

WORSHIP - SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT - 27 FEBRUARY 2022

Today we have services in both churches at 10 am and meet on Zoom at 11.30 - the link is on the website. This is the Order of Service that is based on the Zoom service.

We start with Prayers for Ukraine

Father God, King of all nations, we cry out to you now for the people of Ukraine. We ask you to rescue those who are vulnerable from the hands of their enemies that they may live without fear before you all their days [Luke 1:74-75].

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

Lord of lords and Prince of peace, our politicians are predicting the biggest war in Europe since 1945, and we simply cry out to you urgently to write another story in our time. Thwart the dark machinations of evil men. Give wisdom beyond human wisdom to peacemakers seeking an equitable and less violent way. May politicians exercise the wisdom from above, which is peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, and full of mercy [James 3:17].

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

Holy Spirit, we pray for the church in Ukraine, a nation in which 70% of the population call themselves Christian. Give our many brothers and sisters in that nation courage in this crisis that they may proclaim the good news of your kingdom, bind up broken hearts, and bring comfort to all who mourn. [Isaiah 61:1-2].

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

You Lord, make wars cease to the end of the earth; you break bows, shatter spears, and burn shields with fire [Psalm 46:9]. And so we ask you now to save the lives of many people in Ukraine. Make a peace that is strong and not weak. De-escalate this crisis. We hear of wars and rumours of wars (Matt. 24:6), but you Lord are our rock, our fortress and our deliverer. Our hope is in you. And so we address the nations now. In the name of Jesus we say: "Be still and know God! He is exalted among the nations; he shall be exalted in the earth [Psalm 46:10].

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

Hymn - Father, hear the prayer we offer - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CFoactKMJHQ>

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

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ to save us from our sins, to be our advocate in heaven, and to bring us to eternal life. Let us confess our sins, in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments, and to live in love and peace with all.

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.**

The Collect

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.

New Testament reading - 2 Corinthians 3.12-4.2 - *is printed on the blue notic sheet*

Hymn - Christ, whose glory fills the skies - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xr7IYNgy0mE&t=40s>

Gospel - Luke 9.28-43a - *is printed on the blue notic sheet*

Address - *Peter's sermon is on the website*

The Nicene 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 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.

Anthem – A Song of the Light, Simon Lole - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=exZirheCAKk>
Phos Hilaron (from 'Celebrating Common Prayer')

Light of the world, in grace and beauty,
mirror of God's eternal face.
Transparent flame of love's free duty,
you bring salvation to our race.

Now as we see the lights of evening,
we raise our voice in hymns of praise.
Worthy are you of endless blessing,
sun of our night, lamp of our days.

Prayers of Intercession

Lord, we pray on the Sunday next before Lent. Our reading is of glory, yet we are in a continent at war. Help us to balance so many conflicting emotions. May we as Christians listen more attentively and with greater urgency than ever before to the words of Jesus; give us more awareness of your presence with us, both in our worship and in our daily lives and give us the courage to live out your truth with joy, to share your glory and your love. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Lord of light, transfigure us, increase our vision and reveal your glory. We pray for the world-wide Christian Church in all its wonderful diversity, bringing the elements of different cultures into their worship and in the service of our Lord Jesus Christ. Especially we pray for those churches who meet together in difficult and often dangerous circumstances - we pray for our brothers and sisters in the Ukraine, but we know there are many people of faith, across this world, who suffer and die. . Let them know and feel your all abiding presence to both uphold their courage and strengthen their faith. Transform our darkest places with your light. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Lord of light, transfigure us, and help us bring light into this dark world. We give thanks for our NHS and all those who care. We know that pain and suffering, disease and death, are a reality for so many - in our country and across the world. We pray for those who continue to give so much, to work so hard, to face so much suffering - Lord, they need your transfiguring power. We pray for those who cope with their illness, and the illness of those they love. For those who are so frightened as we open up, and for those who are so angry at any restrictions. We name before you people for whom we are especially concerned. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Lord of light; transfigure our towns, our cities, our country. We pray for areas of danger, for places of corruption, for poor housing and for the homeless. Help us to be more like you in our dealings with the marginalised of our society, Lord, and transform, through us, our places of poverty; change our attitudes for the better towards each other. We pray for our government and all in authority. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Lord of light; transfigure our homes, that they may be radiant with your presence. Thank you for the love that we share, the people with whom we share - or have shared - our lives. When Valentine's Day is hard, strength and heal us - grief is the price we pay for love. May our homes be places of peace and kindness, of holiness and hospitality, of grace and goodness; that you may be known to be among us. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for all who have passed beyond death and been transformed in your glorious kingdom: for the saints, for loved ones departed; that we like them may come to the fullness of your presence. In a moment of silence we lift those known personally to us. Father, we thank you for the glimpses of glory you give us in this life, for your friendship and your promise to be with us always.

We bring our prayers together as we pray the prayer that Jesus taught us:

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. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And 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.

Hymn - Bright the vision that delighted - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2hPDn3-VcMU>

The Blessing

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 among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Peter Barham, 25 February 2022
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