

The Cotteridge Church

4th before Advent Sunday 31st October



Bible Readings

Deuteronomy 6:1-9

Psalm 119:1-8

Hebrews 9:11-14

Mark 12:28-34

Collect for 4th 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.
Amen

Hymn

1 God is love: his the care,
tending each, everywhere,
God is love, all is there!
Jesus came to show him,
that we all might know him!
Sing aloud, loud, loud!
sing aloud, loud, loud!
God is good! God is truth!
God is beauty! Praise him!

2 None can see God above;
Neighbours here we can love;
thus may we Godward move,
finding him in others,
sisters all, and brothers:

3 Jesus came, lived and died,
For our sake crucified,
Rose again, glorified;
he was born to save us
by the truth he gave us.

4 To our Lord praise we sing,
light and life, friend and King,
coming down, love to bring,
pattern for our duty,
showing God in beauty.

StF 403

Percy Dearmer

4th before Advent

Mohandas Gandhi, a Hindu leader in India, challenged the colonial rule of the British in India with his principles of peace & non-violence. But the British Empire, initially dismissed him as a “silly, half-naked fakir,” & tried to silence him by imprisonment. Later they found, to their horror, that the entire nation was behind him in its fight for freedom. Nelson Mandela, ignored by the minority rulers, was jailed for years as a radical because of his option for the poor & the oppressed in South Africa.

Dorothy Day was imprisoned in the U. S. for her beliefs & was accused of being a Communist. Martin Luther King Jr. challenged a nation's policy of discrimination. He was continually under surveillance by the FBI & was accused of inciting sedition & of being unpatriotic. There are Christians who still look on believers of non-Christian religions & members of Christian denominations other than their own as heretics. In today's gospel, Jesus gives his disciples a lesson in Christian tolerance along with a warning against jealousy & scandal.