are sick or who need our prayers at this time.*

**All: Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen**

**All: Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever.  
Amen.**

**Song: My Jesus, My Saviour**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hEefQeBW3so&list=PLqK\\_DjsD\\_zayfIjHejyRuiBELu1lkmJKQ&index=28](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hEefQeBW3so&list=PLqK_DjsD_zayfIjHejyRuiBELu1lkmJKQ&index=28)

### **Sending Out Prayer and Blessing**

O God, you have made us your people and blessed us.  
Send us out joyfully to embrace the gift of life you have given us  
and to share faith, hope and love with others  
following the example of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

*And the blessing...*

**Amen.**

### **The Peace**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

**In the name of Christ. Amen**

*(On zoom - We share the peace with each other using sign language*

***Fellowship time – unmute. We will go around the group so that everyone has a chance to let us know how they are and any news they want to share. )***