

The Benefice of Silsoe, Pulloxhill and Flitton
Growing as beacons of Christ's light in our communities



*A mural in the church at Magdala
on the Sea of Galilee - Gillian Kern 2019*

Sunday, 30 August 2020
MORNING PRAYER

Led by members of the Virtual Ministry team incl:

Rev Anne Barker, Rev Julie Cox, Rev Anna Garvie,
Lay Leader of Worship Maggie Jeeves,
Reader Gillian Kern and Reader Roy Pinnock

Greeting

The night has passed, and the day lies before us;
Let us pray with one heart and mind.
Blessed are you, creator of all,
to you be praise and glory for ever.
As your dawn renews the face of the earth
bring light and life to creation.
May we rejoice in this day that you have made;
as we wake refreshed from the depths of sleep,
open our eyes to behold your presence
and strengthen our hand to do your will,
that the world may rejoice and give you praise.
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be God for ever.

Hymn: Blessed Assurance

1 Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

2 Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending, bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

Refrain:

*This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Saviour, all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Saviour all the day long.*

3 Perfect submission, all is at rest,
I in my Saviour am happy and blest,
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with his goodness, lost in his love.

Confession

Christ the light of the world
has come to dispel the darkness of our hearts.
In his light let us examine ourselves
and confess our sins.

**All: God of mercy, we acknowledge that we are all sinners,
we turn from the wrong that we have thought and said and done
and are mindful of all that we have failed to do
for the sake of Jesus who died for us
forgive us all that is past
and help us to live each day in the light of Christ, our Lord,
Amen**

Absolution

And may the God of love and power
forgive you and free you from your sins,
heal and strengthen you by his spirit
and raise you to new life
in Christ our Lord
Amen

The Collect for the twelfth Sunday after Trinity

God of constant mercy,
who sent your son to save us:
remind us of your goodness,
increase your grace within us,
that our thankfulness may grow,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

The Word of God

Psalm 115

(New International Version)

Not to us, LORD, not to us
but to your name be the glory,
because of your love and faithfulness.
2 Why do the nations say,
“Where is their God?”
3 Our God is in heaven;
he does whatever pleases him.
4 But their idols are silver and gold,
made by human hands.
5 They have mouths, but cannot speak,
eyes, but cannot see.
6 They have ears, but cannot hear,

noses, but cannot smell.
7 They have hands, but cannot feel,
feet, but cannot walk,
nor can they utter a sound with their throats.
8 Those who make them will be like them,
and so will all who trust in them.
9 All you Israelites, trust in the LORD
he is their help and shield.
10 House of Aaron, trust in the LORD
he is their help and shield.
11 You who fear him, trust in the LORD
he is their help and shield.
12 The LORD remembers us and will bless us:
He will bless his people Israel,
he will bless the house of Aaron,
13 he will bless those who fear the LORD
small and great alike.
14 May the LORD cause you to flourish,
both you and your children.
15 May you be blessed by the LORD,
the Maker of heaven and earth.
16 The highest heavens belong to the LORD,
but the earth he has given to the human race.
17 It is not the dead who praise the LORD,
those who go down to the place of silence;
18 it is we who extol the LORD,
both now and forevermore.

Praise the LORD

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit

Amen

The Old Testament Reading

Exodus 3:1-15

3 Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. ²There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. ³Then Moses said, 'I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up.'

⁴When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, 'Moses, Moses!' And he said, 'Here I am.' ⁵Then he said, 'Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.' ⁶He said further, 'I am the God of

your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.’ And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

⁷ Then the LORD said, ‘I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, ⁸ and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. ⁹ The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. ¹⁰ So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.’

¹¹ But Moses said to God, ‘Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?’ ¹² He said, ‘I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain.’ ¹³ But Moses said to God, ‘If I come to the Israelites and say to them, “The God of your ancestors has sent me to you”, and they ask me, “What is his name?” what shall I say to them?’ ¹⁴ God said to Moses, ‘I AM WHO I AM.’ He said further, ‘Thus you shall say to the Israelites, “I AM has sent me to you.”’ ¹⁵ God also said to Moses, ‘Thus you shall say to the Israelites, “The LORD, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you”: This is my name for ever, and this my title for all generations.’

The Venite

- 1 O come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us heartily rejoice in the rock of our salvation.
- 2 Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving
and be glad in him with psalms.
- 3 For the Lord is a great God
and a great king above all gods.
- 4 In his hand are the depths of the earth
and the heights of the mountains are his also.
- 5 The sea is his, for he made it,
and his hands have moulded the dry land.
- 6 Come, let us worship and bow down
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
- 7 For he is our God;
we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit
As it was in the beginning is now and shall be forever
Amen

The Gospel Reading

Matthew 16:21-28

(Contemporary English Version, © 2006 American Bible Society)

21 From then on, Jesus began telling his disciples what would happen to him. He said, “I must go to Jerusalem. There the nation's leaders, the chief priests, and the teachers of the Law of Moses will make me suffer terribly. I will be killed, but three days later I will rise to life.”

22 Peter took Jesus aside and told him to stop talking like that. He said, "God would never let this happen to you, Lord!"

23 Jesus turned to Peter and said, "Satan, get away from me! You're in my way because you think like everyone else and not like God."

24 Then Jesus said to his disciples:

If any of you want to be my followers, you must forget about yourself. You must take up your cross and follow me. 25 If you want to save your life, \pm you will destroy it. But if you give up your life for me, you will find it. 26 What will you gain, if you own the whole world but destroy yourself? What would you give to get back your soul?

27 The Son of Man will soon come in the glory of his Father and with his angels to reward all people for what they have done. 28 I promise you some of those standing here will not die before they see the Son of Man coming with his kingdom.

Hymn Be still for the presence of the lord

1. Be still for the presence of the Lord

The Holy One is here
Come bow before Him now
With reverence and fear
In Him no sin is found
We stand on holy ground
Be still for the presence of the Lord
The Holy One is here

2. Be still for the glory of the Lord

Is shining all around
He burns with holy fire
With splendor He is crowned
How awesome is the sight
Our radiant King of light
Be still for the glory of the Lord
Is shining all around

3. Be still for the power of the Lord

Is moving in this place
He comes to cleanse and heal
To minister His grace
No work too hard for Him
In faith receive from Him
Be still for the power of the Lord
Is moving in this place

Sermon

John 1:51

⁵¹ And he said to him, 'Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.'

Hymn The Lord's my Shepherd

1. The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want;
He makes me down to lie
In pastures green; He leadeth me
The quiet waters by.

2. My soul He doth restore again,
And me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness,
E'en for His own name's sake.

3. Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
Yet will I fear no ill;
For Thou art with me, and Thy rod
And staff my comfort still.

4. My table Thou hast furnished
In presence of my foes;
My head Thou dost with oil anoint,
And my cup overflows.

5. Goodness and mercy all my life
Shall surely follow me;
And in God's house forevermore,
My dwelling place shall be.

The Creed

**All: 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 to heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of the saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting.
Amen**

Prayers of intercession

Bidding: Lord in your mercy

Response: Hear our prayer

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

We pull all our prayers into one as we say together the Lord's Prayer:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil:
for the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen**

Hymn: How great Thou art

1. O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder
consider all the works thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
thy power throughout the universe displayed;

Refrain:
*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,
how great thou art, how great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,
how great thou art, how great thou art!*

2. When through the woods and forest glades I wander
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze:

3. And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
sent him to die – I scarce can take it in
that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
he bled and died to take away my sin:

4. When Christ shall come with shouts of acclamation
and take me home – what joy shall fill my heart!
Then shall I bow in humble adoration
and there proclaim, 'my God, how great thou art!'

Closing prayers

**All: Almighty God,
we thank you for the gift of your holy word.
May it be a lantern at our feet,
a light upon our paths
and a strength to our lives.
Take us and use us
to love and serve all people
in the power of the Holy Spirit
and in the name of your Son
Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen**

May the Lord watch over us all today
may he grant us his peace.

Amen

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord
in the name of Christ. **Amen**

Services for Sunday 6 September

9:30am Parish Communion at Silsoe

11:00am Morning Worship at Flitton

(We hope to make a recording of this service available on the Virtual Vicar later in the day)

11:00am Morning Worship at Pulloxhill

The Order of Service is © [The Archbishops' Council](#) 2005 and published by [Church House Publishing](#). And New Patterns for Worship 2008 [Church House Publishing](#).

Introductory and exit music: Saint Saens Organ Symphony transcribed by Simon Stranks

The Lord's My Shepherd music from Kevin Mayhew Ltd

Other hymns by Face2Face and men from HMP The Mount by kind permission of Rev Canon Philip Abrey, Managing Chaplain HMP The Mount.