

**CHARLTON BENEFICE  
ONLINE WORSHIP  
SUNDAY 23rd January 2022  
THIRD SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY  
THE GATHERING**

**Catherine welcomes people to worship**

**Introit Hymn - Dear Lord and Father of Mankind**

***The Preparation***

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

*All* **Amen.**

*The president introduces the celebration.*

*All* The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

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

Prayer of Preparation

**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.**

*Confession*

The grace of God  
has dawned upon the world  
through our Saviour Jesus Christ,

who sacrificed himself for us  
to purify a people as his own.  
Let us confess our sins.

*All* **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.**

### ***Absolution***

*President* 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.

*All* **Amen.**

### **Gloria in Excelsis**

*All* **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.**

The Collect

*The president introduces a period of silent prayer  
with the words 'Let us pray'. The Collect is said,  
and all respond:*  
**Amen.**

## **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

### **Old Testament Reading – read by Catherine**

A reading from the prophet Nehemiah

All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, 'Amen, Amen', lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshipped the Lord with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, 'This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep.' For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, 'Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.'

*at the end of the reading ...*

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

### **New Testament Reading – read by Joelle**

**A reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians**

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot were to say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear were to say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you', nor again the head to the feet, 'I have no need of you.' On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honourable we clothe with greater honour, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honour to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

*at the end of the reading ...*

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

**Gradual Hymn - O Lord My God**

**Gospel Reading – read by Bennett**

*Reader*      Alleluia, alleluia.  
                    We do not live by bread alone,  
                    but by every word that comes  
                    from the mouth of God.  
                    **Alleluia.**

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

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me  
to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives  
and recovery of sight to the blind,  
to let the oppressed go free,

to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.'

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.'

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

### **Sermon – Revd Bennett**

*After the sermon there is a period of quiet reflection.*

#### The Creed

**Bennett**    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.

#### Intercessions

*President Let us pray for the church and for the  
world  
and let us be thankful for God's  
goodness*

*This morning's Intercessions are led by Angelique*

*Please sit. Prayers are offered for*

- *the Church of Christ*
- *Creation*
- *human society*
- *the Sovereign and those in authority*
- *the local community*
- *those who suffer*
- *and the communion of saints. After each prayer*

*Intercessor Lord, in your mercy*  
*All hear our prayer.*  
*(or)*

*Intercessor Lord, hear us.*  
*All Lord, graciously hear us.*

*After the final prayer*

*Intercessor Merciful Father,*

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

## ***LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT***

The Peace

*President*    If our life in Christ means anything,  
if love can persuade at all  
or the spirit that we have in common,  
or any tenderness and sympathy,  
then be united in your conviction  
and united in your love,  
With a common purpose  
and a common mind.  
The peace of the Lord be always with  
you

*All*            **and also with you.**  
Let us offer one another a sign of  
peace.

*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

**Offertory Hymn** The Lord's My Shepherd

## **Preparation of the Gifts**

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

*All*            **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

*President*    The Lord be with you  
*All*            **and also with you.**

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

*President*    Let us give thanks to the Lord our  
God.  
*All*            **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

*President* You are worthy of our thanks and  
praise, Lord God of truth,  
for by the breath of your mouth  
you have spoken your word,  
and all things have come into being.  
You fashioned us in your image  
and placed us in the garden of your  
delight.  
Though we chose the path of  
rebellion you would not abandon your  
own. Again and again you drew us  
into your covenant of grace.  
You gave your people the law  
and taught us by your prophets  
to look for your reign of justice, mercy  
and peace.

As we watch for the signs of your  
kingdom on earth, we echo the song  
of the angels in heaven,  
evermore 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.**

*President* Lord God, you are the most holy one,  
enthroned in splendour and light,  
yet in the coming of your Son Jesus  
Christ you reveal the power of your  
love made perfect in our human  
weakness.

*All* **Amen. Lord, we believe.**

*President* Embracing our humanity, Jesus  
showed us the way of salvation;  
loving us to the end, he gave himself  
to death for us; dying for his own,  
he set us free from the bonds of sin,  
that we might rise and reign with him  
in glory.

*All* **Amen. Lord, we believe.**



*President* On the night he gave up himself for us  
all he 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.

*All* **Amen. Lord, we believe.**

*President* 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.

*All* **Amen. Lord, we believe.**

*President* Christ is the bread of life  
*All* **When we eat this bread  
and drink this cup,  
we proclaim your death, Lord  
Jesus,  
until you come in glory.**

Therefore we proclaim the death that  
he suffered on the cross, we  
celebrate his resurrection,  
his bursting from the tomb,  
we rejoice that he reigns  
at your right hand on high  
and we long for his coming in glory.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

As we recall the one, perfect sacrifice  
of our redemption,  
Father, by your Holy Spirit  
let these gifts of your creation  
be to us the body and blood  
of our Lord Jesus Christ;  
form us into the likeness of Christ

and make us a perfect offering in your sight.

**Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

*President* Look with favour on your people, and in your mercy hear the cry of our hearts.

Bless the earth, heal the sick,  
let the oppressed go free, and fill your Church with power from on high.

*All* **Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

*President* Gather your people  
from the ends of the earth to feast  
with Thomas, Luke and Richard,  
and all your saints at the table in your kingdom, where the new creation is brought to perfection in 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

*President* As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

*All* **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.**

### Breaking of the Bread

*President* 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.**

***Agnus Dei***

*All*            **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.**

*(or)*           **Jesus, Lamb of God,  
have mercy on us.  
Jesus, bearer of our sins,  
have mercy on us.  
Jesus, redeemer of the world,  
grant us peace.**

**Invitation to Communion**

*President*    Draw near with faith.  
Receive the body of our Lord Jesus  
Christ which he gave for you,  
and his blood which he shed for you.  
Eat and drink in remembrance that he  
died for you, and feed on him in your  
hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

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

*(or)*  
*President*    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.**

*(or)*  
*President*    God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

*All*            **Jesus Christ is holy,  
Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.**

*All*            **We do not presume**

to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord whose nature is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us.  
**Amen.**

Communion Hymn - Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God

### **Prayer after Communion**

*Silence is kept. The Post Communion or other suitable prayer is said.*

### **Notices – given by Bennett**

### **Final Prayer**

CATHERINE **Father of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## ***Blessing and Sending Out***

*Please stand.*

*President* Christ the Son of God perfect in you  
the image of his glory, and gladden  
your hearts with the good news of his  
kingdom; and the blessing of God  
almighty, the Father, the Son, and the  
Holy Spirit, be among you and remain  
with you always.

*All* **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the  
Lord.

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

Final Hymn: Lord for the Years