
THIRD SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT

Sunday between 6 and 12 November inclusive

*Life after death is not wishful thinking
but a definite reality.*

Let us pray to the great God of heaven
who stands among us now.

Heavenly God, as the earthly part of your Church
we come before you with our thanks and praise
for your living presence among us,
in our worship together
and in our separate times of prayer.
We thank you for bringing the joy of heaven to earth
as you lift us into your presence.

Silence

You are our God:
living for ever and ever.

Look with mercy on our world
as we work out policies and target needs,
and misunderstand one another's cultures
and get carried away with excesses
and the taste of power.

Silence

You are our God:
living for ever and ever.

May our waking, working, eating, relaxing and sleeping
become a pattern coloured and lit by your love;
may our homes reflect it,

our places of work be energised by it,
and our relationships glow with it.

Silence

You are our God:
living for ever and ever.

To those who are losing heart
give your heavenly encouragement and patience;
to the young and vulnerable
give heavenly protection;
to the ill and the damaged
give heavenly healing and inner peace,
as you touch our lives with yours.

Silence

You are our God:
living for ever and ever.

Knowing that physical death
is not the end of life,
but the beginning of a new dimension,
we recall our loved ones who have died
and commend them to your eternal keeping.

Silence

You are our God:
living for ever and ever.

As you fill our hearts with heavenly joy
we pour out our love and praise
to you, our living God!

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