

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



**Sunday 6 December 2020**  
**2nd Sunday in Advent**

**MORNING WORSHIP**  
**with Rev DAVID PAYNE**

**Recorded at**  
**St James the Great, Silsoe**

**Words of Welcome & Opening Prayers**

Loving God, we have come to worship you.  
Help us to pray to you in faith,  
to sing your praise with gratitude,  
and listen to your word with eagerness,  
through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Blessed are you, sovereign Lord, just and true:  
to you be praise and glory for ever.  
Your prophet John the Baptist was witness to the truth  
in a burning and shining light.  
May we your servants rejoice in his light,  
and so be led to witness to him  
who is the Lord of our coming kingdom,  
Jesus our Saviour and King of the ages:  
**Blessed be God for ever. Amen.**

**Hymn: How lovely on the mountains**

**1** How lovely on the mountains  
Are the feet of him  
Who brings good news, good news  
Announcing peace, proclaiming  
News of happiness.  
Our God reigns; our God reigns!

*Chorus:*  
*Our God reigns!*  
*Our God reigns!*  
*Our God reigns!*  
*Our God reigns!*

**2** He had no stately form;  
He had no majesty,  
That we should be  
drawn to Him.  
He was despised,  
and we took no account of Him,  
Yet now He reigns  
With the Most High.

**3** Out of the tomb He came  
With grace and majesty;  
He is alive, He is alive.  
God loves us so see here His hands,  
His feet, His side.  
Yes, we know  
He is alive.

## Prayers of Confession

Heavenly Father,  
you call us to repent of our sins:  
soften our proud and stubborn hearts.

Lord have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus,  
you declared the forgiveness of God:  
teach us to forgive one another:

Christ have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Holy Spirit,  
you search our hearts and show us the truth:  
direct us in your ways of righteousness.

Lord have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Almighty God,  
who in Jesus Christ has given us  
a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,  
forgive you your sins,  
open your eyes to God's truth,  
strengthen you to do God's will  
and give you the joy of his kingdom,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Bible Reading: Mark 1 v1:8

Read by Gillian Chapple

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.  
As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,  
'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,  
who will prepare your way;  
the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:  
"Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight."'

John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

Now John was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.

This is the word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God**

## Address

**Hymn:** I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

**1.** I, the Lord of sea and sky,  
I have heard My people cry.  
All who dwell in dark and sin,  
My hand will save.  
I who made the stars of night,  
I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear My light to them?  
Whom shall I send?

**2.** I, the Lord of snow and rain,  
I have borne my people's pain.  
I have wept for love of them,  
They turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone,  
Give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak My word to them  
Whom shall I send?

### **Chorus**

*Here I am Lord, Is it I, Lord?  
I have heard You calling in the night.  
I will go Lord, if You lead me.  
I will hold Your people in my heart.*

**3.** I, the Lord of wind and flame  
I will tend the poor and lame.  
I will set a feast for them,  
My hand will save  
Finest bread I will provide,  
Till their hearts be satisfied.  
I will give My life to them,  
Whom shall I send?

**Intercessions** led by Maggie Jeeves

*Bidding:* Come Lord Jesus

**Response:** Hear our prayer

### **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.  
And 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.**

### **Final Prayers & Blessing**

Lord as we return to our world  
Go before us, ahead of us, be around us  
That in the small moments of this and every day  
We may sense and share Your Grace  
and be signs of hope and light in Your world. **Amen**

And the blessing of God Almighty,  
the Father, 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  
**In the name of Christ, Amen.**