

**CHARLTON BENEFICE  
ONLINE WORSHIP  
SUNDAY 11 FEB 2024  
Sunday before Lent  
THE GATHERING**

**Ali welcomes people to worship**

**Introit Hymn**

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

*The president greets the people and makes some announcements about arrangements for communion*

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

**Prayer of Preparation**

*Ali* **We say the prayer of preparation together:  
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.**

**Prayers of Penitence**

*Ali* 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.

*We confess our sins together*

**Father eternal, giver of light and grace,  
we have sinned against you  
and against our neighbour,  
in what we have thought,  
in what we have said and done,  
through ignorance, through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.  
We have wounded your love,  
and marred your image in us.  
We are sorry and ashamed,  
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 lead us out from darkness  
to walk as children of light.  
Amen.**

### **Absolution**

*Bennett*      May the God of love and power  
forgive you and free you from your sins,  
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,  
and raise you to new life in Christ our  
Lord.  
**Amen.**

### **The Gloria**

### **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 Ali**

A reading from the second Book of Kings.

Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel.' But Elisha said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?' And he said, 'Yes, I know; keep silent.'

Elijah said to him, 'Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho.' But he said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?' And he answered, 'Yes, I know; be silent.'

Then Elijah said to him, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.' But he said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, 'Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.' Elisha said, 'Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.' He responded, 'You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.' As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, 'Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!' But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

*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 second letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness', who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

*at the end of the reading ...*

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

## **Gradual Hymn**

### **Gospel Reading – read by Revd 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 Mark  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, ‘Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.’ He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, ‘This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!’ Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

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 Affirmation of Faith**

Let us declare our faith in God.

**We believe in God the Father,  
from whom every family**

in heaven and on earth is named.  
We believe in God the Son,  
who lives in our hearts through faith,  
and fills us with his love.  
We believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
who strengthens us  
with power from on high.  
We believe in one God:  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
Amen.

### Prayers of Intercession – led by Jane

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

*Please sit.*

*Prayers and thanksgivings are now made.  
After each prayer is said:*

*Prayers are offered for*

- the Church of Christ
- Creation, human society, the Sovereign  
and those in authority
- the local community
- those who suffer
- the communion of saints

*After each prayer ...*

*Intercessor* Lord, in your mercy  
**hear our prayer.**

(or) Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

*After the final prayer ...*

*Intercessor* God of mercy,  
**hear our prayer  
and make us one in heart and mind  
to serve you with joy forever.**

**Amen.**

## **THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT**

### **The Peace**

‘Where two or three are gathered together in my name,’ says the Lord, ‘there am I in the midst of them.’

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

### **Offertory Hymn**

### **Preparation of the Table**

*President* Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour, and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

**All things come from you,  
and of your own do we give you.**

Wise and gracious God,  
you spread a table before us;  
nourish your people with the word of life and the bread of heaven.

**Amen.**

### **The Eucharistic Prayer**

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

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Father, we give you thanks and praise  
through your beloved Son Jesus Christ,  
your living Word,  
through whom you have created all  
things; who was sent by you in your  
great goodness to be our Saviour.

By the power of the Holy Spirit  
he took flesh; as your Son,  
born of the blessed Virgin,  
he lived on earth and went about among us;  
he opened wide his arms for us  
on the cross; he put an end to death  
by dying for us; and revealed  
the resurrection by rising to new life;  
so he fulfilled your will  
and won for you a holy people.

*Short Proper Preface, when appropriate.*

Therefore with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven,  
we proclaim your great and glorious name,  
for ever praising you and *singing*:

**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.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will,  
these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood  
of our Lord Jesus Christ;  
who, in the same night that he was betrayed, 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.

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.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again**

And so, Father,  
calling to mind his death on the cross,  
his perfect sacrifice made once  
for the sins of the whole world;  
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection  
and glorious ascension,  
and looking for his coming in glory,  
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of  
praise and thanksgiving, we bring  
before you this bread and this cup  
and we thank you for counting us  
worthy to stand in your presence and  
serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people  
and gather into one in your kingdom  
all who share this one bread and one  
cup, so that we, in the company  
of St Thomas, St Luke and St Richard,  
and all the saints,  
may praise and glorify you for ever,  
through 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.

**Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

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

**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.**

*President* **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**

*The president breaks the consecrated bread.*

*President* We break this bread  
to share in the body of Christ.  
**Though we are many,  
we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

**Agnus Dei** - from Mass of St Cedd by Peter Nardone

## **Invitation to Communion**

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.  
**Jesus Christ is holy,  
Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.**

## **Prayer before Distribution**

**Most merciful Lord,**

**your love compels us to come in.  
Our hands were unclean,  
our hearts were unprepared;  
we were not fit even to eat  
the crumbs from under your table.  
But you, Lord, are the God of our  
salvation, and share your bread with  
sinners. So cleanse and feed us with  
the precious body and blood of your  
Son,  
that he may live in us and we in him;  
and that we, with the whole company  
of Christ, may sit and eat in your  
kingdom.  
Amen.**

### **Prayer after Communion**

*Silence is kept. The Post Communion prayer is said.*

Lord God, the source of truth and love,  
keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship,  
united in prayer and the breaking of bread,  
and one in joy and simplicity of heart,  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen

### **Notices**

### **Final Prayer**

*Ali*            **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.**

**THE BLESSING  
AND SENDING OUT**

*Please stand.*

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

May the Father from whom every family  
in earth and heaven receives its name  
strengthen you with his Spirit  
in your inner being, so that Christ may  
dwell in your hearts by faith;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
come down upon you  
and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

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

Final Hymn.