



Chet Valley Churches



Holy Communion
Second Sunday of Epiphany
16th January 2022

The Introduction

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.**

Hymn: *Jesus is Lord*

**Jesus is Lord! Creation's voice proclaims it
For by his power each tree and flower was planned and made
Jesus is Lord! The universe declares it
Sun, moon and stars in heaven cry, 'Jesus is Lord!'**

**Jesus is Lord! Jesus is Lord!
Praise him with hallelujahs for Jesus is Lord!**

**Jesus is Lord! Yet from his throne eternal
In flesh he came to die in pain on Calvary's tree
Jesus is Lord! From him all life proceeding
Yet gave his life a ransom thus setting us free**

Jesus is Lord! Jesus is Lord! ...

**Jesus is Lord! O'er sin the mighty conqueror
From death he rose, and all his foes shall own his name
Jesus is Lord! God sent his Holy Spirit
To show by works of power that Jesus is Lord!**

Jesus is Lord! Jesus is Lord! ...

Confession

The grace of God has dawned upon the world through our Saviour Jesus Christ, who sacrificed himself for us to purify a people as his own.

**Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

May the God of all healing and forgiveness draw us to himself, and cleanse us from all our sins that we may behold the glory of his Son, the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on 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.**



The Collect: Prayer of the Day

Almighty God,
in Christ you make all things new;
transport the poverty of our nature
by the riches of your grace,
and in the renewal of our lives
make known your heavenly glory;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**



The Liturgy of the Word

Old Testament Reading: *Isaiah 62:1-5*

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give.

You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate; but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married; for the Lord delights in you, and your land shall be married.

For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your builder marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.

For the Word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

Hymn: *Fill Thou My Life*

**Fill thou my life, O Lord my God, in every part with praise,
That my whole being may proclaim thy being and thy ways.**

**Not for the lip of praise alone, nor e'en the praising heart
I ask, but for a life made up of praise in every part:**

**Praise in the common things of life, its goings out and in;
Praise in each duty and each deed, however small and mean.**

**Fill every part of me with praise: let all my being speak
Of thee and of thy love, O Lord, poor though I be and weak.**

**So shalt thou, Lord, from me, e'en me, receive the glory due;
And so shall I begin on earth the song for ever new.**

**So shall no part of day or night from sacredness be free;
But all my life, in every step, be fellowship with thee.**

Gospel Reading: John 2:1-11

Alleluia, Alleluia! Christ was revealed in flesh, proclaimed among the nations and believed throughout the world.

Alleluia!

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' And Jesus said to her, 'Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.'

Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, 'Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.' So they took it.

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 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.' Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon [Rev Ros]

When you're travelling to a strange place it's reassuring to see a sign with the name of your destination on it. You feel a sense of relief that you're on the right road. The sign isn't your destination but it's pointing to it and you can travel confidently knowing that if you follow the sign you'll arrive.

When Jesus turned the water into wine, John called it the first of the signs that Jesus performed. A sign of what?

During the season of Epiphany we explore the different ways in which the glory of Jesus was revealed. Today's reading is about what happened at a village wedding that took place in Cana of Galilee. Jesus' mother was there,

interestingly John doesn't name her, Jesus was there too and some of his disciples. They may have been relatives of the bride or groom and no doubt they were having a good time. At that time Jewish weddings went on for about a week. After the ceremony, held in the evening, the guests made their way to the groom's house and there followed the celebrations.

It appears that a few days in the wine ran out. Hospitality was important and it was the groom's family who supplied the food and drink. For there not to be enough was highly embarrassing. Someone didn't calculate carefully enough just how much was needed. It's every wedding caterer's nightmare.

Mary voices her concern to Jesus, "They have no wine", and hidden in that remark is the unasked question, "What are you going to do about it?"

Jesus' answer sounds to us as if he doesn't care, as though it's not his problem. "Woman, what concern is that to you and me? My hour has not yet come". To call Mary 'woman' wasn't disrespectful, quite the opposite. What concern is that to you or me means that is outside our responsibility. Perhaps he's giving her the chance to ask him to do something. Certainly, Mary doesn't take Jesus' answer as No for she says to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." What he tells the servants to do is at first sight very strange. Fill up the six water jars to the brim. These jars held water for ceremonial handwashing. The jars were enormous, impossible to carry to the well and bring back full, so they must have had to make several trips using smaller vessels. Jesus apparently doesn't do anything. He simply tells them to draw some off and take it to the steward. He's astonished when he tastes it because it is the best of the best wine! He says to the groom, "Most people serve the good stuff first and save the cheap stuff for later when the guests won't notice". I should think the groom was as puzzled as he was.

This is the first sign that reveals Jesus as Messiah but as his time had not yet come, not everyone notices. The servants knew what had happened and his disciples saw his glory. The real sign wasn't just about turning water into wine but about the generosity of what Jesus was going to do as Messiah. First there was the quantity, gallons of it, so much that the guests would never have time to drink it all. Second was the quality of the wine. It was the very best. This was the sign that Jesus was going to provide life in all its fullness.

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 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.



The Prayers

With the Magi we seek God's glory—those moments when we are shown God is with us. O Lord, lead all who seek you in ways of humility and peace.

We pray for the Anglican church and the Diocese of Norwich. Help us to be a church where all are welcome. **Amen.**

God of creation, we thank you for the beauty of the skies and sea, for the richness of creation and for the times when we feel close to each other and to you. Teach us to walk a different way in your world – to walk gently, cherishing all that you have made and seeing your glory all around us. **Amen.**

God of glory, in a time of pandemic it is hard to see why you allow such hardship and suffering. Give us strength to keep going, especially the staff on the wards in our hospitals, even when we feel forsaken. We pray for those who will suffer today and those who care for them, seeking to bring respite, healing and peace. **Amen.**

Dear Lord, we thank you for our families, our friends and all who we love. We bring to you those who are dear to us and need comfort – those who are in hospital, those who are in trouble, those who have difficult decisions to make. Help us to see what we can do for them, and give us the strength to do it, through Jesus Christ our Lord, **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

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.**

♪ Hymn: *Thou Whose Almighty Word*

**Thou whose almighty word chaos and darkness heard,
And took their flight; hear us, we humbly pray,
And where the gospel day sheds not its glorious ray
Let there be light.**

**Thou who didst come to bring on thy redeeming wing
Healing and sight, health to the sick in mind,
Sight to the inly blind, O now to all mankind
Let there be light.**

**Spirit of truth and love, life-giving, holy Dove,
Speed forth thy flight; move on the water's face,
Bearing the lamp of grace, and in earth's darkest place
Let there be light.**

**Blessèd and holy Three, glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might, boundless as ocean's tide
Rolling in fullest pride, through the world far and wide
Let there be light.**

Preparation of the Table

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

Blessed be God for ever.

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

Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed be God,
by whose grace creation is renewed, by whose love heaven is opened,
by whose mercy we offer our sacrifice of praise.

Blessed be God for ever.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you **and also with you.**

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.

All honour and praise be yours always and everywhere, mighty creator, ever-living God, through Jesus Christ your only Son our Lord: for at this time we celebrate your glory made present in our midst. In the coming of the Magi the King of all the world was revealed to the nations.

In the waters of baptism Jesus was revealed as the Christ, the Saviour sent to redeem us.

In the water made wine the new creation was revealed at the wedding feast.

Poverty was turned to riches, sorrow into joy.

Therefore with all the angels of heaven we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name



and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

**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.

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.

Jesus Christ is Lord:

Lord, by your cross and resurrection you have set us free.

You are the Saviour of the world.

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:

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

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray for the coming of the kingdom in the words Jesus taught us:

**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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.

**God here among us, God in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.**

Agnus Dei

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 Giving of Communion

The president invites the people to receive communion

God's holy gifts for God's holy people

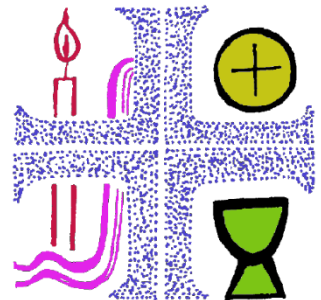
**Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray:

**We thank you for all the benefits you have won for us,
for all the pains and insults you have borne for us.**

**Most merciful Redeemer, friend and brother,
may we know you more clearly, love you more dearly,
and follow you more nearly, day by day. Amen.**



♪ Hymn: *O Worship the Lord in the Beauty of Holiness*

**O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;
Bow down before him, his glory proclaim;
With gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,
Kneel and adore him: the Lord is his name.**

**Low at his feet lay thy burden of carefulness:
High on his heart he will bear it for thee,
Comfort thy sorrows, and answer thy prayerfulness,
Guiding thy steps as may best for thee be.**

**Fear not to enter his courts in the slenderness
Of the poor wealth thou wouldst reckon as thine:
Truth in its beauty, and love in its tenderness,
These are the offerings to lay on his shrine.**

**These, though we bring them in trembling and fearfulness,
He will accept for the name that is dear;
Mornings of joy give for evenings of tearfulness,
Trust for our trembling and hope for our fear.**

**O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;
Bow down before him, his glory proclaim;
With gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,
Kneel and adore him: the Lord is his name.**

The Blessing

Christ the Son of God perfect in you the image of his glory
and gladden your hearts with the good news of his kingdom;
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 light and peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

