

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



Sunday 25 April 2021
'THE GOOD SHEPHERD'

Sunday Worship
with Rev DAVID PAYNE

Recorded in Flitton

Greeting & Opening Prayer

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All: He is risen indeed, alleluia.

Faithful one, whose word is life:
come with saving power
to free our praise,
inspire our prayer
and shape our lives
for the Kingdom of your Son,
Jesus the good shepherd;
Jesus Christ our Lord and friend. **Amen**

Risen Christ,
faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep:
teach us to hear your voice
and to follow your command,
that all your people may be gathered into one flock,
to the glory of God the Father. **Amen.**

Hymn: The King of Love My Shepherd is

1. The King of love my shepherd is,
whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his
and he is mine forever.

3. Perverse and foolish, oft I strayed,
but yet in love he sought me
and on his shoulder gently laid,
and home, rejoicing, brought me.

2. Where streams of living water flow
my ransomed soul he leadeth,
and where the verdant pastures grow
with food celestial feedeth.

4. In death's dark vale I fear no ill,
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;
thy rod and staff my comfort still,
thy cross before to guide me.

5. Thou spreadst a table in my sight,
thy unction grace bestoweth;
and O what transport of delight
from thy pure chalice floweth!

6. And so through all the length of days,
thy goodness faileth never;
good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house forever.

Prayers of Confession

Jesus Christ, risen master and triumphant Lord,
we come to you in sorrow for our sins,
and confess to you our weakness and unbelief.

We have lived by our own strength,
and not by the power of your resurrection.
In your mercy, forgive us.

All: **Lord, hear us and help us.**

We have lived by the light of our own eyes,
as faithless and not believing.
In your mercy, forgive us.

All: **Lord, hear us and help us.**

We have lived for this world alone,
and doubted our home in heaven.
In your mercy, forgive us.

All: **Lord, hear us and help us.**

May the Father forgive you
by the death of his Son
and strengthen you
to live in the power of his Holy Spirit
all your days. **Amen.**

Bible Reading: John 10:1-18

Read by Angela Ayres

‘Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.’ Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, ‘Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away - and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.

For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.'

This is the Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Address

Affirming our Faith

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

**All: 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 into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

**All: I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

Hymn: Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to heaven and voices raise

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| <p>1 Alleluia, Alleluia!
hearts to heaven and voices raise;
sing to God a hymn of gladness,
sing to God a hymn of praise:
he who on the Cross a victim
for the world's salvation bled,
Jesus Christ the King of glory,
now is risen from the dead.</p> | <p>2 Christ is risen, Christ the first-fruits
of the holy harvest field,
which will all its full abundance
at his second coming yield;
then the golden ears of harvest
will their heads before him wave,
ripened by his glorious sunshine,
from the furrows of the grave.</p> |
| <p>3 Christ is risen, we are risen;
shed upon us heavenly grace,
rain and dew, and gleams of glory
from the brightness of thy face;
that we, with our hearts in heaven,
here on earth may fruitful be,
and by angel-hands be gathered,
and be ever, Lord, with thee.</p> | <p>4 Alleluia, Alleluia,
glory be to God on high;
Alleluia to the Saviour,
who has gained the victory;
Alleluia to the Spirit,
fount of love and sanctity;
Alleluia, Alleluia,
to the Triune Majesty.</p> |

Intercessions

The Lord's Prayer

All: **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.**

Closing Prayer & Dismissal

May all of us hear the calling of the good shepherd
in our lives this coming week.

So may Christ that great shepherd of the sheep
who has opened for you the gates of glory,
give you life in all its fullness
and lead you to life eternal

The blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit
be yours and remain yours,
this day, every day 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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Please remember in your prayers Those who have recently
this week:



died, including

HRH The Duke of
Edinburgh
Bethany Edwards
Paulina Metianu

and their families and
friends who mourn them

Those who are ill, including

Des Brazier,
Alice Butler,
Kara De Napoli
(granddaughter of Margaret Butt),
Stella Lawton,
Sally Metianu,
Bill Powers,
Joan Preston
Malcolm Smith

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

SERVICES FOR SUNDAY 2 MAY 2021

- 9:30 am Holy Communion in Silsoe Church with Rev Payne
 - 11:00 am Holy Communion in Pulloxhill Church with Rev Barker
 - 11:00 am Morning Worship in Flitton Church with Rev Payne
- Virtual Vicar: Sunday Worship

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETINGS

- Flitton – 25 April 11:00 am by Zoom
- Silsoe – 6 May 7:30 pm by Zoom
- Pulloxhill – 16 May 11:00 am in church

TEA at THREE is back this week

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

