*Eucharist for Sunday Next Before Lent, Year B, 14.02.2021*

**The Gathering**

**Hymn** Christ whose glory fills the skies

The president may say

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

**The Greeting**

The president greets the people

The Lord be with you

and also with you.

Words of welcome or introduction may be said.

**Prayers of Penitence**

**Invitation to confession**

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ to save us from our sins, to be our advocate in heaven, and to bring us to eternal life.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God’s commandments  
and to live in love and peace with all.

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.

The president says

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.

**Gloria in Excelsis**

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Father.

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Father.**

To God be glory forever. **To God be glory forever.**

Alleluia, amen. **Alleluia, amen. Alleluia, amen. Alleluia, amen.**

Glory to God, glory to God, Son of the Father.

**Glory to God, glory to God, Son of the Father.**

To God be glory forever. **To God be glory forever.**

Alleluia, amen. **Alleluia, amen. Alleluia, amen. Alleluia, amen.**

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Spirit.

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Spirit.**

To God be glory forever. **To God be glory forever.**

Alleluia, amen. **Alleluia, amen. Alleluia, amen. Alleluia, amen.**

**The Collect**

Let us pray

Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty  
before he suffered death upon the cross: give us grace to perceive his glory,  
that we may be strengthened to suffer with him  
and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory;   
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**The Liturgy of the Word**

**First Reading**

2 Kings 2.1-12

When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, ‘Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel.’ But Elisha said, ‘As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.’ So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, ‘Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?’ And he said, ‘Yes, I know; keep silent.’ Elijah said to him, ‘Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho.’ But he said, ‘As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.’ So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, ‘Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?’ And he answered, ‘Yes, I know; be silent.’ Then Elijah said to him, ‘Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.’ But he said, ‘As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.’ So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground. When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, ‘Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.’ Elisha said, ‘Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.’ He responded, ‘You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.’ As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, ‘Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!’ But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

**Second Reading**

2 Corinthians 4.3-6

Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus’ sake. For it is the God who said, ‘Let light shine out of darkness,’ who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

**Gospel Reading**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Mark 9.2-9

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, ‘Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.’ He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, ‘This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!’ Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

**Sermon**

The president says

Let us declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**The Creed**

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**

*In the Diocesan Prayer Diary, we pray for the EAST GREENWICH TEAM MINISTRY: Margaret Cave (TR) (AD); Jane Petrie (TV); Dominic Hubbuck (AsstP); John Philpott- Howard (AsstP); Cynthia Finnerty (PTO); Barbara Moss (PTO); Tim Cave (Reader); Julie Mason (Reader); Esther Whittlesea Reed (Reader); Christ Church, St Andrew and St Michael, East Greenwich; St George, Westcombe Park; Holy Trinity, Greenwich Peninsula; Koinonia CofE Schools Federation with Christ Church CofE Primary School, St Mary Magdalene CofE All-Through School and St Mary Magdalene CofE Sixth Form*

*In the Anglican Communion Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Bishops, priests and people of the Anglican Church of Canada*

In the Christ Church Cycle of Prayer, we pray for all those who live in Barrington Villas and in Bell Street. We also pray for Frank Olding, Ruth Saphill and Lesley Drake, whose year’s mind falls at this time.

The response to the prayers is: Let us worship God **in the beauty of holiness**

Let us pray to the God of glory, revealed to us in his Son, Jesus.

God, lengthen and deepen our attention span as we, your people,

listen to your beloved Son, so that we do not fail to hear his will for us

or share his longing for the world to be saved.

Let us worship God

**in the beauty of holiness**

God, with such humility you entered the world to save it through love’s giving;

increase our desire to enter into one another’s suffering and hardship,

to share the world’s resources fairly with one another,

and recognise all humanity as brothers and sisters.

Let us worship God

**in the beauty of holiness**

God, let us not take one another from granted, but wake each morning ready to notice the Christ in each person we see and speak to; and reverence your hidden presence in all creation.

Let us worship God

**in the beauty of holiness**

God, in our prayer we stand alongside all who are too weak to pray, or too confused;

may all who are suffering sense your love and comfort

and be given strength to persevere, and peace of mind and spirit.

Let us worship God

**in the beauty of holiness**

Father, we commend to your eternal presence those who have recently died,

that they may rest in peace and rise in glory.

Let us worship God

**in the beauty of holiness**

God, thank you for providing always

the encouragement and inspiration we need for the work you would have us do;

give us the grace to trust your will for us and walk forward boldly in your company.

Merciful Father,

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

**The Liturgy of the Sacrament**

**The Peace**

The peace of the Lord be always with you

and also with you.

**Hymn God is working his purpose out**

*Prayer at the preparation of the altar.*

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this bread to set before you, which earth has given and human hands have made.

It will become for us the bread of life.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:

through your goodness we have this wine to set before you,

fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become for us the cup of salvation.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

**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.**

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy, at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise, holy Father, heavenly King, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

*For he is your living Word; through him you have created all things from the beginning,*

*and formed us in your own image. Through him you have freed us from the slavery of sin,*

*giving him to be born of a woman and to die upon the cross; you raised him from the dead and exalted him to your right hand on high. Through him you have sent upon us your holy and life-giving Spirit, and made us a people for your own possession.*

Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven,

we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,

and as we follow his example and obey his command, grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks;

he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying:

Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,

which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Therefore, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross; we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; we look for the coming of your kingdom, and with this bread and this cup we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.**

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,

and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty,

renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Through him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

*The Lord's Prayer*

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;**

**thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,**

**for ever and ever. Amen.**

*The president 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.**

*Agnus Dei*

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us peace.**

*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.**

*Quiet Music: Santo santo*

*Prayer after Communion*

God of all grace, your Son Jesus Christ fed the hungry with the bread of his life  
and the word of his kingdom: renew your people with your heavenly grace,  
and in all our weakness sustain us by your true and living bread;  
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Then we pray together:*

**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. 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.**

*The Dismissal*

God give you grace to follow his saints in faith and hope and love;  
and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

*Hymn Lord, the light of your love is shining*