

**EPIPHANY 2024  
LIVESTREAMED SERVICE  
CHARLTON BENEFICE**

Rick welcomes people to worship

**Introit Hymn**

***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**

*All* **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.**

We pause now to recall the ways in which we've let God down over recent days and have failed to be the loving people God calls us to be.....

**Prayer of Penitence**

*Minister of the Word* 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 Rick**

### **A reading from the prophet Isaiah**

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you;  
your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.  
Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you.  
A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come.  
They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD

*at the end of the reading ...*

*Reader* This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

This is the reason that I, Paul, am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles— for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given to me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow-heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given to me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be

made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

*at the end of the reading ...*

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

### **Gradual Hymn**

### **Gospel Reading – read by David**

*Reader*        Alleluia, alleluia.  
                      Christ was revealed in flesh,  
                      proclaimed among the nations  
                      and believed in throughout the world.

*All*                **Alleluia.**

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

*All*                **Glory to you, O Lord.**

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, ‘Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.’ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, ‘In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: “And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.”’ Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, ‘Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.’ When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having

been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

*at the end of the Gospel ...*

*Reader*        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.**

Intercessions – led by Judith

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

*After each prayer*

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.**

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

*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

**Offertory Hymn**

**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.**

### 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

## Prayer after Communion

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

## Notices

### 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.**

### Final Hymn