

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



**Sunday 21 February 2021**  
***God's Covenant with Noah***

**with Rev ANNA GARVIE and**  
**Rev DAVID PAYNE**

**Recorded at**  
**St James the Apostle, Pulloxhill**

**Words of Welcome and Opening Prayers**

The light and peace of Jesus Christ be with you:

*All:*     **and also with you.**

The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.

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

This is the day that the Lord has made.

*All:*     **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Lord, direct our thoughts,  
teach us to pray  
lift up our hearts to worship you  
in Spirit and in truth,  
through Jesus Christ. **Amen**

**Hymn – Meekness and Majesty**

Graham Kendrick © 1986 Thankyou Music

**1.** Meekness and majesty  
Manhood and deity  
In perfect harmony  
The Man who is God  
Lord of eternity  
Dwells in humanity  
Kneels in humility  
And washes our feet

**2.** Father's pure radiance  
Perfect in innocence  
Yet learns obedience  
To death on a cross  
Suffering to give us life  
Conquering through sacrifice  
And as they crucify  
Prays 'Father forgive'

*Chorus*  
*O what a mystery*  
*Meekness and majesty*  
*Bow down and worship*  
*For this is your God*  
*This is your God*

**3.** Wisdom unsearchable  
God the invisible  
Love indestructible  
In frailty appears  
Lord of infinity  
Stooping so tenderly  
Lifts our humanity  
To the heights of His throne

## Prayers of Penitence

Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the cross  
that we might die to sin and live to righteousness.  
By his wounds we are healed.

Let us admit to God the sin which always confronts us.

*All:*     **Lord God,  
          We have sinned against you,  
          we have done evil in your sight.  
          We are sorry and repent.  
          Have mercy on us according to your love.  
          Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin.  
          Renew a right spirit within us,  
          and restore us to the joy of your salvation,  
          through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

God who is both power and love,  
forgive us and free us from our sins.  
Heal and strengthen us by his Spirit,  
and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## Bible Reading Genesis 9:8-17.

*Read by Hilary Parks*

<sup>8</sup> Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, <sup>9</sup> “As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, <sup>10</sup> 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.

<sup>11</sup> 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.” <sup>12</sup> 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: <sup>13</sup> I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth.

<sup>14</sup> When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, <sup>15</sup> 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. <sup>16</sup> 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.” <sup>17</sup> 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.

## Address

Rev David Payne

## Affirmation of Faith

Let us declare our faith in God:

**All: We believe in God the Father,  
From whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,  
who lives in our hearts through faith,  
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
who strengthens us  
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen**

## Hymn – Great is Thy Faithfulness

**1** Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father.  
There is no shadow of turning with thee.  
Thou changest not,  
thy compassions, they fail not.  
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

*Chorus:  
Great is thy faithfulness!  
Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see.  
All I have needed thy hand hath provided.  
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

**2** Summer and winter,  
and springtime and harvest,  
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,  
join with all nature in manifold witness  
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. [

**3** Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,  
strength for today and  
bright hope for tomorrow;  
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

## Intercessions

We pray for the world in which we live, giving thanks for the wonders of creation and the soft green shoots breaking through the winter earth showing promise of a brighter future. We hold before God those places where there is anger, hatred, violence, terror and desolation and pray that the light of Christ may shine in the darkness bringing peace and healing to our broken world.

Lord, in your mercy

**All: Hear our prayer**

We pray for the Church, giving thanks for its living presence in our time of need. We hold before God all those who work for the good of others, for all those who reach out in the name of Christ to the poor and broken-hearted, the disenfranchised and forgotten. Give them strength, encouragement and the resources they need to fulfill your ministry here on earth.

Lord, in your mercy

*All:*     **Hear our prayer**

We pray for our families and friends, giving thanks for the fellowship and companionship of others. We hold before God those people whom we feel close to and yet are separated from at this time. We ask that God will hold each one of them in the palm of his hand and bless them, encourage them and uphold them today and always.

Lord, in your mercy

*All:*     **Hear our prayer**

We pray for those who are unwell at this time. For the thousands upon thousands who are suffering the dreadful symptoms of Coronavirus and those whose treatment has been delayed because of the pandemic. We particularly hold before God all those who suffer mentally, those who are known individually to us and those whose suffering is known only to God.

We give thanks for all those who work for the health and well-being of others, may they be given the strength and determination that their patients lack.

Lord, in your mercy

*All:*     **Hear our prayer**

We pray for those who have died, particularly holding before God those whose lives have meant so much to us, those that we have been close to and those whom we have loved. Hold them in the warmth of your embrace and comfort us in our grief.

Lord, in your mercy

*All:*     **Hear our prayer**

Lord you promised that whenever two or three are gathered together in your name you would be there, in our midst. We ask that you will be with us as we come together in thought and prayer, wherever and whoever we are.

Merciful Father,

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

### **The Lord's Prayer**

And now rejoicing in the presence of God here amongst us we pray:

**All: Our Father, who is 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**

### **Closing Prayer**

Almighty God,  
our beginning and our end  
be our starting point and our eternal home  
and accompany us on our daily journey.  
Dawn on our darkness  
open our eyes to praise you for your creation  
and see the work you set before us each day.  
Take us and use us  
to bring others the new life you give  
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

### **Blessing**

The Lord bless you.  
The Lord keep you.  
The Lord make his face to shine upon you  
and grant you his peace.  
And the blessing of God the Father,  
God the Son and God the Holy Spirit,  
be with you and those you love,  
today and always. **Amen**

Go in faith to love and serve the Lord.

**All: In the name of Christ. Amen**

Please remember in your  
prayers this week:



Those who have recently  
died, including

Jean Bird,  
Gerald & Kathleen Jones,  
Martins Ogunbuyi,  
Janet Powers,  
Doreen Wrightson

and their families and  
friends who mourn them

Those who are ill, including

Des Brazier,  
Kara De Napoli  
(granddaughter of Margaret Butt),  
Brian Finney,  
James Kerr,  
Stella Lawton,  
Sally & Andy Metianu,  
Sue Olney,  
Joan Preston

We also remember: Jonah - born at 27 weeks -great-grandson of Anne Stiles  
The residents and staff at Taymer Nursing Home



An 8 week Zoom course – **Teach Us to Pray.**

**Either: Monday evenings at 7:30pm**

**Or: Thursday afternoons at 2:30pm**

*Each session lasts 90 minutes.*

The course starts the week beginning 22 February. Please contact Rev David on 01525 864858 or [vicar@3churches.uk](mailto:vicar@3churches.uk) for details of how to join.

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**#LIVE LENT**



God's Story  
Our Story

Until Easter Day on 4 April we will be publishing a daily Family Lenten Activities from the Church of England on the Virtual Vicar web page and our Facebook pages.

<https://www.facebook.com/ThreeChurchesUBSFP>

<https://www.facebook.com/flittonchurch>

There will also be information about how to access daily reflections for Lent, etc.

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

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

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

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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](mailto:vicar@3churches.uk)

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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/>