

BRENTOR CHURCH

23rd January 2022 3rd Sunday of Epiphany Family Service Led by Sally and Christopher Pancheri



We warmly welcome everyone joining our
service

All children (quiet or noisy) are welcome to church, toys are
at the back, and parents, please don't worry about them!

Welcome

We say hello . . .

Minister

Today, Lord God, we come before you as is our custom; as was the custom of Jesus growing up in Nazareth. We await your Word to us now, just like those who waited while he spoke in the synagogue after his ministry had begun. May we hear your call and stand with him and with one another, to serve freely in the work you have given us.

Amen.

Silence is kept.

All

God of heaven and earth, we kneel in adoration before the mystery made manifest in your Son, Jesus, who stood with us, as one of us.

So, we stand with one another in adoring you, by living the way of love and life he showed us, setting us free to serve in the fullness of your grace.

Amen.

All

Let us worship him together.

Hymn No. 494 (A&M) "I, the Lord of Sea and Sky."

We say sorry to God . . .

Minister

A prayer of confession.

God our Father,
we come to you in sorrow for our sins.

Silence

We recognise that we have failed God and our neighbours;
Father, forgive us:

All

Save us and help us.

We confess that we tend to see our calling as individual. 'What would you have me do?' we ask. 'Where might I be best used?' And, of course, that is part of our calling, for you see us as individuals.

We are also called to stand alongside one another in our service, and we sometimes forget this.

Father, forgive us:

All Save us and help us.

But you, Father, always see the bigger picture.

Forgive us for being so caught up in our own spheres that we fail to see the need to stand with our brothers and sisters, to serve together in the advancement of your kingdom.

Father, forgive us:

All

Save us and help us.

In testing, hardship and suffering, may we be willing to offer all that we are and all that we have to be followers in the way of Jesus Christ;

Amen

Minister says.....

May the almighty and merciful Lord grant us pardon and forgiveness of all our sins, time for amendment of life, and the grace and strength of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

We read the Bible . . .

First Reading- Nehemiah 8: 1 - 3, 5 - 6, 8 - 10

8 ¹all the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel. ²Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. ³He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law.

⁵And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. ⁶Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. ⁸So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

⁹And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. ¹⁰Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to

those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Psalm No. 19

¹The heavens proclaim the glory of God.

The skies display his craftsmanship.

²**Day after day they continue to speak;**

night after night they make him known.

³They speak without a sound or word;

their voice is never heard.

⁴**Yet their message has gone throughout the earth, and their words to all the world. God has made a home in the heavens for the sun.**

⁵It bursts forth like a radiant bridegroom after his wedding.

It rejoices like a great athlete eager to run the race.

⁶**The sun rises at one end of the heavens and follows its course to the other end. Nothing can hide from its heat.**

⁷The instructions of the LORD are perfect, reviving the soul.

The decrees of the LORD are trustworthy, making wise the simple.

⁸**The commandments of the LORD are right, bringing joy to the heart.**

The commands of the LORD are clear, giving insight for living.

⁹Reverence for the LORD is pure, lasting forever.

The laws of the LORD are true; each one is fair.

¹⁰**They are more desirable than gold, even the finest gold.**

They are sweeter than honey, even honey dripping from the comb.

¹¹They are a warning to your servant,

a great reward for those who obey them.

¹²**How can I know all the sins lurking in my heart?**

Cleanse me from these hidden faults.

¹³Keep your servant from deliberate sins! Don't let them control me.

Then I will be free of guilt and innocent of great sin.

¹⁴**May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart**

be pleasing to you,

O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

The Gospel

Luke 4: 14 - 21.

¹⁴Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. ¹⁵He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

¹⁶ When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

¹⁸ "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, ¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour."
²⁰ And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹ Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.



Hymn No. 604 (A&M) "Brother, sister, let me serve you"

We think about what the Bible means . . .

Reflection



We affirm our faith . . .

Minister

Let us affirm our Faith.

All

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.
We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.
We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.
We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

Prayers

Lord, in your mercy:

All Hear our Prayer.

We pray . . .

Collect for the Third Sunday of Epiphany

Almighty God,

Whose Son revealed in signs and miracles the wonder of your saving presence:
renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by
your mighty power: through Jesus Christ our Lord

All

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Gathering our prayers and praises into one, as our Saviour has taught us, so we pray

All

**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.**

We send each other on our way . . .

either David or Helen Harris about the Parish Giving Scheme.
Online donations can be made at <https://www.give.net/20188530>

Hymn no 54 (MP) "Bind us Together, Lord"

Minister

God, you call us to be the body of Christ in this place.
Side by side, hand in hand, help us to stand together, to stand with our
neighbours, to break free from all that holds us back from making the world
as you want it to be.
In Jesus' name.

All

Amen.

Blessing

May the blessing of God Almighty,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you for evermore.

Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All

In the name of Christ, Amen.

**Please pray for all who are ill or anxious at home or in hospital, and those
who have asked for our prayers:** Nick & Julie, Lydia, Margaret, Lin Bristow,
Beryl, Peter Cameron, Dave, Edward Walter, Izzy, Fran and family, Becky, Alex
and family, Noah and his family Andrew, Clare and Elijah, Shirley, Steve,
Hannah, Tom and families, Jon and family and Joyce.

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

Your prayers this week are asked for:

Mon Families struggling with dept and worries over utility bill increases
Tues Thoughts for those suffering with long COVID
Wed People struggling to keep warm due to the colder weather
Thurs On Holocaust Memorial Day we pray that love prevails over hate
Fri Christians around the world who are persecuted
Sat Thanks for Christian Missions around the World

Next week:

9:45am: Morning Prayer at Christ Church with Liz Bastin

Please also continue enjoying our Services online see the
brentorchurch.org.uk

***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***