

**Readings for 9:30am Worship**  
**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> October**

**Collect for Fourth Sunday before Advent**

God of glory,  
touch our lips with the fire of your Spirit,  
that we with all creation  
may rejoice to sing your praise;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Revelation 21:1-6a**

**21** Then I saw ‘a new heaven and a new earth,’ for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. <sup>2</sup> I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. <sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, ‘Look! God’s dwelling-place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. <sup>4</sup> “He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death” or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.’ <sup>5</sup> He who was seated on the throne said, ‘I am making everything new!’ Then he said, ‘Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.’ <sup>6</sup> He said to me: ‘It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life.’

**John 11:32-44**

<sup>32</sup> When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, ‘Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.’

<sup>33</sup> When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. <sup>34</sup> ‘Where have you laid him?’ he asked. ‘Come and see, Lord,’ they replied.

<sup>35</sup> Jesus wept.

<sup>36</sup> Then the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!'

<sup>37</sup> But some of them said, 'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?'

<sup>38</sup> Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. <sup>39</sup> 'Take away the stone,' he said.

'But, Lord,' said Martha, the sister of the dead man, 'by this time there is a bad odour, for he has been there four days.'

<sup>40</sup> Then Jesus said, 'Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?'

<sup>41</sup> So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, 'Father, I thank you that you have heard me. <sup>42</sup> I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me.'

<sup>43</sup> When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' <sup>44</sup> The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth round his face.

Jesus said to them, 'Take off the grave clothes and let him go.'

### **Psalm 24:1-6**

<sup>1</sup> The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it,  
the world, and all who live in it;

<sup>2</sup> for he founded it on the seas  
and established it on the waters.

<sup>3</sup> Who may ascend the mountain of the LORD?  
Who may stand in his holy place?

<sup>4</sup> The one who has clean hands and a pure heart,  
who does not trust in an idol  
or swear by a false god.

<sup>5</sup> They will receive blessing from the LORD  
and vindication from God their Saviour.

<sup>6</sup> Such is the generation of those who seek him,  
who seek your face, God of Jacob.