

**Charlton Benefice  
Online Worship  
Sunday 29 January 2022  
Candlemas**

**The Gathering**

**Michael welcomes people to worship**

**Introit Hymn: We hail thy presence glorious, O Christ our great High Priest**

***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.*

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

*(or)* Grace, mercy and peace  
from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ  
be with you

*All* **and also with you.**

**Prayer of Preparation**

*Michael* **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.**

## Prayer of Penitence

*Michael* 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.**

## **Liturgy of the Word**

### **Old Testament Reading: read by Michael**

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.

This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**New Testament Reading:** read by Deborah

**A reading from 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.

This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual Hymn:** Faithful vigil ended (*the Nunc Dimittis*)

**The Gospel:** read by Gloria

*All*            **Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

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

*All*            **Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

*Reader*       Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

*All*            **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.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you, O Christ**

**Sermon:** Revd Joe

*Please sit. After the sermon  
we keep a short period of silence.*

The Creed

**All**            **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.**

## **Act of Commitment**

Please sit.

*The churchwardens of both parishes stand before the President and,  
on behalf of both congregations, commit to working together as a  
benefice over the next year.*

**Bennett** Christ, you call us.  
**Wardens** Help us respond to your call.

**Bennett** Christ, you call us to be your people in the world.  
**Wardens** We will follow your call to be your people:  
our hands will do your work,  
our feet will walk your way.

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

Wardens 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.

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

Wardens On behalf of the people of St Luke's  
and St Thomas's, we reaffirm our commitment of being  
a United Benefice, serving this community of Charlton,  
and working for God's Kingdom together.

### Commissioning

Bennett Today we recommit to serving God together  
as a United Benefice.

Wardens We pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit  
as we continue our journey of faith together.

Bennett: The Lord himself is our keeper,  
the Lord is our defence upon our right hand.  
The Lord preserve our going out  
and our coming in,  
from this time forth and for evermore.

Wardens Amen.

### Intercessions: led by Ally and Yvonne

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

*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)* 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**

*Please stand.*

*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.**

*President* Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

**Offertory Hymn:** Make way, make way, for Christ the King in splendour arrives

### **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.**

*President* 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.

*All*        **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

*President*    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.

*All*        **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  
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.**

*(or)* Let us pray with confidence  
as our Saviour has taught us.

*All* **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.**

#### 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)* 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)* 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:** Purify my heart

**The Healing Prayer:** read by Judith

**Prayer after Communion**

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

**Notices:** given by Judith

**Final Prayer**

*Minister  
of the  
Word*      **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.**

*President*    Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

**Recessional Hymn:** King of glory, King of peace