

WORTHING CHRIST CHURCH

Grafton Road BN11 1QY



ORDER OF SERVICE

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

25th April 2021

10.30am Morning Prayer with Derek Hansen

**FOLLOWED TODAY BY
THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**

There is socially distanced prayer in the organ vestry every Sunday at 10 am for 15 minutes before the service and you are welcome to join at any time

TODAY:

1st Reading: Nehemiah 7: 73b – 8.12

2nd Reading: Acts 4: 5 - 12

read by Val G

Intercessions led by Dorothy F

*The Organ Voluntary following our service today is:
Piece no. IX in B flat: Moderato - Fuga Alla Breve
(Pieces for Organ op VIII) by Thomas Sanders Dupuis
1733-96, Chapel Royal, London.*

In order that we can stay open for worship, please may we remind you that to protect us all:

- **there is a one-way system within the church for your safety, please stay in your pew and refrain from wandering around the church**
- **entry is via the north door only**
- **exit via the west door; if you cannot walk down steps, please stay seated until the churchwardens assist you in leaving safely via the north door**
- **your nose and mouth must be covered at all times whilst in the church.**

Contact us:

Vicar:

The Revd David Renshaw:

Our Vicar is currently signed off sick. Our thoughts and prayers are with him at this time.

Church Wardens:

Kenneth Hobbs Tele: 01903 237713

email: christchurchfinance@btinternet.com

Steve Davis Tele: 07513 592484

Email: christchurchvolunteers@btinternet.com

Vergar: *Lorraine* Tele: 07513 592484

Parish Administrator: *Janine Hobbs*

Tele: 01903 237713

email: janine.h@ntlworld.com

Registered Charity No. 1152846

Parochial Church Council of Worthing

Christ Church

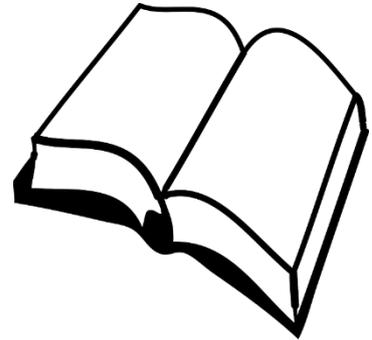
Website: www.christchurchworthing.org.uk

A Service of Morning Prayer

Preparation

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

All **and also with you.**



O God, you summon the day to dawn,
you teach the morning to waken the earth.
For you the valleys shall sing for joy,
the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
For you the monarchs of the earth shall bow,
the poor and persecuted shall shout for joy.
Your love and mercy shall last for ever,
fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise.

All **Great is your name.
Great is your love.**

Opening Hymn [163] *sung by the choir only*

Choir please note vs 2,3,4 are omitted from the hymn book

All hail the power of Jesu's name;
let angels prostrate fall,
bring forth the royal diadem
to crown him Lord of all.

Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget
the wormwood and the gall,
go spread your trophies at his feet
and crown him Lord of all.

Let every tribe and every tongue
to him their hearts enthral,
lift high the universal song
and crown him Lord of all.

Public Domain

The Family of God

We have come together as the family of God in our Father's presence, to offer him praise and thanksgiving, to hear and receive his holy word, to bring before him the needs of the world, to ask his forgiveness of our sins, and to seek his grace, that through his Son Jesus Christ we may give ourselves to his service.

O Lord, open our lips.

All: and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

O God, make speed to save us.

All: O Lord, make haste to help us.

Praise the name of the Lord.

All: the Lord's Name be praised.

CONFESSION

The word of God is living and active.
It judges the thoughts and intentions of the heart.
All is open and laid bare before the eyes of him
to whom we give account.
We confess our sins in penitence and faith.

cf Hebrews 4.12

All 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.

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.

The love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

All We dwell in him and he in us.

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name,

All make known his deeds among the peoples.

Sing to him, sing praises to him,

All and speak of all his marvellous works.

Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God almighty,

All who was and is and is to come.

The First Reading *[Please sit]*

Nehemiah 7: 73b – 8:12

The priests, the Levites, the gatekeepers, the singers and the temple servants, along with certain of the people and the rest of the Israelites, settled in their own towns.

Chapter 8

All the people assembled as one man in the square before the Water Gate. They told Ezra the Scribe to bring out the Book of the Law of Moses, which the LORD had commanded for Israel.

So on the first day of the seventh month Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, which was made up of men and women and all who were

able to understand. He read it aloud from daybreak till noon as he faced the square before the Water Gate in the presence of the men, women and others who could understand. And all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.

Ezra the Scribe stood on a high wooden platform built for the occasion. Beside him on his right stood Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Uriah, Hilkiah and Maaseiah; and on his left were Pedaiah, Mishael, Malkijah, Hashum, Hashbaddanah, Zechariah and Meshullam.

Ezra opened the book. All the people could see him because he was standing above them; and as he opened it, the people all stood up. Ezra praised the LORD, the great God; and all the people lifted their hands and responded, 'Amen! Amen!' Then they bowed down and worshipped the LORD with their faces to the ground.

The Levites – Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan and Pelaiah – instructed the people in the Law while the people were standing there. They read from the Book of the Law of God, making it clear and giving the meaning so that the people understood what was being read.

Then Nehemiah the governor, Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who were instructing the people said to them all, 'This day is sacred to the LORD your God. Do not mourn or weep.' For all the people had been weeping as they listened to the words of the Law.

Nehemiah said, 'Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is sacred to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.'

The Levites calmed all the people, saying, 'Be still, for this is a sacred day. Do not grieve.'

Then all the people went away to eat and drink, to send portions of food and to celebrate with great joy, because they now understood the words that had been made known to them.

At the end the reader says:

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Worship Songs *sung by choir and singers only*

Singers, please note vs 3 & 4 have been omitted

Song 1

Beauty for brokenness, hope for despair,
Lord, in the suffering, this is our prayer.
Bread for the children, justice, joy, peace,
sunrise to sunset your kingdom increase.

Shelter for fragile lives, cures for their ills,
work for the craftsmen, trade for their skills.
Land for the dispossessed, rights for the weak,
voices to plead the cause of those who can't speak.

*God of the poor, friend of the weak,
give us compassion, we pray,
melt our cold hearts, let tears fall like rain.
Come, change our love from a spark to a flame.*

Lighten our darkness,
breathe on this flame,
until your justice
burns brightly again;
until the nations
learn of your ways,
seek your salvation
and bring you their praise. *Refrain*

CCLI 2765 Graham Kendrick ©1993 Make Way Music

Song 2 *sung by choir and singers only*

Faithful One, so unchanging,
Ageless One, you're my rock of peace.
Lord of all, I depend on you,
I call out to you again and again,
I call out to you again and again.
You are my rock in times of trouble,
you lift me up when I fall down.
All through the storm your love is the anchor,
my hope is in you alone.

*CCLI 2765 Brian Doerksen © 1989 Vineyard Songs
Canada/Song Solutions CopyCare*

The Second Reading *[Please sit]*

Acts 4: 5 – 12

The next day the rulers, the elders and the teachers of the law met in Jerusalem. Annas the high priest was there, and so were Caiaphas, John, Alexander and the other men of the high priest's family. They had Peter and John brought before them and began to question them: 'By what power or what name did you do this?'

Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: 'Rulers and elders of the people! If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a cripple and are asked how he was healed, then know this, you and all the people of Israel: it is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed. He is

“the stone you builders rejected,
which has become the capstone”.

Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.'

At the end the reader says:

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Sermon

[Please remain seated]

Silence is kept reflecting on what we have heard

Apostles' Creed

**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.



HYMN [208ii & Doxology] *Sung by the choir only*

5. Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the Head and corner-stone,
chosen of the Lord and precious
binding all the church in one,
Holy Sion's help for ever,
and her confidence alone.

6. All that dedicated city,
dearly loved of God on high,
in exultant jubilation
pours perpetual melody,
God the One in Three adoring
in glad hymns eternally.

Dox. Laud and honour to the Father,
laud and honour to the Son,
laud and honour to the Spirit,
ever Three and ever One,
consubstantial, co-eternal,
while unending ages run.

Public Domain

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the
resurrection and the life:
raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the
life of righteousness, that we may seek those things
which are above, where he reigns with you in the
unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

***All:* Amen**

Prayers of Intercession

at the end, a short period of silence is kept, and then:

Merciful Father,

All Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

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.



At the end of our prayers we pause for a moment

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.

Final Hymn [31] *sung by the choir only*

Lo, he comes with clouds descending,
once for favoured sinners slain;
thousand thousand saints attending
swell the triumph of his train:

Alleluia!

God appears on earth to reign.

Every eye shall now behold him
robed in dreadful majesty;
those who set at naught and sold him,
pierced and nailed him to the Tree,
deeply wailing,
shall the true Messiah see.

Those dear tokens of his passion
still his dazzling body bears,
cause of endless exultation
to his ransomed worshippers:
with what rapture
gaze we on those glorious scars!

Yea, Amen, let all adore thee,
high on thine eternal throne;
Saviour, take the power and glory,
claim the kingdom for thine own:

Alleluia!

Thou shalt reign and thou alone.

Conclusion

Risen Christ,
faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep:
teach us to hear your voice
and to follow your command,
that all your people may be gathered into one flock,
to the glory of God the Father.

All Jesus now lead on.

BLESSING

The Lord bless us, and preserve us from all evil, and
keep us in eternal life.

All Amen.

**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.**

*Our thanks to Derek Hansen for leading our service of
Morning Prayer today*

***PLEASE STAY FOR OUR APCM
AFTER THE SERVICE!
This will be as brief as possible***

***Please be aware of social distancing, and we are
advised not to gather to chat when in the church***



All those working in the NHS who are striving to save lives at this time; the sick and the lonely, the recently bereaved and all those in local nursing & care homes.

Services in May

- 2nd 10.30am Holy Communion**
with The Revd Roger Walker
- 9th 10.30am Morning Prayer**
with The Revd Canon Muriel Pargeter
- 13th 10.30am BCP Holy Communion –**
with The Revd George Butterworth
- 16th 10.30am Holy Communion**
with The Revd Roger Walker
- 23rd 10.30am Morning Prayer** with Derek Hansen
- 27th 10.30am BCP Holy Communion –**
with The Revd George Butterworth
- 30th 10.30am Holy Communion for Trinity Sunday**
with The Venerable Luke Irvine-Capel