

St. Christopher's Church, Hinchley Wood

Sunday 22nd January 2023 – 3rd 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.

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.**

God's mission in the world brings good news of forgiveness, joy and fulfilment. Let us worship together, seeking to follow God's Son and know the power of God's Spirit.

Today we pray especially for the work of the Mothers' Union and the Hinchley Wood Branch. We ask God to bless their mission of supporting Families and Communities around the world.

Mothers' Union Prayer

Loving Lord,

We thank you for your love so freely given to us all.

We pray for families around the world.

Bless the work of the Mothers' Union

as we seek to share your love through the encouragement, strengthening and support of marriage and family life.

Empowered by your Spirit, may we be united in prayer and worship, and in love and service reach out as your hands across the world.

In Jesus' name. Amen

Hymn: Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult (347)

Confession

In prayer, let us ask for forgiveness for the times when we have turned away from God.

God desires light and life in this world. For the times when we have chosen darkness over light.

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

Jesus teaches us to be part of his movement of renewal for the world. For the times when we have clung to old ways out of selfishness and fear.

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

God's Spirit remains the joy and hope of the world. For the times when we have not accepted joy and denied hope.

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

God of all mercy,
your Son proclaimed good news to the poor,
release to the captives,
and freedom to the oppressed:
anoint us with your Holy Spirit
and set all your people free
to praise you in Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Reading: (Isaiah 9:1-4)

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

There will be no way for them to escape from this time of trouble.

The land of the tribes of Zebulun and Naphtali was once disgraced, but the future will bring honour to this region, from the Mediterranean eastward to the land on the other side of the Jordan, and even to Galilee itself, where the foreigners live.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.
They lived in a land of shadows, but now light is shining on them.
You have given them great joy, Lord; you have made them happy.
They rejoice in what you have done, as people rejoice when they harvest grain or when they divide captured wealth.
For you have broken the yoke that burdened them
and the rod that beat their shoulders.
You have defeated the nation that oppressed and exploited your people,
just as you defeated the army of Midian long ago.

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

Psalm 27

The Lord is my light and my salvation; I will fear no one.
The Lord protects me from all danger; I will never be afraid.

**In times of trouble he will shelter me; he will keep me safe in his Temple
and make me secure on a high rock.**

So I will triumph over my enemies around me.
With shouts of joy I will offer sacrifices in his Temple;
I will sing, I will praise the Lord.

**Hear me, Lord, when I call to you! Be merciful and answer me!
When you said, "Come worship me," I answered, "I will come, Lord."**

Don't hide yourself from me!
Don't be angry with me; don't turn your servant away.

**You have been my help; don't leave me, don't abandon me, O God, my saviour.
My father and mother may abandon me, but the Lord will take care of me.**

Teach me, Lord, what you want me to do,
and lead me along a safe path, because I have many enemies.
Don't abandon me to my enemies, who attack me with lies and threats.

I know that I will live to see the Lord's goodness in this present life.

Hymn: The Kingdom of God is Justice and Joy (646)

Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

Jesus proclaimed the Good News of the Kingdom,
and cured all kinds of diseases among the people.

All **Alleluia.**

Gospel: (Matthew 4:12-23)

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

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

When Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, he withdrew to Galilee. Leaving Nazareth, he went and lived in Capernaum, which was by the lake in the area of Zebulun and Naphtali - to fulfill what was said through the prophet Isaiah:

“Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali,
the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—
the people living in darkness have seen a great light;
on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.”

From that time on Jesus began to preach, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. “Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will send you out to fish for people.” At once they left their nets and followed him.

Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee, preparing their nets. Jesus called them, and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people.

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

In recognising and sharing the good news of Jesus in our world today, we offer one another peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

All **and also with you**

We share a sign of peace

Hymn: And Can it Be (32)

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: The Lord is My Light (944)

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

Almighty Father, whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ is the light of the world: may your people, illumined by your word and sacraments, shine with the radiance of his glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

All **Amen**

Notices

Commissioning of the Members of the Mothers' Union

Lord, you have been our dwelling-place throughout all generations. May the favour of the Lord our God rest upon you; establish the work of your hands in them – yes, establish the work of your hands.

Faithful God, we commission and rededicate these members to your purposes through the work and mission of the Mothers' Union; for your praise and glory. **Amen**

As members of the Mothers' Union:

We pray that you will continue to be a people who honour and worship the name of the Lord.

Members: **Lord, may it be done according to your goodness and grace.**

We pray that you will continue to be a people who seek and follow God's will.

Members: **Lord, may it be done according to your goodness and grace.**

We pray that you will continue to be a people who reach out to the world with your love.

Members: **Lord, may it be done according to your goodness and grace.**

God of all generations, we thank you for the generous witness that these members of the Mothers' Union continue to give to the Mission of Christ in the world.

We pray that you will bless and commission them to continue to work in your service with faithfulness and dedication.

In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit

Members: **Lord, may it be done according to your goodness and grace. Amen**

Hymn: Jesus Put This Song into Our Hearts (851)

Blessing and Dismissal

In the life of our missionary God, may you learn from Jesus and recognise the life of the Spirit's renewal.

All Amen.

May you and all creation know God's joy and peace.

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.

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