

UNITED BENEFICE OF ST MICHAEL BETCHWORTH AND ST MARY BUCKLAND
SUNDAY 21st FEBRUARY 2021
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

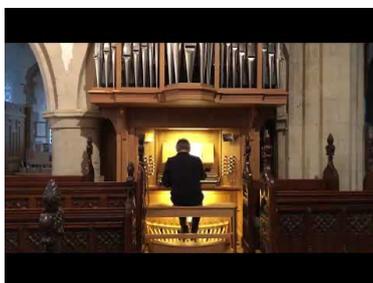


The Greeting

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Collect

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness,
and was tempted as we are, yet without sin:
give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit;
and, as you know our weakness,
so may we know your power to save;
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: Forty days and forty nights

Forty days and forty nights
Thou wast fasting in the wild;
Forty days and forty nights
tempted, and yet undefiled:

Sunbeams scorching all the day;
chilly dew-drops nightly shed;
prowling beasts about thy way;
stones thy pillow, earth thy bed

Shall not we thy sorrows share
and from earthly joys abstain,
fasting with unceasing prayer,
glad with thee to suffer pain?

And if Satan, vexing sore,
flesh or spirit should assail,
thou, his vanquisher before,
grant we may not faint nor fail.

So shall we have peace divine;
holier gladness ours shall be;
round us too shall angels shine,
such as ministered to thee.

Keep, O keep us, Saviour dear,
ever constant by thy side;
that with thee we may appear
at the eternal Eastertide.

Words: George Hunt Smythian (1822-1870) and Francis Pott (1832-1909)

Music: Melody by 'M.H.' in *Nürnbergisches Gesangbuch*, 1676 possibly by Martin Herbst
1654-1681)

1st Reading:

Genesis 9.8-17 God establishes his covenant with Noah

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, 'As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.' God said, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.' God said to Noah, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.'

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

For the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Anthem *Almighty and everlasting God* - Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cusjus1XFto>

(Choir of St John's College, Cambridge)

*Almighty and everlasting God,
mercifully look upon our infirmities,
and in all our dangers and necessities
stretch forth thy right hand to help and defend us,*

through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Words: Collect for the Third Sunday after Epiphany

Gospel Mark 1.9-15 The baptism and temptation of Jesus and the beginning of his Ministry

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.'

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

Sermon by 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; Sort Code 601727 A/c 27611272
St Mary's Church; Sort Code 601728 A/c 03428508

Prayers prepared and read by Ginny Eaton



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 : 'Wo sill ich fliehen hin' (Where shall I flee), No 2 of the 'Schübler Chorales' BWV646 -

J S Bach (1685-1750)



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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