

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



Sunday worship and weekly news
24 January 2021

EPIPHANY 3

Welcome everyone

As the Rev Dr Sandra Millar leads our
Video service



The trouble with January is that it seems to go on forever. Especially this year, when we are restricted with what we can do and who we can see, life can feel very difficult, making it particularly hard to rejoice in the glory of the Lord. But it's at times like this when it's so important to remember Jesus first revealed

his glory when he was joining in with daily life at a wedding. And he joins us too, every day. We may not see water turning into wine, but we can be sure that he is changing our lives.

Susan

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.

There is power in Jesus name

Processional Hymn

All hail the pow'r of Jesus' Name!

Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem,
To crown Him, crown Him, crown Him,
Crown Him Lord of all!



Crown Him, ye martyrs of your God
Who from His altar call;
Praise him whose way of pain ye trod,
And crown Him, crown Him, crown Him,
Crown Him Lord of all!

Ye seed of Israel's chosen race
He ransomed from the fall,
Hail him who saves you by his grace,
And crown Him, crown Him, crown Him,
Crown Him Lord of all!

Let every tribe and every tongue,
To Him their hearts enthral
Lift high the universal song,
And crown Him, crown Him, crown Him,
Crown Him Lord of all!

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 all mercy,
your Son proclaimed good news to the poor,
release to the captives,
and freedom to the oppressed:
anoint us with your Holy Spirit
and set all your people free
to praise you in Christ our Lord. Amen

Revelation 19 The Rejoicing in Heaven

Read by Georgina Wood



⁶ Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the sound of many waters and like the sound of mighty thunder-peals, crying out, 'Hallelujah!

For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. ⁷ Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready; ⁸ to her it has been granted to be clothed with fine linen, bright and pure' for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints. ⁹ And the angel said to me, 'Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.' And he said to me, 'These are true words of God.' ¹⁰ Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, 'You must not do that! I am a fellow-servant with you and your comrades who hold the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.'

Prayer

Lord: All heaven declares the glory of the risen Lord. Who can compare with the beauty of the Lord. Forever he will be the lamb upon the throne. We gladly bow the knee and worship Him alone. Amen

Psalm 128 Blessings for those who fear the Lord

Read by David & Kim Westcott

¹ Blessed are all those who fear the Lord and **walk in his ways.**

² You shall eat the fruit of the toil of your hands; **it shall go well with you, and happy shall you be.**

³ Your wife within your house shall be like a fruitful vine; **your children round your table, like fresh olive branches.**

⁴ Thus shall the one be blest **who fears the Lord.**

⁵ The Lord from out of Zion bless you, **that you may see Jerusalem in prosperity all the days of your life.**

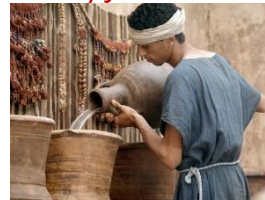
⁶ May you see your children's children, **and may there be peace upon Israel.**

Prayer

O Christ, our true vine, may we your branches be ever fruitful in your service and share your love and peace with all your children, in the power of the Spirit and to the glory of the Father. Amen

John 2 The Wedding at Cana

Read by Jonathan Tamblyn



¹ On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ² Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³ When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' ⁴ And Jesus said to her, 'Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.' ⁵ His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' ⁶ Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷ Jesus said to them, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. ⁸ He said to them, 'Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.' So, they took it. ⁹ When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom ¹⁰ and said to him, 'Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.' ¹¹ Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

Prayer

Lord, as you turned water into wine that day, turn the tentative faith of our hearts into your abundant joy for the world, every day. Amen

Reflection from Rev Andrew Frearson



How many weddings have you been to? As a Priest, I estimate about 250. I have performed them in a rock festival atmosphere, in Scottish castles, I have seen violence and rows, performed them with Rabbis and Imams, led a surprise wedding, and been chased by an amorous inebriated auntie to the bride on the dance floor!

Weddings were and are memorable.

A wedding in the ancient world continued for days on end.

For John, the Cana wedding acts as the first of 7 signs of God's kingdom in his gospel, an invitation to approach life positively, seeking depth, strength and compassion, even in tough times. And times were tough in 1st century Palestine/Israel under Roman oppression.

Jesus came to break human barriers and include those who were different, those who did not count, those who lost out, those who were considered dirty. To dissolve religious and cultural "us and them" attitudes.

Symbolically in Jesus' actions, the best wine is that which is yet to be when the kingdom is allowed to flourish, by living in faith, not fear.

For us today, having Eucharist virtually or symbolically may paradoxically turn out to be a blessing in disguise.

When we are able to be together again, many layers of meaning will be present for those of us who have had to wait so long to not only meet and eat and drink and talk together, but receive the sacrament in a new and fresh and even more meaningful way, gathered once more at our Lord's table.

I think it will be very powerful indeed. But until then may we be blessed by the hope that still lives among us, that even virtually where 2 or 3 are gathered, he is there in the midst! Amen.

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.

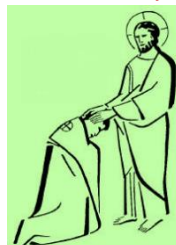
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

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 Derek Kingscote



This Sunday falls between the two dates for the advertisement in the Church Times for our new vicar.

(Advert in Church Times - Friday 22nd January 2021 & Friday 29th January 2021
Closing date - Monday 15th February 2021
Interview 19 March)

To this end the intercessions today will focus on this.

Heavenly Father, you know what we need here, and you know who we need here. Our team has worked hard on our profile and the diocese is now advertising our vacancy. Holy Spirit we pray you will inspire the right people to look at the advert and profile and are moved to follow it up and apply. And Jesus, be our guide in shortlisting to select candidates for interview and during the interviews themselves. We know this may be difficult during the pandemic, but we ask that you will be with the candidates and with our interviewers that we may progress this.

One of our straplines is "Growing God's Kingdom", and we ask that you will inspire the right person to take us forward and inspire us so that we recognise clearly who this should be. We pray for someone of faith, wisdom and vision that can engage with our congregation and local community to grow your kingdom in this part of Gloucester.

We know that times are difficult right now, with our churches closed, but we give thanks for the work of the scientists who have developed the vaccines and we pray that this will enable us to be more open and for our congregations to return in the not too distant future.

In the meantime, we give thanks for the technology and the local people behind it that are skilled in producing leaflets and videos for us to maintain and enjoy our services. Bless them in all they do and bless us while we wait for the right person to join us to take us forward.

Merciful father...

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

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

A new commandment I give unto you:

That you love one another as I have loved you.

By this shall all men know that you are my disciples, if you have love, if you have love, for one another.

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

Lord of the dance

I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
And I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,
And I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth,
At Bethlehem I had my birth.



*Dance, then, wherever
you may be,
I am the Lord of the
dance, said he,*

*And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
And I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.*

I danced for the scribe and the pharisee,
But they would not dance and they wouldn't follow me.
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John -
They came with me and the dance went on.

Chorus

I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame;
The holy people said it was a shame.
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me on high,
And left me there on a cross to die.
Chorus

I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black -
It's hard to dance with the devil on your back.
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone,
But I am the dance, and I still go on.
Chorus

They cut me down and I leapt up high;
I am the life that'll never, never die;
I'll live in you if you'll live in me -
I am the Lord of the dance, said he.
Chorus

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.

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 – 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).



News – 24 – 31 January

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.

FOOD PARCELS: Date change for 1 week only

There will be no Food Parcel collections on Tuesday 26th Jan because of a funeral being held at St George's Church, Grange Rd. **Food Parcel collections will be available on Wednesday 27th instead, from 10.00am until 12.00noon.** Each parcel includes tinned soup, pasta or rice, tea bags, cereal and other tinned or dry goods. The parcel is FREE OF CHARGE. Please observe social distancing rules. Food Parcel collections will return to normal on Tuesday 2nd February.

ELECTORAL ROLL: The 2021 Annual meetings of St George's and St Margaret's will be held at some point in 2021. If your name does not appear on the current Electoral Roll you will not be eligible to vote at the APCMs or be elected onto either PCC.

The Electoral Roll for St George's and St Margaret's would normally be displayed on the notice board from **Sunday 6 March 2021 - 27 March 2021** but neither church may be open during that period.

If you wish your name to be added to the list, forms can be obtained from Margaret Barber, for St George's or Jill Ponter, for St Margaret's (see contact details at the front of Crossroads).

Completed forms should be returned by no later than **Sunday 27 March 2021.**

In Memoriam:

Brian Woodruff, Kyle Howell, Marjorie Cotterill, Margaret Dee, Joy Mellor, Hilda Morgan, Graham Best 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, Sarah M, Christine, June, Daphne, Darren and family, Hedley and Rosemary, Christopher and Christine, Carina, Ginnie, Jan and family, Michelle and Bart, David and Angela

Anniversaries of death:

Zacary Evans, Rachel Smith, Doris Lee, David Dyer, Ernest Creese, Brian Ellis, Sylvia Barnard, John Hyett, James Clarke, Eileen Stevens, Louisa Gabb, Ernest Phillips, Cyril Bevan, Gerald Evans, David Wilkins, Ronald Jones, Sonny Fairclough.

Birthdays and Anniversaries:

None that we know of...

DIARY DATES – 24 -31 January

Sun 24			No Service today
Mon 25	11.30am		February Crossroads printing
Tue 26	12.00noon	G	Funeral for the late William Tweed RIP with burial to follow at St Margaret's
Wed 27	8.15am 10.00am 10.00am	Z Z G	Morning Prayer Mission Group Food parcel collection
Thu 28			No service today
Sun 31			No service today

G = St George's, Z = Zoom

DESERT ISLAND HYMNS

What are your 3 favourite hymns?

Over the next few months, we are seeking to include 'favourite hymns' selected by you in our services. Contact Jonathan, or Helen (See '**Contacting us**' for phone numbers) and let them know which 3 hymns, along with your bible, you would take to a desert island.



JOINT PCC MEETING ON ZOOM

7.00PM MONDAY 15 FEBRUARY

PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF DATE