

Christ Church Worthing

ORDER OF SERVICE



28th January 2024

The Fourth Sunday of Epiphany

The Presentation of Christ in the Temple
[Candlemas]

10.30am

MORNING PRAYER

with The Revd Maurice Slattery

First Reading: Jeremiah 1: 4 – 10 *read by Kerry*

Second Reading: Mark 1: 40 – end *read by Ann P*

Intercessions led by Val G

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

The Organ Voluntary after the service this morning is:
Sonatina 2 in G by Nicola Sslzani, 18th century, Naples

Registered Charity no: 1152846

Parochial Church Council of Worthing Christ Church

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A Service of Morning Prayer

Preparation *Please stand*

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.**

HYMN [516] [*Please stand to sing*] *Choir note - Tune 1, verse of 4*

Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us your humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.

Jesu, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver,
let us all thy grace receive;
suddenly return, and never,
never more thy temples leave.

Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation;
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation,
perfectly restored in thee;

Changed from glory into glory
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

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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 *[Please sit or kneel]*

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.

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
cleans 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.**

BLESS THE LORD (Tune 493) [Please stand to sing]

**1. Bless now your fathers' God
And praise his glorious name:
Within heaven's holiest place
His wondrous works proclaim.
With angel hosts eternally
Lift up your hearts to him on high.**

**2. Between the cherubim
From heavenly realms above
He scans the depths of space,
The God of power and love:
With angel hosts eternally
Lift up your hearts to him on high.**

**3. Upon his royal throne
He reigns as Lord and King:
To heaven's eternal heights
Your loyal homage bring:
To God the Holy Trinity
Lift up your hearts eternally.**

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The First Reading – Jeremiah 1: 4 - 10 [Please sit]

The word of the LORD came to me, saying,
'Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
before you were born I set you apart;
I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.'
'Ah, Sovereign LORD,' I said, 'I do not know how to speak; I
am only a child.'
But the LORD said to me, 'Do not say, "I am only a child."
You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I
command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you
and will rescue you,' declares the LORD.

Then the LORD reached out his hand and touched my mouth
and said to me, 'I have put my words in your mouth. See,
today I appoint you over nations and kingdoms to uproot
and tear down, to destroy and overthrow, to build and to
plant.'

At the end the reader says:

Here ends the First Lesson

All Thanks be to God.

WORSHIP SONG [Stand to sing]

Give thanks with a grateful heart.
Give thanks to the Holy One.
Give thanks because he's given
Jesus Christ, his Son. *Repeat*

And now let the weak say, 'I am strong',
let the poor say, 'I am rich',
because of what the Lord has done for us. *Repeat*

The Second Reading – Mark 1: 40 - end [Please sit]

A man with leprosy came to him and begged him on his knees, 'If you are willing, you can make me clean.' Filled with compassion, Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. 'I am willing,' he said. 'Be clean!' Immediately the leprosy left him and he was cured. Jesus sent him away at once with a strong warning: 'See that you don't tell this to anyone. But go, show yourself to the priest and offer the sacrifices that Moses commanded for your cleansing, as a testimony to them.' Instead he went out and began to talk freely, spreading the news. As a result, Jesus could no longer enter a town openly but stayed outside in lonely places. Yet the people still came to him from everywhere.

Here ends the Second Lesson

All **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon [Sit]

There follows a short time of quiet reflection before..

Apostles' Creed [Please stand]

**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 [496] *Please stand to sing*

Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us
o'er the world's tempestuous sea;
guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us
for we have no help but thee;
yet possessing every blessing
if our God our Father be.

Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us:
all our weakness thou dost know;
thou didst tread this earth before us,
thou didst feel its keenest woe;
lone and dreary, faint and weary,
through the desert thou didst go.

Spirit of our God, descending,
fill our hearts with heavenly joy,
love with every passion blending,
pleasure that can never cloy:
thus provided, pardoned, guided,
nothing can our peace destroy.

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A prayer for Peace

O God, it is your will to hold both heaven and earth in a single peace. Let the design of your great love shine on the waste of our wraths and sorrows, and give peace among nations, and peace in our hearts, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **All Amen.**

God of mercy and compassion, of grace and reconciliation, pour your power upon all your children in the Middle East: Jews, Muslims and Christians, Palestinians and Israelis. Let hatred be turned into love, fear to trust, despair to hope, oppression to freedom, occupation to liberation, that violent encounters may be replaced by loving embraces, and peace and justice could be experienced by all.

Spirit of the living God, Come afresh on your holy land.

Help your people to restore broken relationships.

Give them patience to break down barriers of suspicion and mistrust; ability to discern personal prejudices and the courage to overcome fear. Teach them to respect each other's integrity and rights so that your kingdom may be established on earth. For Jesus' sake. **All Amen**

Collect

Almighty and ever-living God, clothed in majesty, whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple, in substance of our flesh: grant that we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts, by your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and 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.**

Offertory Hymn [376] [Please stand to sing]

Choir note verse 2 omitted from the hymn book

And can it be that I should gain
an interest in the Saviour's blood?
Died he for me, who caused his pain
For me, who him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be,
That thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

He left his Father's throne above—
so free, so infinite his grace—
emptied himself of all but love,
and bled for Adam's helpless race.
'Tis mercy all, immense and free,
for, O my God, it found out me!

Long my imprisoned spirit lay,
fast bound in sin and nature's night;
thine eye diffused a quickening ray;
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;
my chains fell off, my heart was free,
I rose, went forth, and followed thee.

No condemnation now I dread;
Jesus, and all in him, is mine;
Alive in him, my living Head,
and clothed in righteousness divine,
bold I approach the eternal throne,
and claim the crown, through Christ my own.

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Conclusion

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.**

Lord Jesus Christ, light of the nations and glory of Israel:
make your home among us, and present us pure and holy
to your heavenly Father, your God, and our God.

All Amen.

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.**

Go in the peace of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

Our thanks to The Revd Maurice Slattery for leading our service of Morning Prayer today

Please stay for coffee or tea and a chat after the service in Waters' Hall

Christ Church Services – January & February

4th February 10.30am Holy Communion

8th February 10.30am BCP Holy Communion

11th February 10.30am Morning Prayer

**14th February 12.30pm Ash Wednesday –
Imposition of Ashes with Holy Communion**

18th February 10.30am Holy Communion

22nd February 10.30am BCP Holy Communion

25th February 10.30am Morning Prayer

