

St. Christopher's Church, Hinchley Wood

Sunday 6th February 2022 - 4th Sunday before Lent

Welcome to St Christopher's this morning, as we join together to worship with some people in church and others online at home.

We have now left Christmas and Epiphany behind and are in 'Ordinary Time' during February, before Lent begins early in March. After the past 2 years we might be wondering what 'ordinary time' is, but the Church's regular ordering of the year reminds us of the steadfastness of God's love, whatever is going on in the world.

Please join in with the words in **bold** print.

GATHERING

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and
the Lord Jesus Christ be with you
and also with you

We come from scattered lives to meet with God.
Let us recognise his presence with us now.

Silence is kept

As God's people we have gathered:
let us worship him together

HYMN (573)

**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation.
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near;
praise him in glad adoration.**

**Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
shieldeth thee gently from harm, or when fainting sustaineth:
hast thou not seen how thy heart's wishes have been
granted in what he ordaineth?**

**Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee,
surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend thee;
ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
if to the end he befriend thee.**

**Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in us adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him;
let the 'Amen' sound from his people again,
gladly for ay we adore him.**

CONFESSION

Lord God, our maker and our redeemer; this is
your world, and we are your people:
come among us and save us.

We have wilfully misused your gifts of creation:
Lord, be merciful
forgive us our sin.

We have seen the ill-treatment of others and have not gone to their aid
Lord, be merciful
forgive us our sin.

We have condoned evil and dishonesty and failed to strive for justice:
Lord, be merciful
forgive us our sin.

We have heard the good news of Christ but have failed to share it with others:
Lord, be merciful
forgive us our sin.

We have not loved you with all our heart, nor our neighbours as ourselves:
Lord, be merciful
forgive us our sin.

ABSOLUTION

May the God of love bring you back to himself, forgive you your sins, and
assure you of his eternal love in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

COLLECT

God of our salvation,
help us to turn away from those habits
which harm our bodies and poison our minds
and to choose again your gift of life,
revealed to us in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 6:1-8

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord. He was sitting on his throne, high and exalted, and his robe filled the whole Temple. Around him flaming creatures were standing, each of which had six wings. Each creature covered its face with two wings, and its body with two, and used the other two for flying. They were calling out to each other: "Holy, holy, holy! The Lord Almighty is holy! His glory fills the world." The sound of their voices made the foundation of the Temple shake, and the Temple itself became filled with smoke. I said, "There is no hope for me! I am doomed because every word that passes my lips is sinful, and I live among a people whose every word is sinful. And yet, with my own eyes I have seen the King, the Lord Almighty." Then one of the creatures flew down to me, carrying a burning coal that he had taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. He touched my lips with the burning coal and said, "This has touched your lips, and now your guilt is gone, and your sins are forgiven." Then I heard the Lord say, "Whom shall I send? Who will be our messenger?" I answered, "I will go! Send me!"

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

HYMN (286)

**Holy, holy, holy!
Lord God almighty!
Early in the morning
my song shall rise to thee;
holy. holy, holy!
Merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity**

**Holy, holy, holy!
All the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns
around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
which wert, and art, and evermore shall be**

**Holy, holy, holy!
Though the darkness hide thee,
though the eye made blind by sin
thy glory may not see,
only thou art holy, there is none beside thee
perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.**

**Holy, holy, holy!
Lord God almighty!
All Thy works shall praise thy name,
in earth, and sky and sea;
holy, holy, holy!
Merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia.
I am the light of the world, says the Lord.
Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness
but will have the light of life.
Alleluia

GOSPEL

(Luke 5: 1-11)

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke
Glory to you, O Lord

One day Jesus was standing on the shore of Lake Gennesaret while the people pushed their way up to him to listen to the word of God. He saw two boats pulled up on the beach; the fishermen had left them and were washing the nets. Jesus got into one of the boats - it belonged to Simon - and asked him to push off a little from the shore. Jesus sat in the boat and taught the crowd.

When he finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Push the boat out further to the deep water, and you and your partners let down your nets for a catch." "Master," Simon answered, "we worked hard all night long and caught nothing. But if you say so, I will let down the nets." They let them down and caught such a large number of fish that the nets were about to break. So they motioned to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. They came and filled both boats so full of fish that the boats were about to sink.

When Simon Peter saw what had happened, he fell on his knees before Jesus and said, "Go away from me, Lord! I am a sinful man!" He and the others with him were all amazed at the large number of fish they had caught. The same was true of Simon's partners, James and John, the sons of Zebedee. Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid; from now on you will be catching people." They pulled the boats up on the beach, left everything, and followed Jesus.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ

TALK

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.
We believe in God the Son,**

**who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.
We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.
We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

INTERCESSIONS

Between the prayers we say
Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

At the end of the prayers we say
Merciful God,
**accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our
Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen**

THE PEACE

God is love
and those who live in love live in God
and God lives in them.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you

We share a socially distanced sign of peace

HYMN (144)

**Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
forgive our foolish ways!
Reclothe us in our rightful mind,
in purer lives thy service find,
in deeper reverence praise
in deeper reverence praise.**

**In simple trust like theirs who heard,
beside the Syrian sea,
the gracious calling of the Lord,
let us, like them, without a word
rise up and follow thee,
rise up and follow thee.**

**O Sabbath rest by Galilee!
O calm of hills above,
where Jesus knelt to share with thee
the silence of eternity,
interpreted by love!
Interpreted by love!**

**Drop thy still dews of quietness,
till all our strivings cease;
take from our souls the strain and stress,
and let our ordered lives confess
the beauty of thy peace,
the beauty of thy peace.**

**Breathe through the heats of our desire
thy coolness and thy balm;
let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
speak through the earthquake, wind and fire,
O still, small voice of calm!
O still, small voice of calm!**

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

Gracious God,
accept the offering of your Church,
the hearts of your people
joined in praise and thanksgiving,
in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.
Amen.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord is here
God's Spirit is with us

Lift up your hearts
We lift them to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God
It is right to give thanks and praise

Blessed are you, Lord God,
our light and our salvation;
to you be glory and praise for ever.
From the beginning you have created all things
and all your works echo the silent music of your praise.
In the fullness of time you made us in your image,
the crown of all creation.
You give us breath and speech, that with angels and archangels
and all the powers of heaven
we may find a voice to sing your praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord.
As a mother tenderly gathers her children,
you embraced a people as your own.
When they turned away and rebelled
your love remained steadfast.

From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary,
to be the living bread,
in whom all our hungers are satisfied.

He offered his life for sinners,
and with a love stronger than death
he opened wide his arms on the cross.

On the night before he died,
he came to supper with his friends

and, taking bread, he gave you thanks.
He broke it and gave it to them, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,
he gave you thanks, and said:
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Father, we plead with confidence
his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross;
we remember his dying and rising in glory,
and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand.

Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you
these gifts of your creation;
may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence,
form us in the likeness of Christ,
and build us into a living temple to your glory.

Remember, Lord, your Church in every land.
Reveal her unity, guard her faith,
and preserve her in peace.

Bring us at the last with St Christopher and all the saints
to the vision of that eternal splendour
for which you have created us;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
by whom, with whom, and in whom,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever.
Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever.

Amen.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

Jesus is the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

If you wish to receive Holy Communion, please stand as you are able

The body of Christ
Amen

Holy Communion is distributed to those in the Church

Prayer of Spiritual Communion (for those worshipping at home)

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits you have given me, for all the pains and insults you have borne for me. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I ask you to come spiritually into my heart. O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may I know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day. Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN (925)

**Confitemini Domino quoniam bonus.
Confitemini Domino. Alleluia!**

(Give thanks to the Lord for he is good)

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God of truth, we have seen with our eyes
and touched with our hands the bread of life:
strengthen our faith
that we may grow in love for you and for each other;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

NOTICES

HYMN (332)

**I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin
my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?**

***Here I am Lord. Is it I Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.***

**I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them,**

Whom shall I send?

Here I am

**I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.**

I will set a feast for them.

My hand will save.

**Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.**

I will give my life to them.

Whom shall I send?

Here I am

BLESSING & DISMISSAL

Christ, who has nourished us with himself the living bread,
make you one in praise and love,
and raise you up at the last day;
and the blessing of God almighty
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

Go in the peace of Christ

Thanks be to God.

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