

St. Christopher's Church, Hinchley Wood

Sunday 15th January 2023 – 2nd Sunday after Epiphany

Welcome to our “Hybrid” Eucharist Service. We welcome those who are joining us here in Church, or via Zoom from their homes.

We gather together, as the faithful people gathered at the River Jordan, to bear witness to the Lamb of God revealed to us. Let us prepare ourselves to meet him and to walk in the way of justice, peace and truth.

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

All **and also with you.**

Hymn: There is a Redeemer (658)

Confession

John the Baptist said, “Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.” Let us offer ourselves to the shepherd and the lamb and confess our sins in penitence and in faith.

The Lord walks by the calm of the River Jordan; let us turn and see God.

Lord have mercy *All* **Lord, have mercy.**

The Lord walks in the bustle of the city. In the busyness of our lives, let us follow Christ.

Christ, have mercy. *All* **Christ, have mercy.**

The Lord walks in the chaos of our world. When we are in turmoil, let us be guided by the Holy Spirit.

Lord have mercy *All* **Lord, have mercy.**

Absolution

May the God of all healing and forgiveness draw you to himself and cleanse you from all your sins, that you may behold the glory of his Son, the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **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

Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new:
transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace,
and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All Amen.

Reading: (Isaiah 49:1-7)

Listen to me, distant nations, you people who live far away!
Before I was born, the Lord chose me and appointed me to be his servant.
He made my words as sharp as a sword. With his own hand he protected me.
He made me like an arrow, sharp and ready for use.

He said to me, "Israel, you are my servant; because of you, people will praise me."
I said, "I have worked, but how hopeless it is!
I have used up my strength but have accomplished nothing."
Yet I can trust the Lord to defend my cause; he will reward me for what I do.
Before I was born, the Lord appointed me;
he made me his servant to bring back his people,
to bring back the scattered people of Israel.

The Lord gives me honour; he is the source of my strength.
The Lord said to me, "I have a greater task for you, my servant.
Not only will you restore to greatness the people of Israel who have survived,
but I will also make you a light to the nations - so that all the world may be saved."

Israel's holy God and saviour says to the one who is deeply despised,
who is hated by the nations and is the servant of rulers:
"Kings will see you released and will rise to show their respect;
princes also will see it, and they will bow low to honour you."
This will happen because the Lord has chosen his servant;
the holy God of Israel keeps his promises.

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

Psalm 40

I waited patiently for the Lord's help; then he listened to me and heard my cry.
He pulled me out of a dangerous pit, out of the deadly quicksand.

He set me safely on a rock and made me secure.

He taught me to sing a new song, a song of praise to our God.

Many who see this will take warning and will put their trust in the Lord.

Happy are those who trust the Lord, who do not turn to idols
or join those who worship false gods.

You have done many things for us, O Lord our God; there is no one like you!

You have made many wonderful plans for us.

I could never speak of them all - their number is so great!

You do not want sacrifices and offerings; you do not ask for animals burned whole
on the altar or for sacrifices to take away sins.

**Instead, you have given me ears to hear you, and so I answered,
“Here I am; your instructions for me are in the book of the Law.**

How I love to do your will, my God! I keep your teaching in my heart.”

In the assembly of all your people, Lord, I told the good news that you save us.

You know that I will never stop telling it.

I have not kept the news of salvation to myself;

I have always spoken of your faithfulness and help.

**In the assembly of all your people I have not been silent
about your loyalty and constant love.**

Lord, I know you will never stop being merciful to me.

Your love and loyalty will always keep me safe.

Hymn: In Christ Alone (Sheet)

Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

The Word became flesh, and lived among us.

To all who received him he gave power to become Children of God

All **Alleluia.**

Gospel: (John 1:29-42)

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

The next day John saw Jesus coming to him, and said, “There is the Lamb of God,
who takes away the sin of the world! This is the one I was talking about when I said,
‘A man is coming after me, but he is greater than I am, because he existed before I

was born.' I did not know who he would be, but I came baptising with water in order to make him known to the people of Israel."

And John gave this testimony: "I saw the Spirit come down like a dove from heaven and stay on him. I still did not know that he was the one, but God, who sent me to baptize with water, had said to me, 'You will see the Spirit come down and stay on a man; he is the one who baptises with the Holy Spirit.' I have seen it," said John, "and I tell you that he is the Son of God."

The next day John was standing there again with two of his disciples, when he saw Jesus walking by. "There is the Lamb of God!" he said. The two disciples heard him say this and went with Jesus. Jesus turned, saw them following him, and asked, "What are you looking for?" They answered, "Where do you live, Rabbi?" (This word means "Teacher.") "Come and see," he answered. (It was then about four o'clock in the afternoon.) So they went with him and saw where he lived, and spent the rest of that day with him.

One of them was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. At once he found his brother Simon and told him, "We have found the Messiah." (This word means "Christ.") Then he took Simon to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, "Your name is Simon son of John, but you will be called Cephas." (This is the same as Peter and means "a rock.")

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ

Talk

Affirmation of Faith

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

All Though he was divine, he did not cling to equality with God, but made himself nothing.

Taking the form of a slave, he was born in human likeness.

He humbled himself and was obedient to death, even the death of the cross.

Therefore God has raised him on high, and has given him the name above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Intercessions

Between the prayers we say

Lord, in your mercy

All hear our prayer.

At the end of the prayers we say

Merciful God, accept our prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

All **Amen**

The Peace

John came to proclaim the Christ. Christ came to proclaim peace among all people.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

All **and also with you**

We share a sign of peace

Hymn: Just As I Am (376)

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here. *All* **His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts. *All* **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Father, we give you thanks and praise
through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word,
through whom you have created all things;
who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour.

And now we give you thanks
because, in the mystery of the Word made flesh,
you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts
to give the knowledge of your glory
in the face of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and *saying*:

All **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.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;
who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
 Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
 do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
 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:

All Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of St. Christopher and all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;
 by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
 for ever and ever.

All 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

**All 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.

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

Holy Communion is distributed to those in the Church.

Hymn: Jesus Remember Me (931)

Prayer of Spiritual Communion (for private prayer)

**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.**

Closing Prayer

God of glory,
you nourish us with your Word
who is the bread of life:
fill us with your Holy Spirit
that through us the light of your glory
may shine in all the world.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen**

Hymn: Will You Come and Follow Me (752)

Blessing and Dismissal

May the conviction of John shine in us,
that we also might proclaim the Lamb of God.

All **Amen.**

May the faith of the first disciples embolden us
to turn and follow the Prince of Peace.

All **Amen.**

May the love of Christ give us the courage
to stand with him against the darkness of our world.

All **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

We have seen his glory, the glory revealed to all the nations.
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All **In the name of Christ. Amen.**