



Welcome to St Margaret's Church Ifield
Loved as you are



Sunday 29th January 2023
The Presentation of Christ
Candlemas

Everyone is welcome to St Margaret's. In this service of the Eucharist we remember with thanksgiving the life, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ and his self-giving for the sins of the whole world. As the bread and wine are offered, symbols of that self-giving, so we offer ourselves to God and receive at communion the life of Christ. So nourished, we are enabled to go out into the world to live in the service of God.

THE GATHERING

As we gather before the service, we speak to God. During the service, we let God speak to us. After the service, we speak to each other.

Herr Jesu Christ, Dich Zu Uns Wend
Lord Jesus Christ, be present now

Johann Gottfried Walthier 1684-1748

We stand and sing at the entrance of the clergy

Processional Hymn

**Hail to the Lord who comes, comes to his temple gate,
Not with his angel host, not in his kingly state,
No shouts proclaim him nigh, no crowds his coming wait.**

**But borne upon the throne of Mary's gentle breast,
Watched by her duteous love, in her fond arms at rest,
Thus to his Father's house he comes, the heavenly guest.**

**There Joseph at her side in reverent wonder stands,
And, filled with holy joy, old Simeon in his hands
Takes up the promised child, the glory of all lands.**

**O Light of all the earth, thy children wait for thee,
Come to thy temples here, that we, from sin set free,
Before thy Father's face may all presented be.**

Words: John Ellerton 1826-1893

Music: Thomas Este 1540-1608 'Psalter' 1592 Harm: Ravenscroft 'Psalms' 1621

THE GREETING

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be
with you.

and also with you.

WORDS OF WELCOME

THE PRAYER OF PREPARATION

**Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from
whom no secrets are hidden, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the
inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily
magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

The grace of God has dawned upon the world through our Saviour Jesus
Christ, who sacrificed himself for us to purify a people as his own. Let us
confess our sins.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against
our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through
weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry and repent
of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive
us all that is past and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the
glory of your name. Amen.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon us, pardon
and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness,

and keep us in life eternal, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THE GLORIA

**Glory be to God in heaven,
peace to those who love him well;
on the earth let all his people
speak his grace, his wonders tell.
Lord, we praise you for your glory,
Mighty Father, heaven's king;
hear our joyful adoration
and accept the thanks we bring.**

Words: Michael Perry b. 1942

Music: Adapted from 9th Symphony, Ludwig van Beethoven 1770-1827

**Only Son of God the Father,
Lamb who takes our sins away,
now with him in triumph seated
for your mercy, Lord we pray.
Jesus Christ, most high and holy,
Saviour, you are God alone
in the glory of the Father
with the Spirit: Three in One!**

THE COLLECT

*The priest introduces a period of silent prayer with the words, 'Let us pray.'
The Collect is said, and all respond, Amen.*

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please sit for the readings

First Reading

Malachi 3.1-5

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Hebrews 2.14-18

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Please stand for the Gospel

The Gospel Reading

Luke 2.22-40

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please remain standing until the preacher has introduced the Sermon

THE SERMON

We stand

THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Let us declare our faith in God.

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from
the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he

ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Prayers for the Church, the world, and for all human need. After each petition the following response is used:

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

and at the end of the prayers

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

Commissioning of Lay Ministers of Communion

Those to be commissioned will be invited to stand at the front of the church.

at the end of the commissioning the congregation will be asked

And you, my friends, will you affirm these your brothers and sisters in this commitment: will you accept this service of love from their hands and will you support them in it by your prayers and good will?

Yes, we will, by God's grace

The lay ministers will be blessedAll respond

Amen

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

We stand to share the peace.

The Peace

The priest introduces the Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you
And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.
All may exchange a sign of peace.

Please remain standing to sing the offertory hymn.

The Presentation of the Gifts

During the Offertory hymn the bread and wine and the collection are brought to the altar and the altar is prepared.

**In his Temple now behold him see the long-expected Lord,
Ancient prophets had foretold him, God has now fulfilled his word,
Now to praise him, his redeemed shall break forth with one accord.**

**In the arms of her who bore him, Virgin pure, behold him lie,
While his aged saints adore him ere in faith they hope to die.
Alleluia! Alleluia! See th'incarnate God Most High.**

**Jesus, by your presentation, when they blessed you, weak and poor,
Makes us see our great salvation, seal us with your promise sure,
And present us in your glory to your Father, cleansed and pure.**

**Prince and author of salvation, be your boundless love our theme!
Jesus, praise to you be given, by the world you did redeem,
With the Father and the Spirit, Lord of majesty supreme. Amen**

Words: Vss 1-3 Henry J Pye 1825-1903, Vs 4 William Cooke 1821-1894

Music: Plainchant from Stonyhurst ms 1751

At the end of the Blessing of the Gifts please respond

Blessed be God forever

We sit or stand

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you
And also with you

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

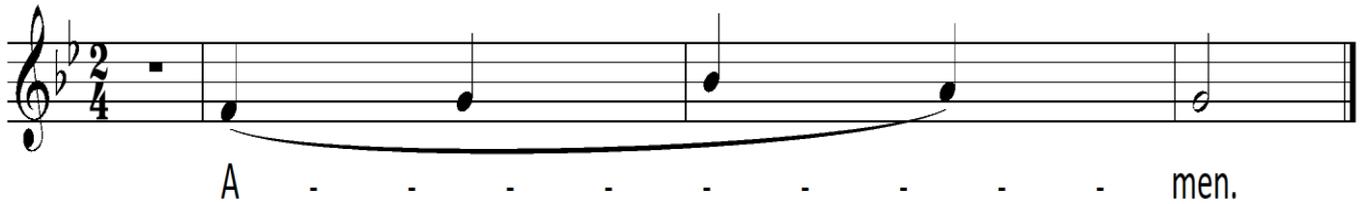
The priest praises God for his mighty acts and at the end we sing

4
Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of po-wer and might,—
10
Hea-ven and earth are full of your glo-ry; ho-san-na
17
in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the name
26
of the Lord Ho-san-na in the high-est.

The priest continues with the prayer which recalls the Last Supper, after the elevation the priest says, 'Great is the mystery of Faith'

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come a-gain.

The prayer continues and concludes with the doxology where we respond,



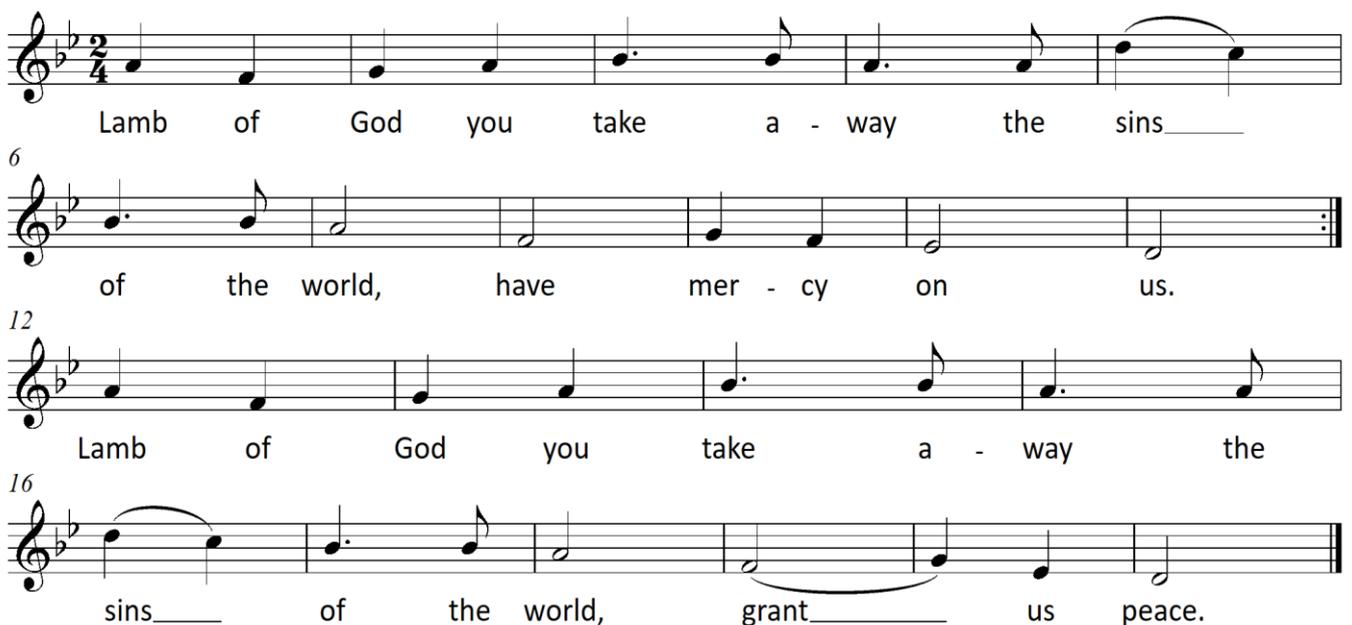
THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.
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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The Priest breaks the consecrated bread

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.
Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.



The Giving of Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
But only say the word and I shall be healed.**

Draw near with faith. Receive the Body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his Blood which he shed for you. Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Please sit and wait to be directed for Communion.

*The sacrament will be administered to the congregation in both kinds. As the priest offers you the host with the words 'The Body of Christ' please respond **Amen**.*

As you are offered the chalice, please remember you won't be permitted to handle the sides of the chalice only the base.

*When you are offered the chalice to take a sip with the words 'The Blood of Christ,' please respond **Amen**.*

You will not be permitted to 'dip' the host into the chalice and must consume the host before receiving wine from the chalice. There is no need now to return to your seat with the host in your hands.

During the distribution of Communion

Andantino

Vincenzo Antonio Petrali 1832-1889

Reflection

**Now Let your servant go in peace, for praise and blessing here increase,
For in our midst your word is done and you have sent your Promised One.**

**Before the peoples you prepare your way of life which all may share.
Your saving power is now made known, among the nations love is shown.**

**Child, you are chosen as a sign to test the human heart and mind,
For secrets hiding in the night shall be revealed in piercing light.**

**Now let us sing our Saviour's praise, and tell God's goodness all our days,
While breath is ours, let praise be heard for God's own faithful, saving word.**

Words: based on Lk 2:22-28 Ruth M Duck b. 1947, Music: Thomas Tallis 1505-1585

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The Priest prays the post-communion prayer followed by

**Father of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared
your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share
Christ's Body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we
whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you
have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole
earth live to praise your name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

NOTICES

THE DISMISSAL

Please stand

The priest gives the blessing.

Amen.

We go into the world to walk in God's light,
to rejoice in God's love,
and to reflect God's glory.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

Recessional Hymn

**Of the Father's love begotten, ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega, He the source, the ending he,
Of all things that are and have been and that future years shall see,
Evermore and evermore.**

**By his word was all created, He commanded; it was done.
Heaven and earth and depth of ocean, Universe of three in one,
All that grows beneath the shining of the light of moon and sun:
Evermore and evermore.**

**Blessed was the day for ever when the Virgin, full of grace,
By the Holy Ghost conceiving, bore the Saviour of our race,
And the child, the world's Redeemer, first revealed his sacred face:
Evermore and evermore.**

**O, ye heights of heaven, adore him, angels and archangels sing!
Every creature bow before him singing praise to God our King,
Let no earthly tongue be silent, all the world with homage ring:
Evermore and evermore.**

**He, by prophets sung, is here now, promised since the world began,
Now on earth in flesh descended to atone for sins of man.
All creation praise its Master, see fulfilment of his plan:
Evermore and evermore.**

**Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son,
Glory to the Holy Spirit, Persons three, yet Godhead one.
Glory be from all creation while eternal ages run:
Evermore and evermore. Amen**

Words: Aurelius Clemens Prudentius 348-413 tr. John Mason Neale 1818-1866 Henry W Baker 1823-1877, Music: 13th Century Plainchant harm: Redmund Shaw

Postlude: Toccata in G Minor

Johann Pachelbel 1653-1706

Johann Pachelbel was an important figure from the Baroque period and is seen as central to the development of both keyboard music and Protestant Church music. His very popular, Canon in D major, for three violins and continuo may be his most well-known work but his primary contribution to liturgical music, arguably, is the uniting of Catholic Gregorian chant elements with the Northern German organ style, a style that reflected the influence of the Protestant chorale. A Lutheran, Pachelbel composed a large body of sacred and secular music and was exposed to the music of Froberger and Frescobaldi, which influenced his work with the chorale-prelude. His music in this genre would, in turn, influence the compositions of Johann Sebastian Bach, among others.

Thank you for joining in our worship today.

You can now make *contactless donations* to St Margaret's using the GoodBox, and GoodPlate by the North or West Door.

Online donations can be made at www.ifieldparish.org



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Notices

Service next Sunday:

Said Eucharistic Service (8.00 am)

Sung Eucharistic Service (11.00 am)

and on Facebook and the parish website www.ifieldparish.org

I would like to invite everyone in the diocese to keep 2023 as a year of the Old Testament. Next year is the first of two special years [2024 will be the Year of the New Testament] leading up to the 2025 which we will keep as a special Year of Faith.

2025 celebrates 1700 years since the Council of Nicaea which gave us what became the Nicene Creed. It also marks 950 years of Christian mission in a diocese based in Chichester. Hence why the three-year programme is known as Proclaiming the Mystery of Faith.

The Year of the Old Testament will reflect on the Hebrew Scriptures. We will seek to understand the Law, the Prophets and the Writings in their original context, and see more clearly how they point us towards Jesus Christ and the gospel, and to our own knowledge of him in the history of his body, the Church.

The Old Testament speaks repeatedly of God as One and as Holy. So we hope that this Year will help us to understand how the Old Testament guides the Church to be 'one' and 'holy': the first two of the 'marks of the Church' and part of our diocesan strategy.

+ Martin

