St John's Harpenden



PARISH EUCHARIST

Sunday Before Lent 27th February 2022

WELCOME

Please stand when the bell rings and the Procession enters.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 766 – Praise my soul the king of heaven

I Praise, my soul, the King of heaven, to his feet thy tribute bring; ransomed healed, restored, forgiven, who like me his praise should sing? Alleluia, alleluia, praise the everlasting King.

2 Praise him for his grace and favour to our fathers in distress; praise him still the same for ever, slow to chide and swift to bless: Alleluia, alleluia, glorious in his faithfulness.

3 Father-like, he tends and spares us, well our feeble frame he knows; in his hands he gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes: Alleluia, alleluia, widely as his mercy flows.

4 Frail as summer's flower we flourish; blows the wind and it is gone; but, while mortals rise and perish, God endures unchanging on: Alleluia, alleluia, praise the high eternal One. 5 Angels, help us to adore him; ye behold him face to face; sun and moon bow down before him, dwellers all in time and space: Alleluia, alleluia, praise with us the God of grace.

GREETING

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

The president informally introduces the service.

PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith.

Kneel

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, we have sinned against you, and against our neighbour, in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may serve you in newness of life, to the glory of your name. Amen. The kyrie is normally sung.

Lord, have mercy Christ, have mercy Lord, have mercy.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Stand for the GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the Highest. Glory to God in the Highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, Heav'nly King, almighty God and Father. We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the Highest. 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. Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the Highest. 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.

Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the Highest.

THE COLLECT

Let us pray

Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

READINGS Exodus 34-29 - end

29 Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. 30When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. 31But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. 32Afterwards all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the Lord had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. 33When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; 34but whenever Moses went in before the Lord to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, 35the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

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

GRADUAL HYMN 383 - Lord, thy word abideth

I Lord, thy word abideth, and our footsteps guideth; who its truth believeth light and joy receiveth.

2 When our foes are near us, then thy word doth cheer us, word of consolation, message of salvation.

3 When the storms are o'er us, and dark clouds before us, then its light directeth, and our way protecteth.

4 Who can tell the pleasure, who recount the treasure by thy word imparted to the simple-hearted?

5 Word of mercy, giving succour to the living; word of life, supplying comfort to the dying.

6 O that we discerning its most holy learning, Lord, may love and fear thee, evermore be near thee!

THE HOLY GOSPEL

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

28 Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus^{\pm} took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. ²⁹And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. ³⁰Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. ³¹They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. ³²Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake,^{$\frac{1}{2}$} they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. ³³Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings,^{*} one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah'—not knowing what he said. ³⁴While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. ³⁵Then from the cloud came a voice that said, 'This is my Son, my Chosen;^{$\frac{*}{2}$} listen to him!' ³⁶When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sit for the SERMON Anne Edwards

A short silence follows the Sermon.

Stand for THE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will with have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

INTERCESSIONS

The president introduces the prayers and the congregation kneels.

These responses may be used

Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

(or)

Lord, hear us Lord, graciously hear us

At the end of the prayers:

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

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

Stand for THE PEACE

Christ is our peace, he has reconciled us to God in one body by his cross; we meet in his name, and share in his peace.

The Peace of the Lord be always with you. And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

The Congregation share the sign of the Peace with those immediately around them, saying 'Peace be with you'.

OFFERTORY HYMN 281 – Tis good, Lord, to be here. The gifts of the people may be gathered and presented. The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it. The president takes the bread and wine

I 'Tis good, Lord, to be here, thy glory fills the night; thy face and garments, like the sun, shine with unborrowed light.

2 'Tis good, Lord, to be here, thy beauty to behold, where Moses and Elijah stand, thy messengers of old.

3 Fulfiller of the past, promise of things to be, we hail thy body glorified, and our redemption see.

4 Before we taste of death, we see thy kingdom come; we fain would hold the vision bright, and make this hill our home.

5 'Tis good, Lord, to be here, yet we may not remain; but since thou bidst us leave the mount, come with us to the plain.

Please give generously to the ministry of your church. If you are a visitor and a tax-payer, please fill in the Gift Aid envelopes provided. Regular worshippers are encouraged to join our stewardship scheme - standing order forms and information leaflets may be found at the back of church. Thank you for your gift. Remain standing

Be present, be present, Lord Jesus Christ, our risen high priest; make yourself known in the breaking of bread. **Amen.**

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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.

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.

By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh; as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin, he lived on earth and went about among us; he opened wide his arms for us on the cross; he put an end to death by dying for us; and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life; so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

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

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 read 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: 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 our Lady Mary, St John, St Alban 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. Amen!

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour taught us, so we are bold to say:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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.

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

The president invites the people to Communion saying:

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins 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.

All Baptised Christians who normally receive Communion in their own church are welcome to do so here. If you would like to receive a Blessing, bow your head at the Altar rail. Please follow the direction of the wardens.

COMMUNION HYMN Remain kneeling or seated.

464 – Sweet Sacrament divine;
1 Sweet Sacrament divine,
hid in thine earthly home,
lo, round thy lowly shrine,
with suppliant hearts we come;
Jesus, to thee our voice we raise
in songs of love and heartfelt praise:
sweet Sacrament divine.

2 Sweet Sacrament of peace, dear home for every heart, where restless yearnings cease and sorrows all depart; there in thine ear all trustfully we tell our tale of misery: sweet Sacrament of peace.

3 Sweet Sacrament of rest, ark from the ocean's roar, within thy shelter blest soon may we reach the shore; save us, for still the tempest raves, save, lest we sink beneath the waves: sweet Sacrament ofrest.

4 Sweet Sacrament divine, earth's light and jubilee, in thy far depths doth shine thy Godhead's majesty; sweet light, so shine on us, we pray, that earthly joys may fade away: sweet Sacrament divine

462 – Soul of my saviour.

I Soul of my Saviour, sanctify my breast, body of Christ, be thou my saving guest, blood of my Saviour, bathe me in thy tide, wash me with water flowing from thy side.

2 Strength and protection may thy Passion be, O blessèd Jesu, hear and answer me; deep in thy wounds, Lord, hide and shelter me, so shall I never, never part from thee. 3 Guard and defend me from the foe malign, in death's dread moments make me only thine; call me and bid me come to thee on high where I may praise thee with thy saints for ay.

During Communion, if the Choir are present, an ANTHEM may be sung.

A short period of silence is kept after Communion.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray

Holy God, we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ: may we who are partakers at his table reflect his life in word and deed, that all the world may know his power to change and save. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ; through him we offer you our souls and bodies, to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit, to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

Sit for the NOTICES

Stand for the FINAL HYMN and remain standing.

652 - Guide me, O thou great redeemer (for St David)

I Guide me, O thou great Redeemer, pilgrim through this barren land; I am weak, but thou art mighty; hold me with thy powerful hand: Bread of heaven, feed me now and evermore.

2 Open now the crystal fountain whence the healing stream doth flow; let the fiery cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through: strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield.

3 When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside; death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side: songs and praises I will ever give to thee.

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

The Lord be with you **And also with you**

The peace of God which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you, now and always. **Amen**.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. In the name of Christ. Remain standing as an Organ Voluntary begins and the RECESSION takes place.

Please join us for refreshments in the Church Hall after the service.

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