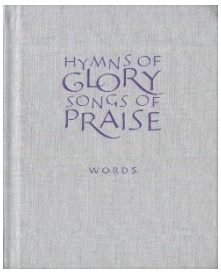
WELCOME TO ST. MARY'S, CLITHEROE
SUNDAY 15th NOVEMBER 2026
Second Sunday before Advent (TRINITY XXIV).

COLLECT *(Gathering Prayer)*

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.



HYMNS

(Silver Hymn Book)

154 How great thou art

269 Eternal Ruler

502 Take my life and let it be

476 Mine eyes have seen the glory

FIRST READING: 1 THESSALONIANS 5:1-11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters,[a] 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,[b] 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.

THE GOSPEL READING: ST. MATTHEW 25:14-30

'For it 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,[a] 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.**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Gracious Lord, in this holy sacrament you give substance to our hope:
bring us at the last to that fullness of life for which we long;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**