

# BRENTOR CHURCH

31<sup>st</sup> January 2021

## A Service of Morning Prayer

Led by Christopher and Sally  
Pancheri



We warmly welcome everyone  
joining our service

*Welcome*

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

**All and also with you.**

This is the day that the Lord has made.

**All Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Give us the joy of your saving help

**All and sustain us with your life-giving Spirit.**

We have come together in the name of Christ  
to offer our praise and thanksgiving,  
to hear and receive God's holy word,  
to pray for the needs of the world,  
and to seek the forgiveness of our sins,  
that by the power of the Holy Spirit  
we may give ourselves to the service of God.

Jesus says, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'

So let us turn away from our sin and turn to Christ,  
confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

**All Lord God,**

**we have sinned against you;**

**we have done evil in your sight.**

**We are sorry and repent.**

**Have mercy on us according to your love.**

**Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin.**

**Renew a right spirit within us**

**and restore us to the joy of your salvation;**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

May the Father of all mercies

cleanse *us* from *our* sins,

and restore *us* in his image

to the praise and glory of his name,

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All Amen.**

Blessed is the Lord,

**All for he has heard the voice of our prayer;**

Therefore shall our hearts dance for joy

**All and in our song will we praise our God.**

Blessed are you, Lord our God,

creator and redeemer of all;  
to you be glory and praise for ever.  
From the waters of chaos, you drew forth the world  
and in your great love fashioned us in your image.  
Now, through the deep waters of death,  
you have brought your people to new birth  
by raising your Son to life in triumph.  
May Christ your light ever dawn in our hearts  
as we offer you our sacrifice of thanks and praise.  
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

**All Blessed be God for ever.**

**Song: Light of the World**

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;  
let us pray with one heart and mind.

**Silence is kept.**

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,  
so may the light of your presence, O God,  
set our hearts on fire with love for you;  
now and for ever.

**All Amen.**

**Psalm: 24:7-10.**

**All** <sup>7</sup> Lift up your heads, O gates!  
and be lifted up, O ancient doors!  
that the King of glory may come in.  
<sup>8</sup> Who is the King of glory?  
The LORD, strong and mighty,  
the LORD, mighty in battle.  
<sup>9</sup> Lift up your heads, O gates!  
and be lifted up, O ancient doors!  
that the King of glory may come in.  
<sup>10</sup> Who is this King of glory?  
The LORD of hosts,  
he is the King of glory.  
Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.

**Song: Like a Candle Flame**

**The FIRST READING: Malachi 3: v1-5**

<sup>3</sup> “Behold, I send My messenger,  
And he will prepare the way before Me.  
And the Lord, whom you seek,  
Will suddenly come to His temple,  
Even the Messenger of the covenant,  
In whom you delight.  
Behold, He is coming,”  
Says the LORD of hosts.

<sup>2</sup> “But who can endure the day of His coming?  
And who can stand when He appears?

For He is like a refiner’s fire  
And like launderers’ soap.

<sup>3</sup> He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver;  
He will purify the sons of Levi,  
And purge them as gold and silver,  
That they may offer to the LORD  
An offering in righteousness.

<sup>4</sup> “Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem  
Will be pleasant to the LORD,  
As in the days of old,  
As in former years.

<sup>5</sup> And I will come near you for judgment;  
I will be a swift witness

Against sorcerers,  
Against adulterers,  
Against perjurers,

Against those who exploit wage earners and widows and orphans,  
And against those who turn away an alien—  
Because they do not fear Me,”

Says the LORD of hosts.

This is the word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

**The GOSPEL READING: Luke 2: v22-40**

<sup>22</sup> Now when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were completed, they brought Him to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord <sup>23</sup> (as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every male who opens the womb shall

be called holy to the LORD”),<sup>24</sup> and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the law of the Lord, “A pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”

<sup>25</sup> And behold, there was a man in Jerusalem whose name *was* Simeon, and this man *was* just and devout, waiting for the Consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. <sup>26</sup> And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. <sup>27</sup> So he came by the Spirit into the temple. And when the parents brought in the Child Jesus, to do for Him according to the custom of the law, <sup>28</sup> he took Him up in his arms and blessed God and said:

<sup>29</sup> “Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace,  
According to Your word;

<sup>30</sup> For my eyes have seen Your salvation

<sup>31</sup> Which You have prepared before the face of all peoples,

<sup>32</sup> A light to *bring* revelation to the Gentiles,  
And the glory of Your people Israel.”

<sup>33</sup> And Joseph and His mother marvelled at those things which were spoken of Him. <sup>34</sup> Then Simeon blessed them, and said to Mary His mother, “Behold, this *Child* is destined for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign which will be spoken against <sup>35</sup> (yes, a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.”

<sup>36</sup> Now there was one, Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, and had lived with a husband seven years from her virginity; <sup>37</sup> and this woman *was* a widow of about eighty-four years, who did not depart from the temple, but served *God* with fastings and prayers night and day. <sup>38</sup> And coming in that instant she gave thanks to the Lord, and spoke of Him to all those who looked for redemption in Jerusalem. <sup>39</sup> So when they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their *own* city, Nazareth. <sup>40</sup> And the Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All Praise to You, O Christ.**

Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead.

**All And Christ shall give you light.**

You have died and your life is hid with Christ in God.

**All Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead.**

Set your minds on things that are above,  
not on things that are on the earth.

**All And Christ shall give you light.**

When Christ our life appears you will appear with him in glory.

**All Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead,  
and Christ shall give you light.**

***The Benedictus (The Song of Zechariah) is said or sung***

- 1 Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel, “  
who has come to his people and set them free.
- 2 He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, “  
born of the house of his servant David.
- 3 Through his holy prophets God promised of old “  
to save us from our enemies,  
from the hands of all that hate us,
- 4 To show mercy to our ancestors, “  
and to remember his holy covenant.
- 5 This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham: “  
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
- 6 Free to worship him without fear, “  
holy and righteous in his sight  
all the days of our life.
- 7 And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, “  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
- 8 To give his people knowledge of salvation “  
by the forgiveness of all their sins.
- 9 In the tender compassion of our God “  
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
- 10 To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, “  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

*Luke 1.68-79*

Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.

**All I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;**

he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Plainsong Chant: Nunc Dimittis

## Sermon - Christopher

*Prayers of Intercession are offered.*

Lord, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer

*The COLLECT is said.*

O God,  
who by the leading of a star  
manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth:  
mercifully grant that we,  
who know you now by faith,  
may at last behold your glory face to face;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
Amen.

Gathering our prayers and praises into one,  
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**All 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  
for ever and ever. Amen.


*Hymn: Lord the light of your love*

**All** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
be with us all evermore.  
Amen.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

**All** and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace, God's seal on our prayers.



**Please pray for all who are ill or anxious at home or in hospital, and those who have asked for our prayers:** Mick, Chris Vigers, Nick & Julie, Dave & Wendy, Heather, Sally and Jimmy Hubbard, Edward Walter, Lydia, Margaret, Lin Bristow, Tom, Helen Hardy and family and Margaret.

**Please pray** for the souls of the recently departed, especially their family and friends.

**Your prayers this week are asked for:**

**Mon-** Hope for the reduction of COVID 19 cases.

**Tues-** All those who have lost their loved ones over the last year due to COVID

**Wed-** The continuing roll out of vaccines and hope for the future.

**Thurs-** Those still struggling with unemployment and poverty.

**Fri-** All those struggling with their mental health and wellbeing.

**Sat-** The strength of human kindness and compassion

**Next Week:**

**9:45:** Holy Communion with the Very Reverend Dr Christopher Hardwick and the Reverend Dr Hazel Butland

Please also continue enjoying our Services online and reflections see the [brentorchurch.org.uk](http://brentorchurch.org.uk) website

***Donations to support the upkeep of the building and the work of the church are welcome. If you would like to make a regular donation, please contact either***

***David or Helen Harris about the Parish Giving Scheme.***

***Online donations can be made at <https://www.give.net/20188530>***