

The Benefice of Greatham, Empshott and Hawkeley with Priors Dean

Sunday Worship by Zoom

24th January 2021 - Epiphany 3

Welcome

Hymn Lord enthroned in heavenly splendour

Introduction to the theme of the service

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Praise God who loves us.
Praise God who cares.



A candle is lit.

We light this candle to remind us that the love of God
is like a light in our darkness.
Blessed be God for ever.

We praise you, our God,
for this Church family and for bringing us together today.
Blessed be God for ever.

We praise you, our God,
for all those who have been part of our life and faith journey; for the love given and the sacrifices made.
Blessed be God for ever.

Confession

Do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat or what you shall drink. Seek first God's kingdom and his righteousness. Let us confess our sins and our failure to make God's will our priority.

God our Father, long-suffering, full of grace and truth, you create us from nothing and give us life. You give your faithful people new life in the water of baptism. You do not turn your face from us, nor cast us aside. We confess that we have sinned against you and our neighbour. We have wounded your love and marred your image in us.

Restore us for the sake of your Son, and bring us to heavenly joy, in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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. **Amen.**

The Collect

Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new:
transform 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,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Water into Wine

Readings

Revelation 19:6-10

New Revised Standard Version

⁶Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the sound of many waters and like the sound of mighty thunderpeals, crying out,
"Hallelujah!

For the Lord our God
the Almighty reigns.

⁷Let us rejoice and exult
and give him the glory,
for the marriage of the Lamb has come,
and his bride has made herself ready;

⁸to her it has been granted to be clothed
with fine linen, bright and pure"—

for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints.

⁹And the angel said^[a] to me, "Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb." And he said to me, "These are true words of God." ¹⁰Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, "You must not do that! I am a fellow servant^[b] with you and your comrades^[c] who hold the testimony of Jesus.^[d] Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus^[e] is the spirit of prophecy."

- Evangelist** 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,
- Mary:** "They have no wine."
- Evangelist:** And Jesus said to her,
- Jesus:** "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come."
- Evangelist:** His mother said to the servants,
- Mary:** "Do whatever he tells you."
- Evangelist:** Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them,
- Jesus:** "Fill the jars with water."
- Evangelist:** And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them,
- Jesus:** "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward."
- Evangelist:** 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,
- Steward:** "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."
- Evangelist:** Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

The Address

Music for Reflection

Thanksgiving

Accept, O Lord,
our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us.
We thank you for the splendour of the whole creation,
for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life,
and for the mystery of love.

We thank you for the blessing of family and friends,
for the love that surrounds us and that which we can give.

Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ;
for the truth of his Word and the example of his life;
for his dying rising and for the gift of your Spirit.

May we know him and make him known;
and through him, at all times and in all places,
give thanks to you in all things. Amen.

The Intercessions

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Responses

In our darkness

we come to you for light.

With our challenges

we come to you for hope.

At times when we feel weak

make us strong.

In the week that lies ahead

Show us the way to live.

Final Prayer

This is what God requires of us

- only this - to do justice, to love kindness

and to walk humbly with our God.

The Blessing

The blessing of God almighty,

the Father, Son and Holy Spirit

be upon us and remain with us always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.