

Choral Eucharist

10.30am Sunday 28th February 2021

Gathering

This service is being live streamed only, and there is no attendance in church in person in the congregation. The choir for this service is the minimum required for the music being offered in worship.

Logging on to the Live Stream

1. The live stream will start at about 10.25am in preparation for the service.
2. Go to our website www.stmaryletower.org.uk and find the “**LIVE Streamed Services**” title and click to go to our **Facebook Live** page.
3. Click on the service video. When the video opens you will need to click on the loudspeaker icon to unmute it and hear the sound.

Music before the Service

Benedictus - Max Reger

Organist: David Poulter

Welcome and Introduction

The minister gives some NOTICES, and INTRODUCES the service.

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

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

And also with you.

The Commandments

Hear these commandments which God has given to his people, and examine your hearts.

I am the Lord your God: you shall have no other gods but me. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.

Amen. Lord, have mercy.

You shall not make for yourself any idol. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth.

Amen. Lord, have mercy.

You shall not dishonour the name of the Lord your God. You shall worship him with awe and reverence.

Amen. Lord, have mercy.

Remember the Sabbath and keep it holy. Christ is risen from the dead: set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on the earth.

Amen. Lord, have mercy.

Honour your father and mother. Live as servants of God; let us work for the good of all, especially members of the household of faith.

Amen. Lord, have mercy.

You shall not commit murder. Live peaceably with all; overcome evil with good.

Amen. Lord, have mercy.

You shall not commit adultery. Know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit.

Amen. Lord, have mercy.

You shall not steal. Be honest in all that you do, and care for those in need.

Amen. Lord, have mercy.

You shall not be a false witness. Let everyone speak the truth.

Amen. Lord, have mercy.

You shall not covet anything which belongs to your neighbour. Remember the words of the Lord Jesus: ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’ Love your neighbour as yourself, for love is the fulfilling of the law.

Amen. Lord, have mercy.

Kyrie (Missa Brevis - Palestrina)

Kyrie, eleison

Christe, eleison

Kyrie, eleison

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Confession

The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart God will not despise. Let us come to the Lord, who is full of compassion, and acknowledge our transgressions in penitence and faith.

We pause for a time of self-reflection.

**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.**

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon us,
pardon and deliver us from all our sins,
confirm and strengthen us in all goodness,
and keep us in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayer for the Day (The Collect)

The Lord be with you,
The Lord bless you.

We keep a time of silent prayer together.

Almighty God,
you show to those who are in error
the light of your truth,
that they may return to the way of righteousness:
grant to all those who are admitted
into the fellowship of Christ's religion,
that they may reject those things
that are contrary to their profession,
and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same;
through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Listening for the Word from God

Romans 4.13-end

read by Ian Lord

The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations') – Abraham believed in the presence of the God who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become 'the father of many nations,' according to what was said, 'So numerous shall your descendants be.'

He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith 'was reckoned to him as righteousness.'

Now the words, 'it was reckoned to him,' were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us also who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

For the gift of his living word,
Thanks be to God.

Gradual Psalm 22.22-end

Sung by the choir.

I will declare thy Name unto my brethren : in the midst
of the congregation will I praise thee.

O praise the Lord, ye that fear him : magnify him, all ye
of the seed of Jacob, and fear him, all ye seed of
Israel.

For he hath not despised, nor abhorred, the low estate
of the poor : he hath not hid his face from him, but
when he called unto him he heard him.

My praise is of thee in the great congregation : my vows
will I perform in the sight of them that fear him.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied : they that seek after
the Lord shall praise him; your heart shall live for
ever.

All the ends of the world shall remember themselves,
and be turned unto the Lord : and all the kindreds of
the nations shall worship before him.

For the kingdom is the Lord's : and he is the Governor
among the people.

All such as be fat upon earth : have eaten and
worshipped.

All they that go down into the dust shall kneel before
him : and no man hath quickened his own soul.

My seed shall serve him : they shall be counted unto the
Lord for a generation.

They shall come, and the heavens shall declare his
righteousness : unto a people that shall be born,
whom the Lord hath made.

Please stand

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the
Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :
world without end. Amen.

Gospel: Mark 8.31-end

read by Richard Hanley, Elder

Hear the Good News of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus began to teach his disciples that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.

But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.' He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.

'For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Revd Canon Charles Jenkin

Affirmation of Faith

**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.**

Intercession

Written by Hilary Norman, Elder

Read by Sonia Docherty, Elder

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ, let us pray to the Father.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son, while here on earth was tempted, yet did not sin: grant that through your Word and Spirit we may be enabled to triumph over evil, to live not for ourselves alone, but for him who died and rose again for us – Jesus Christ our Lord.

We pray for the mission and unity of the Church throughout the World: remembering today the Anglican Church in the Central Region of America. In our Diocese we pray for Parishes in the Lavenham Deanery. For Hospital and Hospice staff and patients. We pray that we all take care of our environment and prevent damaging climate change.

In our life and ministry at St. Mary-le-Tower we pray for one another as we share our journey through Lent, that it may be a time of renewed hope, faith and love. We pray for Christopher and William and Choir members who continue to enhance our worship. We pray for our children and young people as they prepare to return to School. We remember those who are confined in their homes and those who care for them.

O God, may the fire of your Holy Spirit kindle in our hearts a burning zeal for the service of your Kingdom.

Lord hear us; **Lord, graciously hear us.**

We pray for peace in our troubled World: for those living amidst conflict and an uncertain future. For World Leaders, Government Ministers and their advisers, as decisions are made to gradually lift Covid restrictions.

O God, loving Father of all your children, yet transcendent in majesty and power: may the whole earth acknowledge your great glory.

Lord hear us; **Lord, graciously hear us.**

We pray for victims of abuse and violence, intolerance and prejudice: we commend to your merciful care O God, those who suffer. Bless those who minister to their needs: that they can bring comfort and hope.

Lord hear us; **Lord, graciously hear us.**

We bring to you O Loving Saviour, those who suffer in body, mind or spirit, the lonely and those who feel isolated. Among those known to us we remember Emma, Chris, Jillian Lofts and Penny Parke. We continue to pray for Derek Le May, Sally Patient, Carolyn, Tony Brook-Carr, Grace Chandler, Eileen Mayers and Mary Tryhall. Grant them healing and your peace: that they may know you are with them, that they are safe.

Lord hear us; **Lord, graciously hear us.**

We pray rest in peace and rise in glory for those who have recently died including Jean Rogers. We pray for those who mourn the passing of those they have loved but see no longer. We give thanks for the lives of those whose remembrance falls at this time of year, including Barbara Bellamy and George Pipe.

Grant O Lord, to all who are bereaved the spirit of grace and courage, that they may have the strength to meet the days ahead with steadfastness and patience.

Lord hear us; **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Merciful Father;

**Accept these prayers,
For the sake of your Son,
Our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us access to his grace.

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

The Gifts of the People

St Mary-le-Tower faces considerable financial challenges at this time and everyone is invited to make a generous contribution by one method or another.

Donations may be made using as follows:

- *Regular giving by Standing Order*
- *The Donation Button on our website*
- *Via BACS to 30-94-55, 00059383
PCC St Mary le Tower Ipswich*

Offertory Anthem (Randall)

Sung by the choir.

During which the minister prepares the Holy Table.

Come, my way, my truth, my life:
such a way, as gives us breath;
such a truth, as ends all strife;
such a life, as killeth death

Come my light, my feast, my strength:
such a light, as shows a feast;
such a feast, as mends in length;
such a strength, as makes his guest.

Come my joy, my love, my heart:
such a joy as none can move;
such a love, as none can part;
such a heart, as joys in love.

The minister takes the collection plate. Recalling our giving for God's work of in the life and mission of our Church, the minister says:

God of life, saviour of the poor,
receive with this money
gratitude for your goodness,
penitence for our pride
and dedication to your service
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

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

It is indeed right and good
to give you thanks and praise,
almighty God and everlasting Father,
through Jesus Christ your Son.

For in these forty days
you lead us into the desert of repentance
that through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline
we may grow in grace
and learn to be your people once again.

Through fasting, prayer and acts of service
you bring us back to your generous heart.
Through study of your holy word
you open our eyes to your presence in the world
and free our hands to welcome others
into the radiant splendour of your love.

As we prepare to celebrate the Easter feast
with joyful hearts and minds
we bless you for your mercy
and join with saints and angels
for ever praising you and singing:

The Sanctus is sung by the choir (Palestrina)

*Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt coeliet terra gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.*

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord, most high.

The Benedictus is sung by the choir (please sit):

*Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini.
Hosanna in excelsis.*
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died
he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:
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.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.
Bringing before you the bread of life
and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

Jesus Christ is Lord:
**Lord, by your cross and resurrection
you have set us free.
You are the Saviour of the world.**

Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.
Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with Blessed Mary and all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Breaking Bread

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.
And 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.**

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 (Palestrina)

Sung by the choir:

*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis, dona nobis pacem.*

O Lamb of God,
that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us. Grant us thy peace.

Holy Communion

*Before receiving Communion, the minister proclaims
and all respond:*

The Body of Christ; the bread of heaven. **Amen.**

The Blood of Christ; the cup of salvation. **Amen.**

*The People may make a sign of the cross to affirm their
participation in the Body of Christ, and in the blessing
of this Eucharistic celebration.*

*The Minister receives the Bread and the Wine on
behalf of the Body of Christ at St Mary-le-Tower.*

Prayer after Communion

**Almighty God,
you see that we have no power of ourselves
to help ourselves:
keep us both outwardly in our bodies,
and inwardly in our souls;
that we may be defended from all adversities
which may happen to the body,
and from all evil thoughts
which may assault and hurt the soul;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Sending Out

Mission Hymn

Please join in at home if you wish!

Take up thy cross, the Saviour said,
if thou wouldst my disciple be;
deny thyself, the world forsake,
and humbly follow after me.

Take up thy cross: let not its weight
fill thy weak spirit with alarm;
his strength shall bear thy spirit up,
and brace thy heart, and nerve thine arm.

Take up thy cross, nor heed the shame,
nor let thy foolish pride rebel;
thy Lord for thee the cross endured,
to save thy soul from death and hell.

Take up thy cross then in his strength,
and calmly sin's wild deluge brave,
'twill guide thee to a better home,
and lead to victory o'er the grave.

Take up thy cross, and follow Christ,
nor think till death to lay it down;
for only those who bear the cross
may hope to wear the glorious crown.

To thee, great Lord, the One in Three,
all praise for evermore ascend:
O grant us in our home to see
the heavenly life that knows no end.

Blessing and Dismissal

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him; 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 the peace of Christ
Thanks be to God.

Organ Voluntary

Lento, assai espressivo - *Herbert Howells*

The livestream continues until the end of the anthem.

After the Service

If you wish to speak to the vicar or another member of staff, it is best to do this currently by phone or email:

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