

The Cotteridge Church

2nd before Advent Sunday 14th November



Hymn

God! As with silent hearts we bring to mind
how hate and war diminish humankind,
we pause - and seek in worship to increase
our knowledge of the things that make for
peace.

Hallow our will as humbly we recall
the lives of those who gave and give their all.
We thank you, Lord, for women, children, men
who seek to serve in love, today as then.

Give us deep faith to comfort those who
mourn,
high hope to share with all the newly born,
strong love in our pursuit of human worth:
'lest we forget' the future of this earth.

So, Prince of Peace, disarm our trust in power,
teach us to coax the plant of peace to flower.
May we, impassioned by your living Word,
remember forward to a world restored.

Bible Readings

Daniel 12:1-3

Psalm 16

Hebrews 10:11- 25

Mark 13:1-8

Collect for 2nd before Advent

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

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A tribal leader was dying, so he summoned his 3 sons and said: "Before my death, I must choose the head of our tribe. I have a task for all of you. I want you to climb the mountain and bring me something beautiful. The one whose gift is most outstanding will succeed me." The next day the sons set out, each taking a different path up the mountain. After two days they returned. One brought a rare and beautiful flower that grew near the summit of the mountain. The second brought a valuable stone, round and colourful which had been polished by the wind and rain. The third came empty handed, he said to his father: "I have brought nothing to show you father. As I stood on the mountain top I saw that on the other side was a beautiful land of green pastures and in the middle is a crystal lake. I have a vision of where our tribe could go for a better life. I was so overwhelmed by what I saw and by what I could see that I could not bring anything back." The father replied: "You shall be our tribe's new leader, for you have brought back the most precious thing - the gift of a vision for a better future."