



The Parish Church of St John the Baptist West Byfleet

The Second Sunday before Lent



Sunday 7th February

Introduction and welcome

Revd Keith Elford, Priest-in-charge at St John's, introduces our online 'virtual communion' service for the Second Sunday before Lent

The Greeting

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

Amen

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

This is the day that the Lord has made

We will rejoice and be glad in it.

Hymn

Thou whose almighty word

Thou whose almighty word
chaos and darkness heard,
and took their flight,
hear us, we humbly pray,
and where the gospel day
sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light.

Thou who didst come to bring
on thy redeeming wing
healing and sight,
health to the sick in mind,
sight to the inly blind,
O now to all mankind
let there be light.

Spirit of truth and love,
life-giving, holy dove,

speed forth thy flight;
move o'er the waters' face,
bearing the lamp of grace,
and in earth's darkest place
let there be light.

Blessèd and holy Three,
glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might,
boundless and ocean's tide
rolling in fullest pride,
through the world far and wide,
let there be light.

*Words: John Marriott (1780-1825)
Tune: Moscow; Felice de Giardini (1716-96)*

**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.**

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.

Prayer of Preparation

Prayers of Penitence

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.

Silence for reflection.

**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.**

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.
Amen.

Prayer for today

The Collect for the Second Sunday before Lent

Almighty God,
you have created the heavens and the earth

and made us in your own image:
teach us to discern your hand in all your works
and your likeness in all your children;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things,
now and for ever.
Amen.

Gospel Reading

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

John 1.1-14

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

A Reflection for today

Affirmation of Faith

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?
We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?
We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?
We believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.
This is our faith.
We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

during which the following responsive forms are used:

We pray to the Lord
Lord have mercy

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

Merciful Father,
accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.

The Peace

The peace of the be always with you
And also with you

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here.
His Spirit is with us.

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.

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

**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 your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of St John 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

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.
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.**

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

A prayer to replace Communion

**Jesus, I love you beyond all things,
how I long to receive you with my brothers and sisters
at the table you have prepared,
since I cannot at this moment receive you in bread and wine
in this holy sacrament,
I ask you to feed me with the manna of your Holy Spirit
and nourish me with your holy presence,
I unite myself wholly to you;
never permit me to be separated from your love.
Amen.**

As we contemplate Christ's sacrifice for us, we listen to *Praise to you, O Christ our saviour:*

*Praise to you, O Christ, our Saviour,
Word of the Father, calling us to life;
Son of God who leads us to freedom:
glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ!*

You are the Word who calls out of darkness;
you are the Word who leads us into light;
you are the Word who brings us through the desert:
glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

You are the one whom prophets hoped and longed for;
you are the one who speaks to us today;
you are the one who leads us to our future:
glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

You are the Word who calls us to be servants;
you are the Word whose only law is love;
you are the Word-made-flesh who lives among us:
glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

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Post Communion prayer

God our Father
whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal life;
may we thirst for you,
the spring of life and the source of goodness,
through him who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Hymn

God has spoken, by his prophets

God has spoken – by his prophets,
spoken his unchanging word;
each from age to age proclaiming
God the one, the righteous Lord;
in the world's despair and turmoil
one firm anchor holds us fast:
God is King, his throne eternal,
God the first and God the last.

God has spoken – by Christ Jesus,
Christ, the everlasting Son;
brightness of the Father’s glory,
with the Father ever one;
spoken by the Word incarnate,
Life, before all time began,
Light of Light, to earth descending,
God, revealed as Son of Man.

God is speaking – by his Spirit
speaking to our hearts again;
in the age-long word expounding
God’s own message, now as then.
Through the rise and fall of nations
one sure faith is standing fast:
God abides, his word unchanging,
God the first and God the last.

*Words: George Wallace Briggs (1875-1959)
Tune: Gowanbank; John Barnard (b1948)*

Blessing and Dismissal

The peace of God,
which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds
in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

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

The organ voluntary is a short Chorale Prelude on the hymn tune *Dundee* by C H H Parry (1848-1918). The hymn most commonly associated with this tune is ‘The people that in darkness sat have seen a glorious light’ - with the last verse starting ‘Lord Jesus, reign in us, we pray’.

Coming up soon online....

Next Sunday, 14th February, Keith & Emma lead a Family Communion service for The Sunday next before Lent.

Please join us again for this service!

Also, look out for Keith’s midweek ‘Thought & prayer for the day’ - available on Facebook and YouTube.

Contributing to the work of St John’s...

Will you support St John’s at this difficult time? Like all charities, we’ve been badly affected by the pandemic, and although we’ve cut costs where possible, we need to substantially increase our income during this year. Your support enables us to continue our regular online worship, pastoral support, and Christian mission in the community (including connecting through weekly Facebook videos with young families). Online donations can be made via our website homepage (click on ‘Give now’). For those receiving the service by CD, alternative means of donating include sending a cheque to the Parish Office, St John’s Church, Camphill Road, West Byfleet, Surrey KT14 6EH. Any donations received will be really welcome - thank you.