

# BRENTOR CHURCH

*Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2023*

## *Holy Communion*

*Second Sunday of Lent*

*Led by the*

*Reverend Tony Vigers*

*and Amanda Harris*



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!

***The Gathering***

## **A Hymn *may be sung***

In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit,

**All: Amen.**

## **The Greeting**

The Lord be with you

**All: and also with you.**

## **Prayer of Preparation**

**All: 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**

Our Lord Jesus Christ said:

The first commandment is this:

‘Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord.

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,  
with all your soul, with all your mind,  
and with all your strength.’

The second is this: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’

There is no other commandment greater than these.

On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

**All: Amen. Lord, have mercy.**

## **Kyrie Eleison**

Lord, have mercy.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, have mercy.

**All: Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

## **The Absolution**

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

**All: Amen.**

## **The Collect for today**

Let us pray...

**All: Amen**

## ***The Liturgy of the Word***

### **First reading: Genesis 12: v1-4a**

**12** Now the LORD said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.'

<sup>4</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

*This is the word of the Lord.*

**All Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 121**

**1** I lift up my eyes to the hills;  
from where is my help to come?

**2 My help comes from the Lord,**

**the maker of heaven and earth.**

3 He will not suffer your foot to stumble;  
he who watches over you will not sleep.

**4 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel  
shall neither slumber nor sleep.**

5 The Lord himself watches over you;  
the Lord is your shade at your right hand,

**6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day,  
neither the moon by night.**

7 The Lord shall keep you from all evil;  
it is he who shall keep your soul.

**8 The Lord shall keep watch over your going out  
and your coming in,  
from this time forth for evermore.**

**Second reading: Romans 4: v1-5, 13-17**

**4** What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? <sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the scripture say? 'Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.' <sup>4</sup>Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup>But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup>For 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. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

<sup>16</sup>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, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations')— in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

*This is the word of the Lord.*

**All Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel reading John 3: v1-17**

*Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.*

**All Glory to you, O Lord**

**3** Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews.

<sup>2</sup> He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' <sup>4</sup> Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?' <sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup> What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the

Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup> Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above." <sup>8</sup> The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.' <sup>9</sup> Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these things be?' <sup>10</sup> Jesus answered him, 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup> 'Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup> If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup> No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup> And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup> that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup> 'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup> 'Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

*This is the Gospel of the Lord.*

**All Praise to you, O Christ**

**Sermon**

## **Affirmation of Faith**

I ask you to stand to profess together the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,  
source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

**All: We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,  
who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

**All: We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,  
who gives life to the people of God  
and makes Christ known in the world?

**All: We believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**All: This is our faith.**

**We believe and trust in one God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
Amen.**

## **Prayers of Intercession**

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

*Prayers are offered for the church and for the world. One of the following responses may be used.*

Lord, in your mercy

**All: Hear our prayer.**

## ***The Liturgy of the Sacrament***

### **The Peace**

We are the body of Christ.

In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.

Let us then pursue all that makes for peace  
and builds up our common life.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

**All: And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace

### **Taking of the Bread and Wine**

**A Hymn *may be sung***

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power,  
the glory, the splendour, and the majesty;  
for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

**All: All things come from you,  
and of your own do we give you.**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:  
through your goodness  
we have this bread to set before you,  
which earth has given and human hands have made.  
It will become for us the bread of life.

**All: Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:  
through your goodness  
we have this wine to set before you,  
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.  
It will become for us the cup of salvation.

**All: Blessed be God for ever.**

## The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here.

**All: His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give thanks and praise.**

## Eucharistic Prayer A

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy,  
at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise,  
holy Father, heavenly King, almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

For he is your living Word;

through him you have created all things from the beginning,  
and formed us in your own image.

Through him you have freed us from the slavery of sin,  
giving him to be born of a woman and to die upon the cross;  
you raised him from the dead

and exalted him to your right hand on high.

Through him you have sent upon us

your holy and life-giving Spirit,

and made us a people for your own possession.

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*:

**All: 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.**

*Please kneel or sit*

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,  
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
and as we follow his example and obey his command,  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us his body and his blood;  
who, in the same night that he was betrayed,  
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.  
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 shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it,  
in remembrance of me.  
Therefore, heavenly Father,  
we remember his offering of himself  
made once for all upon the cross;  
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;  
we look for the coming of your kingdom,  
and with this bread and this cup  
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**All: Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again.**

Accept through him, our great high priest,  
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,  
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts  
in the presence of your divine majesty,  
renew us by your Spirit,  
inspire us with your love  
and unite us in the body of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Through him, and with him, and in him,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,  
we worship you, Father almighty,  
in songs of everlasting praise:

**All: Blessing and honour and glory and power  
be yours for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

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.**

## **Breaking of the Bread**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**All:** Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.

## **Agnus Dei**

**All:** Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.

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

## **The Invitation to Communion**

Draw near with faith.

Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ  
which he gave for you,  
and his blood which he shed for you.

Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you,  
and feed on him in your hearts  
by faith with thanksgiving.

**All:** We do not presume  
to come to this your table, merciful Lord,  
trusting in our own righteousness,  
but in your manifold and great mercies.  
We are not worthy  
so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table.  
But you are the same Lord  
whose nature is always to have mercy.  
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,

so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ  
and to drink his blood,  
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body  
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,  
and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us.  
Amen.

## **The Giving of Communion**

### **Prayer after Communion**

**All:** 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.

### ***The Dismissal- Blessing***


The peace of God,  
which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds  
in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;

... and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**All:** 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:** Lin Bristow, Peter and Carol Cameron, Dave, Becky, Alex, Shirley, Brian, Archie, Julia Whitcomb, Maureen, Val, Greg, Steve, Lyn, Millie, Zach, Diana, Matt and Sally.

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

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

- Mon** During 'No More' Week, 'UK Says No More' which raises awareness to end domestic abuse and sexual violence.
- Tues** We pray for more support for victims, and that your church and its people would be a safe space for them.
- Wed** On International Women's Day, we give thanks for the women who bless our lives and communities.
- Thu** Help us build a world that celebrates and empowers women
- Fri** Prayers for all those still suffering the aftermath of the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria
- Sat** Our Church communities raising awareness and raising funds for children around the world.

**Next Sunday**

**10am-** At Christ Church- Animal Blessings Service with Sally and Christopher Pancheri

Please also continue enjoying our Services online - see the website  
[brentorchurch.org.uk](http://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 either David or Helen Harris about the Parish Giving Scheme.***

