

UNITED BENEFICE OF ST MICHAEL BETCHWORTH AND ST MARY BUCKLAND  
THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EPIHANY  
SUNDAY 24th January 2021



**The Greeting**

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

**Collect**

Almighty God,  
whose Son revealed in signs and miracles  
the wonder of your saving presence:  
renew your people with your heavenly grace,  
and in all our weakness  
sustain us by your mighty power;  
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.



**Hymn: *Christ is our light!***

Christ is our light! The bright and morning star  
covering with radiance all from near and far.  
Christ be our light, shine on, shine on we pray  
into our hearts, into our world today.

Christ is our love! baptised that we may know  
the love of God among us, swooping low.  
Christ be our love, bring us to turn our face  
and see in you the light of heaven's embrace.

Christ is our joy! transforming wedding guest!

Through water turned to wine the feast was blessed.  
Christ be our joy; your glory let us see,  
as your disciples did in Galilee.

Words: Leith Fisher (1941-2009)

Music: 'Godmanchester' by Peter Moger (b.1964))

### 1<sup>st</sup> Reading:

#### **Genesis 14.17-20 Abram blessed by Melchizedek**

After his return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley). And King Melchizedek of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was priest of God Most High. He blessed him and said,

'Blessed be Abram by God Most High,  
maker of heaven and earth;  
and blessed be God Most High,  
who has delivered your enemies into your hand!'  
And Abram gave him one-tenth of everything.

For the Word of the Lord

#### **Thanks be to God**

#### **Anthem: O taste and see - Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=heiiATCrwVQ>

(The Cambridge Singers conducted by John Rutter)

*O taste and see how gracious the Lord is,  
blest is the man that trusteth in him.*

Words: Psalm 34, v8

### Gospel

#### **John 2.1-11 Jesus turns water into wine at the Wedding at Cana**

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 : Revd. Anna Moore



### Offertory

As many people are aware with no physical services not only is the church empty but the collection plate is too. At this point in the service, we would usually have our offertory as the altar is prepared. These small donations make a huge difference for the ongoing costs and upkeep of the church. If you are able, please consider donating as if this were a live service – we are doing our utmost to keep worship resources available and would be extremely grateful for any amount you are able to give. - ***Thank you for your kind support and generosity***



**St Michael's Church**



**St Mary's Church**

*or alternatively you can pay direct to*

**St Michaels Church (Registered Charity no. 1132724); Sort Code 601727 A/c 27611272  
St Mary's Church; Sort Code 601728 A/c 03428508**

Prayers. Prepared and read by David Sayce



**Merciful Father accept these prayers through our Saviour Jesus Christ Amen.**

### **Blessing**

The Lord bless us and watch over us;  
The Lord make his face to shine upon us and be gracious to us;  
The Lord look kindly upon us and give us peace. Amen

Our worship has now ended, and our service now begins...

Go in the light and peace of Christ

**Thanks be to God**

### **Organ Voluntary**

*'Wie Schon Leuchtet die Morgenstern'* (How brightly shines the morning star)

BWV 739 - J S Bach (1685-1750)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bskQc-7srR0&vl=en>

*We hope you are enjoying the online services which aim to bring the church community together and keep the momentum of faith alive for all generations. As a rural parish church, we rely heavily on donations to help maintain our beautiful buildings –*

*We are incredibly grateful for any donations -thank you once again for your kind support and generosity. God Bless*

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