

CHARLTON BENEFICE
ONLINE WORSHIP
SUNDAY 30th January 2022
CANDLEMAS
THE GATHERING

MAY welcomes people to worship

Introit Hymn - Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates

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.

On Thursday night, the Revd Tony Crowe, who served as Rector in this church for many years, passed away. This eucharist is dedicated to him. Let's spend a few moments in stillness before God.....

Into your hands, O Lord,
we humbly entrust our *brother, Tony*
In this life you embraced *him* with your tender love,
and opened to *him* the gate of heaven.
The old order has passed away,
as you welcome *him* into paradise,
where there will be no sorrow, no weeping nor pain,
but the fullness of peace and joy
with your Son and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever.

All Amen.

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

MAY **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.**

JULIANA – Dear friends, forty days ago we celebrated the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. In a few weeks we shall celebrate the joy of his Resurrection. In this Eucharist today, we celebrate both the joy of his coming and his searching judgement, looking back to the day of his birth and forward to the coming days of his Passion. So let us now bring our sins into the light and confess them in penitence and faith

Pause

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 Juliana

A reading from the prophet Malachi

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

Then I will draw near to you for judgement; I will be swift to bear witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired workers in their wages, the widow, and the orphan, against those who thrust aside the alien, and do not fear me, says the Lord of hosts.

at the end of the reading ...

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

New Testament Reading – read by Sheila

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

at the end of the reading ...

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

Gradual Hymn - Faithful vigil ended

Gospel Reading – read by Michael

This child is the light to enlighten the nations
and the glory of your people, Israel.

Alleluia.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to St Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.'

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, 'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.'

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

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

Sermon – Revd Liz

After the sermon there is a period of quiet reflection.

Act of Commitment

LIZ – As we're gathered here together as 3 congregations, let's commit ourselves anew to serving God in the places and among the people we've been given to love:

Pause

Ask clergy, churchwardens, officer, SPAs and PCC members to stand

As leaders in our congregations, we ask you to commit to the life of our benefice in the year ahead.

Christ, you call us.

Help us respond to your call.

Christ, you call us to be your people in the world.

**We will follow your call to be your people:
our hands will do your work,
our feet will walk your way.**

Christ, you call each one of us
to be your child for the world.

**May our hearts search for your truth,
may our souls listen for your voice,
may our lives follow in your path.
Christ, you call each one of us.**

Christ, you call us to be your people in the world.

**We reaffirm our commitment to be a United
Benefice serving this community of Charlton
and witnessing to God's kingdom in the
world.**

Clergy, Churchwardens, Officers, SPAs and PCC members remain standing

LIZ Can I ask the remainder of the congregation
to stand as well. Today we recommit to
serving God together, so let us pray.....

Pause

**God of the high heavens,
Christ of the deep earth,
Spirit of the flowing waters,
Trinity of love.**

You have offered your love to us
And here we pledge our love to you.
Strengthen us in our desire
And breathe into our bodies the passion of
your love.
We pray this in the name of Jesus
To whom we commit ourselves
Amen

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 Ally

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

All

All may exchange a sign of peace.

Offertory Hymn: Love divine, all loves excelling

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 Luke and Richard, Thomas, Tony
Crowe 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 - Virgin born, we bow before thee

Prayer after Communion

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

Notices – given by Liz

Final Prayer

JULIANA - We say together
**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: Praise to the Holiest in the height