

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



Sunday 14 February 2021
Light Out of Darkness

with Rev DAVID PAYNE

Recorded at
St John the Baptist, Flitton

Words of Welcome

Opening Prayers

We come from scattered lives to meet with God.
Let us recognise his presence with us.

As God's people we have gathered:

All: Let us worship him together.

The light and peace of Jesus Christ be with you.

All: and also with you.

The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.

All: Let us rejoice and sing God's praise for ever.

O God, you are the light of the minds that know you,
the life of the souls that love you,
and the strength of the wills that serve you:
Help us so to know you that we may truly love you,
and so to love you that we may fully serve you,
whom to serve is perfect freedom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn: Shine, Jesus, shine

Graham Kendrick (born 1950)

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1 Lord, the light of Your love is shining,
in the midst of the darkness, shining:
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us;
set us free by the truth You now bring us -
shine on me, shine on me.

*Shine, Jesus, shine,
fill this land with the Father's glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze,
set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow,
flood the nations with grace and mercy;
send forth Your word,
Lord, and let there be light!*

2 Lord, I come to Your awesome presence,
from the shadows into Your radiance;
by the blood I may enter Your brightness:
set us free by the truth You now bring us
shine on me, shine on me.

*Shine, Jesus, shine,
fill this land with the Father's glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze,
set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow,
flood the nations with grace and mercy;
send forth Your word,
Lord, and let there be light!*

3 As we gaze on Your kingly brightness
so our faces display Your likeness,
ever changing from glory to glory:
mirrored here, may our lives tell your story -
shine on me, shine on me.

*Shine, Jesus, shine,
fill this land with the Father's glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze,
set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow,
flood the nations with grace and mercy;
send forth Your word,
Lord, and let there be light!*

*Shine, Jesus, shine,
fill this land with the Father's glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze,
set our hearts on fire, on fire.
Flow, river, flow,
flood the nations with grace and mercy;
send forth Your word,
Lord, and let there be light!
Shine, Shine, Shine, Shine, Shine*

Prayers of Penitence

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: Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

May the Almighty and merciful Lord
grant you pardon and forgiveness of all your sins,
time for amendment of life,
and the grace and strength of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Bible Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:1-6

Read by Jo Payne

Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practise cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness', who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

This is the word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Address

Intercessions led by Jo Holt

Bidding: Lord, in your mercy

All: Hear our prayer

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

The Lord's Prayer

**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.
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.**

Hymn: It is a Thing Most Wonderful

1 It is a thing most wonderful,
almost too wonderful to be,
that God's own Son should come from heav'n
and die to save a child like me.

2 And yet I know that it is true:
he chose a poor and humble lot,
and wept and toiled, and mourned and died,
for love of those who loved him not.

3 I cannot tell how He could love
A child so weak and full of sin;
His love must be most wonderful,
If He could die my love to win.

4 I sometimes think about the cross,
and shut my eyes. And try to see
the cruel nails and crown of thorns,
and Jesus crucified for me.

5 But even could I see him die,
I could but see a little part
of that great love which, like a fire,
is always burning in his heart.

6 It is most wonderful to know
His love for me so free and sure;
But 'tis more wonderful to see
My love for Him so faint and poor.

7 And yet I want to love Thee, Lord;
O light the flame within my heart,
And I will love Thee more and more,
Until I see Thee as Thou art.

Closing prayers & Blessing

Go forth into the world in peace;
be of good courage;
hold fast that which is good;
render to no-one evil for evil;
strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak;
help the afflicted; honour everyone;
love and serve the Lord,
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit;

And the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit
be yours and remain yours,
now and for ever more. **Amen**

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

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If you would like a pot of ashes which have been prepared and prayed over for the imposition of ashes, please contact Rev David by Tuesday evening.

01525 864858

vicar@3churches.uk

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Teach Us to Pray...

At one time or another, almost all of us will have wished that we were better at prayer – even the first disciples asked Jesus how to pray. In this eight week Zoom course based around the Lord's Prayer, we'll begin with the question 'Why Pray?' and go on to explore different ways of prayer that include listening, adoration and contemplation. Along the way we'll honestly face up to some of the difficulties we face in prayer, whether it's how we make time or what we do when it seems like no-one's listening.

We will be running the course on Monday evenings either side of Easter, starting on 22nd February. Each session will begin at 7.30pm, last no more than 90 minutes and include a video featuring Pete Greig, founder of the 24-7 Prayer Movement which has influenced and encouraged Christians of all denominations, styles and outlooks.

Whether you're new to prayer or you've been doing it for years, here's a chance to find refreshment, inspiration and encouragement for when you pray. There's no charge for attending and no examination at the end! We hope you'll join us – please contact Rev David Payne on 01525 864858 or email vicar@3churches.uk and we'll send you the details you need to join. Look forward to seeing you.

- Mon 22nd February – Why Pray?
- Mon 1st March - Adoration
- Mon 8th March - Petition
- Mon 15th March - Intercession
- Mon 22nd March – Unanswered Prayer

- Mon 12th April - Contemplation
- Mon 19th April – Listening
- Mon 26th April – Spiritual Warfare

All sessions run from 7.30 – 9.00pm

The United Benefice of Silsoe, Flitton & Pulloxhill

Prayers for the Nation – this is the link to the daily prayer:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/prayer-nation>

Daily HOPE - A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers – 0800 804 8044

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Don't forget TEA at THREE

ZOOM time together every Sunday from 3pm to 4pm – everybody welcome

A chance to catch up with others, laugh, moan, get things off your chest. .

It's the same code every week, so if you joined us last week you can use the same code this week.

Contact Rev David on 01525 864858 or vicar@3churches.uk for the ZOOM access code

If you would like to be part of one of our services by either reading from the Bible or leading our prayers, please contact Rev Payne on 01525 864858 or vicar@3churches.uk

If you have a few minutes, please let take the time to answer a few questions which will help us to plan future services:

<https://3churches.uk/feedback-on-recorded-services/>