

St Andrew's Church

Orford with Longford

**The Fourth Sunday before Lent**

**5th February 2017**

**THE GATHERING**

**Introit hymn:** 202 ‘Holy, holy, holy, Lord God almighty’

Priest: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

Priest: The Lord be with you

All: and also with you.

All: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Priest: Jesus said: Before you offer your gift, go and be reconciled. As brothers and sisters in God’s family, we come together to ask our Father for forgiveness.

(After a period of silent reflection)

All: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past, and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.

Priest: Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

All Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

*(sing)* LordGod, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

**Collect:** O God, you know us to be set in the midst of so many and great dangers, that by reason of the frailty of our nature we cannot always stand upright: grant to us such strength and protection as may support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; 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. **Amen**

#### **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah** *(Is 58. 1-9a)*

Thus says the LORD: Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practised righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgements, they delight to draw near to God. ‘Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?’ Look, you serve your own interest on your fast-day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rearguard. Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

**Hymn:** *(remain seated)*  ‘Do not be afraid’

*Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you.*

*I have called you by your name; you are mine.*

When you walk through the waters, I’ll be with you.

You will never sink beneath the waves. *Do not be afraid …*

When the fire is burning all around you,

you will never be consumed by the flames. *Do not be afraid …*

When the fear of loneliness is looming

then remember I am at your side. *Do not be afraid …*

When you dwell in the exile of the stranger,

remember you are precious in my eyes. *Do not be afraid …*

You are mine, O my child; I am your Father,

and I love you with a perfect love. *Do not be afraid …*

**A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians** (*1 Cor 2. 1–12)*

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God. Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God’s wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, ‘What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him’ – these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God’s except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

**Gradual hymn:** *(please stand)* 391 ‘Blest are the pure in heart’

##### THE GOSPEL

Priest I am the way, the truth and the life, says the Lord.

No one comes to the Father except through me.

All: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew *(Mt 5. 13-20)*

All: Glory to you, O Lord

Jesus went up the mountain and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to teach them: ‘You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfil. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you, O Christ

##### the sermon

Priest: We believe in one God,

**All: the Father, the almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Intercession

Priest: In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ, let us pray to the Father

*Each section ends:* Lord, in your mercy. **All: Hear our prayer.**

**Please remember in your prayers:**

**those who are ill:** (4)Rob Mudd, Mark Shepherd, Marion Greatorex, Eric Tickle, Barbara Boscoe, Jacqueline Willington (3) Su Williams, Etheline Worrall, Eleanor Moran, Walter Latimer (2) Lynn Burman, Michael Stringer, Michelle Smith, Paul Hogden, Graeme McGregor, Joyce Hetherington, Bessie Towers (1) Mary Lowe, May Jones, Jenson Wright, Barbara Cook, Kirsty Humphries, Tom Livesey, Robert Thirsk

* **those who have died:** Lilian Jackson, Mary Cooper, Marcus Shaw
* **those whose year's mind falls at this time**:

***Monday:*** Tommy Crozier ***Tuesday:*** Ben Fisher, Gilbert Scarisbrick,

***Wednesday:*** Beryl Fisher ***Thursday:*** Harry Clarke

***Saturday:*** Betty Moody, Andy Bennett

After the final petition:

Reader: Merciful Father,

All: accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,

our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

**The Peace**   *(please stand)*

Priest We are the Body of Christ.

All: In the one Spirit, we were all baptized into the one Body. Let us then pursue all that makes for peace, and builds up our common life.

Priest: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All And also with you

Priest: Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Everyone is invited to exchange a sign of peace.

**Offertory Hymn:** 331 ‘We pray thee, heavenly Father’

**Eucharistic Prayer A** *(please kneel)*

Priest: The Lord is here.

All: His Spirit is with us.

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give thanks and praise.

Priest: It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy, at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise, holy Father, heavenly King, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

For he is your living Word; through him you have created all things from the beginning, and formed us in your own image. Through him you have freed us from the slavery of sin, giving him to be born of a woman and to die upon the cross; you raised him from the dead and exalted him to your right hand on high. Through him you have sent upon us your holy and life-giving Spirit, and made us a people for your own possession.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and *singing:*

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth

*(sing)* **are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest, highest, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, highest. Hosanna in the highest, the highest, the highest, the highest.**

Priest: Accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, and as we follow his example and obey his command, grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Therefore, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross; we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; we look for the coming of your kingdom, and with this bread and this cup we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Priest: Great is the mystery of faith:

All: Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

Priest Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise, and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty, renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise*:*

All: Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.

Priest: Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

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.

Priest: We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

**All: Though we are many, we are one body,**

**because we all share in one bread.**

All: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

Priest: Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**All: Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,**

**but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

Holy Communion is administered at the front of Church. Everyone is warmly invited to receive Holy Communion at this Eucharist. Those who prefer to receive a blessing are also invited to come forward at the same time.

During the distribution of the Sacrament, the following hymns are sung:

Fairest Lord Jesus, Lord of all creation,

Jesus, of God and man the son;

you I will cherish, you I will honour, you are my soul's delight and crown.

Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands,

robed in the verdure and bloom of spring.

Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, he makes the saddest heart to sing.

Fair are the flowers, fairer still the children,

in all the freshness of youth arrayed;

yet is their beauty fading and fleeting; Lord Jesus, yours will never fade.

Fair is the moonlight, fairer still the sunshine,

fair is the shimmering starry sky:

Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines clearer than all the heavenly host on high.

All fairest beauty heavenly and earthly,

wondrously, Jesus, in you is found;

none can be nearer, fairer or dearer than you, my Saviour, to me bound.

272 ‘Praise and thanksgiving’

**After Communion:**

Priest: Let us pray: Go before us, Lord, in all we do with your most gracious favour, and guide us with your continual help, that in all our works begun, continued and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name, and finally by your mercy receive everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

All: Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

Priest The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen**

**Recessional Hymn:** 591 ‘The kingdom of God is justice and joy’

Priest: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

All: In the name of Christ. Amen

**Services and Notices for the coming week:**

**Today: 12 noon Holy Baptism**

Tue 7th: 7.00pm Parish Office [no choir practice tonight]

Wed 8th: 10.00am Funeral of Marcus Shaw

7.00pm Eucharist

Thu 9th: 10.30am Eucharist

**Next Sunday The Third Sunday before Lent**

**(16th Feb) 10.00am Sung Eucharist**

**Fourth Sunday before Lent  *5*th February 2017**

Priest: In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ, let us pray to the Father

(All kneel)

Leader: O God, the creator and preserver of all, we pray for people in every kind of need; make your ways known on earth, your saving health among all nations.

We pray for the victims of natural disaster: for the people of Italy and Haiti who have suffered earthquakes, and for those whose crops have failed in East Africa.

Bless the work of relief workers and relief organisations.

We pray too for the people of Syria, for migrants stuck in refugee camps unable to complete their journeys and those who risk their lives crossing the Mediterranean Sea.

Leader: Lord, in your mercy

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: We pray for the good estate of the Church; guide and govern us by your Spirit, that all who profess and call themselves Christians may be led into the way of truth, and hold the faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace and in righteousness of life.

We thank you for those who lead our Church and pray for our brothers and sisters in this country and abroad. We join with the worldwide Church in praying for the diocese of Lomega in Sudan. Help us and them to stand up for our faith, to shine as lights in our world and show others that your way is the way of freedom and life.

Leader: Lord, in your mercy

**All: Hear our prayer.**

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Leader: We commend to your fatherly goodness all those who are in any way afflicted or distressed, in mind, body or spirit; comfort and relieve them in their need, give them patience in their sufferings, and bring good out of all their afflictions.

We bring before your throne of grace: Rob Mudd, Mark Shepherd, Marion Greatorex, Eric Tickle, Barbara Boscoe, Jacqueline Willington, Etheline Worrall, Lynn Burman, Michelle Smith, Paul Hogden, Graeme McGregor, Bessie Towers, Jenson Wright, Barbara Cook, Tom Livesey and Robert Thirsk. May they know the peace that your Spirit brings.

Leader: Lord, in your mercy

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: We remember those who have gone before us in the peace of Christ, and we give you praise for all your faithful ones, with whom we rejoice in the communion of saints.

We pray for the faithful departed, including Lilian Jackson, Mary Cooper and Marcus Shaw who died recently, and those whose anniversary of death falls at this time, including Tommy Crozier, Betty Moody, Ben and Beryl Fisher.

May your whole Church, living and departed, come to a joyful resurrection in the city of light.

Leader: Lord, in your mercy

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: Rejoicing in the fellowship of the Church on earth, we join our prayers with the Blessed Virgin Mary, St Andrew and all the saints in glory.

Merciful Father,

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

**Fourth Sunday before Lent  *5*th February 2017**

**A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah**

Thus says the LORD: Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practised righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgements, they delight to draw near to God. ‘Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?’ Look, you serve your own interest on your fast-day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rearguard. Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

**Hymn:** *(remain seated)*  ‘Do not be afraid’

*Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you.*

*I have called you by your name; you are mine.*

When you walk through the waters, I’ll be with you.

You will never sink beneath the waves. *Do not be afraid …*

When the fire is burning all around you,

you will never be consumed by the flames. *Do not be afraid …*

When the fear of loneliness is looming

then remember I am at your side. *Do not be afraid …*

When you dwell in the exile of the stranger,

remember you are precious in my eyes. *Do not be afraid …*

You are mine, O my child; I am your Father,

and I love you with a perfect love. *Do not be afraid …*

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**A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians**

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God. Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God’s wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, ‘What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him’ – these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God’s except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.