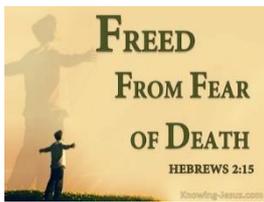


**Worshipping, Caring, Pioneering
'Growing God's Kingdom'**



**Sunday worship and weekly news
31 January 2021**

**Presentation of Christ at the Temple
Welcome everyone
As the Rev Dr Sandra Millar leads our
Video service**



It's an amazing thought: God had to send His sinless Son to earth as a man so that by dying on a cross He would destroy the creator of sin and death, Satan. In so doing he freed people who were enslaved by the fear of death. The Psalm tells us, "The earth is the Lord's and all that fills it", yet God gave dominion over the earth to man (Adam) and by sinning he lost that dominion to Satan. A man lost the dominion, so it had to be a sinless man to take it back (Jesus). No wonder Simeon was at peace. As God had promised him his eyes had rested on the 'salvation of God' for Israel and the Gentiles. Let us do well and let our spiritual eyes rest on the Holy One of God.

Pete Best

Today's service on YouTube

The service can be accessed from the church website www.glos-stm-stg.org.uk Once into the church website click on the blue banner at the bottom of the page. Enjoy, and sing aloud to your hearts content.

Do you have 'YouTube' as a channel on your TV?

You may not have internet connection, but do you have 'YouTube' as a channel on your TV? If you do you should be able to access this morning's service by moving to 'search', then search for **HANS RACKHAM**. You can then select the service you wish to view.

HELEN'S LETTER

Thank you to those who spotted the mistake in Helen's letter this week. Helen will not be producing a congregation, but a **DIRECTORY** for the congregation to use.

Seeing salvation

**Processional Hymn requested
By Linda Medwell**



Come, thou long-expected Jesus
Born to set thy people free,
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth thou art;
Dear desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver,
Born a child and yet a king,
Born to reign in us for ever,
Now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By thine all-sufficient merit
Raise us to thy glorious throne.

The Greeting

Minister: We meet in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

Minister: Grace mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you

We ask God's help to prepare for worship

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

Minister: Christ the light of the world has come to dispel the darkness of our hearts. In his light let us examine ourselves and confess our sins.

Silence is kept

Minister: God our Father,
you sent your Son full of grace and truth: forgive our failure to receive him.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord have mercy.



Minister: Jesus our Saviour,
you were born in poverty and laid in a manger forgive
our greed and rejection of your ways.

Christ have Mercy
Christ have mercy.

Minister: Spirit of love,
Your servant Mary responded joyfully to your call: forgive
the hardness of our hearts.
Lord have mercy.
Lord have mercy.

Minister: May God who loved the world so much that he
sent his Son to be our Saviour forgive you your sins and
make you holy to serve him in the world through Jesus
Christ our Lord.
Amen.

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his
people of 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**

Prayer for Today

God of heaven,
you send the gospel to the ends of the earth
and your messengers to every nation:
send your Holy Spirit to transform us
by the good news of everlasting life
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Hebrews 2 Exaltation through Abasement

Read by Sylvia Chamberlain

¹⁴ 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, ¹⁵ and free those who all their
lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. ¹⁶ For it is
clear that he did not come to help angels, but the
descendants of Abraham. ¹⁷ 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. ¹⁸ Because he himself was tested by what he
suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Prayer

*Thank you Lord for sharing our lives, carrying all we endure
and covering all our weakness, by willingly sacrificing your life
on the cross. Amen.*

Psalm 24 The Kingdom of the King of Glory

Read by Derek & Sarah Kingscote



1 The earth is the Lord's and all that
fills it, **the compass of the world
and all who dwell therein.**

2 For he has founded it upon the seas
**and set it firm upon the rivers of
the deep.**

3 'Who shall ascend the hill of the
Lord,

or who can rise up in his holy place?'

4 'Those who have clean hands and a pure heart, **who
have not lifted up their soul to an idol, nor sworn
an oath to a lie;**

5 'They shall receive a blessing from the Lord, **a just
reward from the God of their salvation.'**

6 Such is the company of those who seek him, **of those
who seek your face, O God of Jacob.**

7 Lift up your heads, O gates; **be lifted up, you
everlasting doors and the King of glory shall come
in.**

8 'Who is the King of glory?' **'The Lord, strong and
mighty, the Lord who is mighty in battle.'**

9 Lift up your heads, O gates; **be lifted up, you
everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come
in.**

10 'Who is this King of glory?' **The Lord of hosts, he
is the King of glory.'**

Prayer

*O Lord of hosts, purify our hearts that the King of glory may
come in, your Son, Jesus our redeemer. Amen*

Luke 2 Jesus is presented in the Temple

Read by Lorraine Best

²² 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 ²³ (as it is written in the law
of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as
holy to the Lord'), ²⁴ 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.' ²⁵ 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.
²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he
would not see death before he had seen the Lord's
Messiah ²⁷ 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, ²⁸
Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, ²⁹
'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word; ³⁰ for my eyes have seen your
salvation,

³¹ which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.' ³³ And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴ 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 ³⁵ so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed and a sword will pierce your own soul too.' ³⁶ 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, ³⁷ 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. ³⁸ 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.

The Return to Nazareth

³⁹ When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰ The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

Prayer

Lord grant us the eyes and hearts of Simeon and Anna, and so to rest in peace. Amen

Reflection from Rev Dr Sandra Millar

It's Candlemas. This is the feast that marks the end of the season of Epiphany, once again giving us a revelation of just who Jesus is and what he might mean to us. It begins to turn our minds away from the stable to the cross, and it does it all through two great images: that of a baby, and that of light.

Candlemas literally means candles for the people, and in centuries past the tradition would have been that all the candles to be used in the church and the home would be blessed. For in times past having a candle might itself be salvation on a long dark day such as we live through in the northern hemisphere. I can remember when a candle was salvation: I remember going back to university in the 70s with a box of candles amongst the other supplies my mum prepared. They were essential because in the winter of discontent we never knew when the lights would go out for a few hours, and a candle would become the source of hope and life.



In our Gospel, Simeon does not actually look at a candle: he holds a baby, a tiny 7lb baby, and sees salvation and light. There was something about the infant Jesus that spoke to him of a hope he had held for a lifetime. It might not be possible just now to hold a baby, but wherever we see new shoots of life, we can see salvation, light and hope.

And it might now seem that we have been longing for such signs for a long time. In a week when the news has been very hard once again, whether globally, nationally or personally, it is time to light a candle, and as we do remember again that in Jesus the light of the world appeared, and the darkness will never extinguish it.

We declare together The Creed:

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 Son are 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 from Linda Medwell

Everlasting God thank you for welcoming us in love. Hear us as we pray for the good of the church the world and for all its needs.



God of every land and nation, you spoke your word and revealed your good news in Jesus Christ. We pray for our troubled world its peoples and their leaders. We pray for those caught up in war and violence and hatred especially the innocent victims of these evils. Make peace abound and righteousness flourish that we may vanquish injustice and wrong doing.

We pray for the ongoing fight against the coronavirus pandemic and their health authorities that they may take the appropriate steps for the good of their people.
Lord in your mercy...

The sick.

Father God we turn our prayers now to those who are ill at this time for all those suffering from depression and those who are sick and in pain at this time and awaiting treatment that may have to be delayed. For all those at this time suffering from COVID-19 hold them in your tender arms and let them know your strength and peace. We pray for all medical staff and hospital workers who go to work knowing the risks they face, for our medical researchers seeking ways to prevent and cure for our teachers worrying about their charges. Lord be with them all in their time of need and help us to do what has been asked of us and give us grace to help others to do what is being asked of them.
Lord in your mercy...

Merciful God we remember in your presence all those who have died and particularly those we have known and loved. Thank you for them and thank you for your promise of eternal life and peace, may we comfort one another through your love.
Lord in your mercy...

Ending prayer Lord God as we start the week ahead we ask that in all we do we may walk more closely with you at our side in the safe knowledge that your fatherly love and care knows no bounds.

Merciful Father...

God's peace

Minister: Our Saviour Christ is the Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there shall be no end. The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Offertory Hymn

Faithful vigil ended

watching, waiting cease;
Master, grant thy servant
his discharge in peace.

All the Spirit promised,
all the Father willed,
now these eyes behold it
perfectly fulfilled.

This thy great deliverance
sets thy people free;
Christ their light uplifted
all the nations see.



Christ, thy people's glory!
Watching, doubting cease:
grant to us thy servants
our discharge in peace.

*Timothy Dudley-Smith (born 1926) © administered by
Oxford University Press*

THE SACRAMENT

The Table is prepared

Minister: Word made flesh, life of the world, in your incarnation you embraced our poverty: by your spirit may we share in your riches. **Amen**

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.

Minister: And now we give you thanks because in coming to dwell among us as man, he revealed the radiance of your glory and brought us out of darkness into your own marvellous light.

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.

Minister: 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.

Amen. Lord, we believe.

Minister: 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.

Amen. Lord, we believe.

Minister: 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.

Amen. Lord, we believe.

Minister: 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 shared for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this as often as you drink it in remembrance of me.

Amen. Lord, we believe.

Minister: 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. Lord, we believe.

Minister: 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.

Minister: 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.

Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Minister: Gather your people from the ends of the earth to feast with George and Margaret 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 **Amen**

Minister: Join me wherever you are as we pray for the coming of God's kingdom as our Saviour has taught us.

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,

forever and ever.

Amen

We break the bread

Minister: We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.

God here among us,

light in the midst of us,

bring us to light and life.

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us. (repeat)**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace**

Minister: Christ is the true bread which has come down from heaven.

Lord, give us this bread always.

Rev Dr Sandra Millar receives communion on our behalf

Prayer

Almighty God we thank you for feeding us, with the body and blood of your son Jesus Christ. Through him, we offer you our souls and bodies, to be a living sacrifice.

**Send us out in the power of your Spirit,
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen**

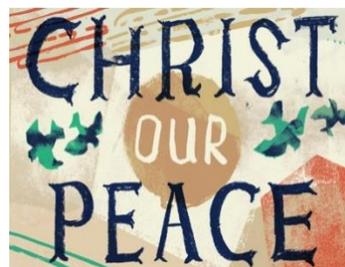
Final Hymn

Forth in the peace of Christ we go

Christ to the world with joy we bring;

Christ in our minds, Christ on our lips,

Christ in our hearts, the world's true King.



King of our hearts, Christ reigns in us; kingship with him his servants gain; with Christ, the Servant-Lord of all, Christ's world we serve to share Christ's reign.

Priests of the world, Christ sends us forth
this world of time to consecrate,
our world of sin by grace to heal,
Christ's world in Christ to re-create.

Prophets of Christ, we hear his word;
he claims our minds, to search his ways;
he claims our lips, to speak his truth;
he claims our hearts, to sing his praise.

We are his Church, he makes us one;
here is one hearth for all to find;
here is one flock, one Shepherd-King;
here is one faith, one heart, one mind.

James Quinn (1919-2010) © 1969, 1987 OCP Publications,

The Dismissal

Minister: Christ the son of God perfect in you the image of his glory and gladden your heart with the good news of his kingdom;

...and the blessing of God who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you and all who you hold in your hearts wherever they may be, this day and always. **Amen**

Go in peace. Proclaim the word made flesh.
Glory, thanks, and praise to God.

News 24 – 31 January

In Memoriam:

Brian Woodruff, Kyle Howell, Marjorie Cotterill, Margaret Dee, Joy Mellor, Hilda Morgan, Graham Best, William Tweed, Raymond Manley RIP

We pray for all who are ill or in need at this time mentioning by name:

Margaret, Angela, Susan, Mike and Laura, Lynne, Sarah, Pat, Christine, June, Daphne, Carina, Michelle, Darren and family, Hedley and Rosemary, Joan, Christopher and Christine, Ginnie, Jan and family, David and Angela

Anniversaries of death:

Sonny Fairclough, Gladys Jones, Leslie Stevens, William Morgan, Julie Hands, Albert Gardiner, Richard Russell, Martyn Gabb, Constance Jones, Lily Alderton, Mark Jones, Doreen Sharp.

Birthdays and Anniversaries:

Margaret Whittle celebrates a special birthday on 5th.

DIARY DATES –31 January – 7 February

Sun 31			No Service today
Mon 1	10.30am	C	Funeral for the late Hilda Morgan RIP
Tue 2	10.00am 4.00pm	G Z	Food Parcels Standing Committee
Wed 3	8.15am	Z	Morning Prayer
Thu 4			No Service today
Sun 7			No Service today

**G = St George's, Z = Zoom
C = Crematorium**

FEBRUARY CROSSROADS AVAILABLE

ANNUAL REPORTS: If you normally write a report for St George's APCM, would you please prepare it NOW and send it to Glenda as soon as possible. Emailed documents are preferred; but if your report has to be handwritten please let Glenda have it immediately, in order that she can process it in time for the Annual Report and Accounts pack.

Remember your report covers the period

1 JANUARY TO 31 DECEMBER 2020 only.

The deadline for ALL reports is **SUNDAY 6 MARCH**; your report will not appear in the report pack if it is received after this date.

Change of date for next PCC Meeting

Just a reminder to all PCC members. The next meeting of the joint PCCs will be via Zoom. Please note the date has been changed to: -

Monday 15th February 2021 at 7.00pm

WHAT TO DO for THIS WEEK:

❖ Keep bringing items for the **Foodbank**; **new collection point is the Church Centre hallway on a Friday morning from 9.30am until 11.30am. Toiletries now accepted at the foodbank.**
Thank you!

Know someone who:

- ❖ is stuck at home without support?
- ❖ can't make ends meet?
- ❖ Just wants to talk?

Then **Contact Gloucestershire Community Help Hub on 01452 583519**

Keep picking up the phone!

People are finding phone calls with friends invaluable to combat loneliness. Thank you everyone; please keep up the good work!



CONTACTING US:

Vicar: Vacancy (please pray for new appointment)

Reader: Jonathan MacKechnie-Jarvis 01452 502174

Pioneer: Helen McGeoch 07729 615993

Email: tuffleypioneer@gmail.com

Website: www.glos-stg-stm.org.uk

Facebook: St. George's, Tuffley and St Margaret's Whaddon

Administrator: Glenda Stevens 01452 307456

Email: stgeorgeschurch1@gmail.com

The Administration office is open on Friday mornings from 9.30am until 11.30am until further notice. Please contact the Church Administrator by email or leave a message on the office telephone and our Administrator will get back to you.

We are part of the Church in Tuffley, working in partnership with English Martyrs (Roman Catholic), Grange (Baptist) and St Barnabas (Anglican).



FOOD PARCELS-

St George's Church, Grange Rd, is now open for Food Parcel collections each Tuesday from 10.00am until 12.00noon. Each parcel includes tinned soup, pasta or rice, tea bags, cereal and other tinned or dry goods. All parcels are **FREE OF CHARGE**. Please observe social distancing rules.

VACANCY STANDING COMMITTEE on ZOOM



4.00pm Tuesday 2 February

4.00pm Tuesday 23 February



FUN NIGHT on Zoom

7.00pm Tuesday 16 February

Pancakes, Fun and Ask Wednesday

Helen has all the information



*Tree planting in Randwick Park
postponed until the 27 February*