

UNITED BENEFICE OF ST MICHAEL BETCHWORTH AND ST MARY BUCKLAND  
SUNDAY 28th FEBRUARY 2021  
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT



*'Durch Adams Fall ist ganz verberbt' (In Adam's fall all mankind fell) - F W Zachau (1663-1721) teacher of Handel*

**The Greeting**

The Lord be with you  
and also with you.

**Collect**

Almighty God,  
you show to those who are in error the light of your truth,  
that they may return to the way of righteousness:  
grant to all those who are admitted  
into the fellowship of Christ's religion,  
that they may reject those things  
that are contrary to their profession,  
and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same;  
through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.



**Hymn: Take up thy cross, the Saviour said**

Take up thy cross, the Saviour said,  
if thou wouldst my disciple be;  
deny thyself, the world forsake,  
and humbly follow after me.

Take up thy cross: let not its weight  
fill thy weak spirit with alarm;

his strength shall bear thy spirit up,  
and brace thy heart, and nerve thine arm.

Take up thy cross, nor heed the shame,  
nor let thy foolish pride rebel:  
thy Lord for thee the cross endured,  
to save thy soul from death and hell.

Take up thy cross then in his strength,  
and calmly every danger brave;  
'twill guide thee to a better home,  
it points to victory o'er the grave.

Take up thy cross, and follow Christ,  
nor think till death to lay it down;  
for only they who bear the cross  
may hope to wear the glorious crown.

To thee, great Lord, the One in Three,  
all praise for evermore ascend:  
O grant us in our home to see  
the heavenly life that knows no end.

Words: Charles William Everest (1814-1877)

Music: 'Breslau' German traditional melody harmony probably by William Henry Monk (1823-1889)

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

Genesis -17 1-7, 15-16 God establishes a Covenant with Abram and promises Sarai a son

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, 'I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.' Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, 'As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. And I will give to you, and to your offspring after you, the land where you are now an alien, all the land of Canaan, for a perpetual holding; and I will be their God.'

God said to Abraham, 'As for you, you shall keep my covenant, you and your offspring after you throughout their generations. This is my covenant, which you shall keep, between me and you and your offspring after you: Every male among you shall be circumcised. You shall circumcise the flesh of your foreskins, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and you. Throughout your generations every male among you shall be circumcised when he is eight days old, including the slave born in your house and the one bought with your money from any foreigner who is not of your offspring. Both the slave born in your house and the one bought with your money must be circumcised. So shall my covenant be in your flesh an everlasting covenant. Any uncircumcised male who is not circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin shall be cut off from his people; he has broken my covenant.'

God said to Abraham, 'As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.'

For the word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God**

### **Anthem**

**Lord for thy tender mercy's sake** - either Richard Farrant (d.1580/81) or John Hilton (1560-1608)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k91f4Uq9ZPA>

(The Cambridge Singers directed by John Rutter)

*Lord, for thy tender mercy's sake lay not our sins to our charge; but forgive that is past and give us grace to amend our sinful lives; to decline from sin, and incline to virtue, that we may walk in an upright heart before thee this night and evermore. Amen.*

Words: *Christian Prayers and Holy Meditations, 1568*

### **Gospel according to Mark**

**Mark 8. 31-38** Jesus Foretells His Death and Resurrection

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

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

**Sermon by Revd David Eaton**



## 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**



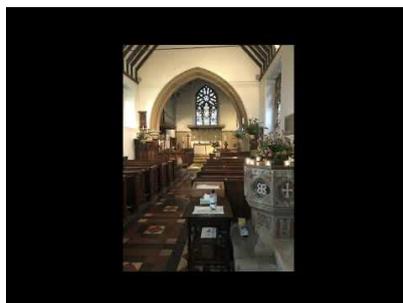
**St Michael's Church**



**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 David Sayce



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

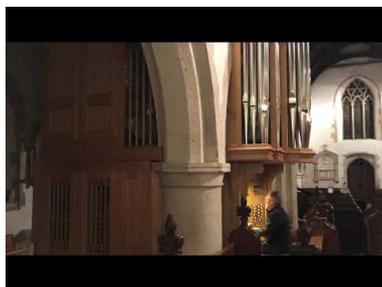
### **Blessing**

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** : Prelude on 'Gerontius' (*Praise to the Holiest in the height*) - W S Lloyd-Webber (1914-82)



*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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