

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



Sunday 25 July 2021

**Sunday Worship
with Rev DAVID PAYNE**

'The Feast Day of St James

**Recorded at St James Church,
Pulloxhill**

Greeting & Opening Prayers

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 Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collect for St. James

Merciful God,
whose holy apostle Saint James,
leaving his father and all that he had,
was obedient to the calling of your Son Jesus Christ
and followed him even to death:
help us, forsaking the false attractions of your world,
to be ready at all times to answer your call without delay;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn: Brother, Sister, Let Me Serve You

1. Brother, Sister, let me serve you
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace
to let you be my servant, too.

3. I will hold the Christlight for you
in the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.

5. When we sing to God in heaven
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.

2. We are pilgrims on a journey,
and companions on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.

4. I will weep when you are weeping,
when you laugh, I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen this journey through.

6. Brother, Sister, let me serve you
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace
to let you be my servant, too.

Prayers of Confession

Since we are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses,
let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely,
looking to Jesus in penitence and faith.

Lord, you are great and compassionate:
Lord, have mercy.

All: **Lord, have mercy.**

You are loving to all
and your mercy is over all your creation:
Christ, have mercy.

All: **Christ, have mercy.**

Your faithful servants bless your name
and speak of the glory of your kingdom:
Lord, have mercy.

All: **Lord, have mercy.**

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.**

Bible Reading: Matthew 20:20-28

Read by Liz Coulson

Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee came to him with her sons, and kneeling before him, she asked a favour of him. And he said to her, 'What do you want?' She said to him, 'Declare that these two sons of mine will sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your kingdom.' But Jesus answered, 'You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink?' They said to him, 'We are able.' He said to them, 'You will indeed drink my cup, but to sit at my right hand and at my left, this is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father.'

When the ten heard about it, they were angry with the two brothers. But Jesus called them to him and said, 'You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. It will not be so among you; but whoever wishes to be great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be your slave; just as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.'

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?
source of being and life,
the one for whom we exist?

All: **We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?

All: **We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?

All: **We believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

All: **This is our faith.**

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

Hymn: The Servant King

1. From heaven you came, helpless babe,
entered our world, your glory veiled;
not to be served but to serve,
and give your life that we might live.

2. There in the garden of tears,
my heavy load he chose to bear;
his heart with sorrow was torn,
'Yet not my will but yours,' he said.

4. So let us learn how to serve,
and in our lives enthrone him;
each other's needs to prefer,
for it is Christ we're serving.

*This is our God, the Servant King,
he calls us now to follow him,
to bring our lives as a daily offering
of worship to the Servant King.*

3. Come, see his hands and his feet,
the scars that speak of sacrifice,
hands that flung stars into space
to cruel nails surrendered.

5. This is our God, the servant king,
he calls us now to follow him,
to bring our lives as a daily offering
of worship to the servant king.

Intercessions

Bidding: Lord, hear us

Response: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

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.**

Hymn: Seek ye first the kingdom of God

1. Seek ye first the kingdom of God,
and his righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you;
allelu, alleluia.

*Alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia, allelu, alleluia.*

2. Ask and it shall be given unto you,
seek and ye shall find;
knock, and a door shall be opened unto you.
allelu, alleluia.

*Alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia, allelu, alleluia.*

3. We shall not live by bread alone,
but by every word
that proceeds from the mouth of the Lord;
allelu, alleluia.

*Alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia, allelu, alleluia.*

Closing Prayer & Blessing

May God, who kindled the fire of his love in the hearts of James and the saints,
pour upon you the riches of his grace.
May he give you joy in their fellowship
and a share in their praise.
May he strengthen you to follow them in the way of holiness
and to come to the full radiance of glory.

and the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
rest and remain upon you and all his saints
now and forever more. **Amen**

Go in peace 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

*Les Chambers,
June Witney*

and their families and
friends who mourn them

Those who are ill, including

*Des Brazier,
Alice Butler,
Kay Chambers,
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

RECENT WEDDINGS

We congratulate

John McSwiggan & Natalie Smith

who were married in Flitton Church on 17th July.

SERVICES FOR SUNDAY 1 AUGUST

9:30am - Holy Communion at Silsoe Church led by Rev David Payne

11:00am – Holy Communion at Pulloxhill Church led by Rev David Payne

11:00am – Morning Worship at Flitton Church led by Maggie Jeeves

Virtual Vicar – Sunday Service

Following the Government's announcement on 19 July, the Church of England has issued a response, including this statement: "The prospect of the lifting of legal restrictions will be both a relief and a cause of anxiety and we are aware that there is likely still to be significant guidance in place. We have already been considering our current guidance to churches and are awaiting updated Government guidance for places of worship."

At local level Rev David will be consulting with Churchwardens and the Ministry Team to determine a way forward that can be put to the Church Councils. To allow time to absorb advice and plan accordingly, we do not expect to be changing our practice until Sunday 1st August at the earliest.

Consideration of the future of video services will form part of our overall plans for worship in future.