



ST GILES CHURCH HORSTED KEYNES

Rector: The Revd. David Murdoch

Curate: The Revd. Peter Sutton

Sunday next before Lent

11th February 2024

Welcome to St Giles Church as we praise God and thank Him for his goodness towards us as we celebrate the birth of His Son, Jesus Christ. We hope you will join us as we share fellowship over tea and coffee at the end of the Eucharist.

ENTRANCE HYMN: 60 Be still for the presence of the Lord

Please remain standing at the end of the hymn

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

All: Amen.

Priest: The Lord be with you

All: and also with you.

The Priest introduces the celebration and invites everyone to confess their sins

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.**

Priest Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy on 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.

All **Amen.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

All: **Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest,
Glory to God in the highest and peace to his people on earth,
Lord God, Heav'nly King, almighty God and Father, we worship
you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father.
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have
mercy on us.
You are seated at the right hand of the Father, receive our prayer.
Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone
are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in the glory of
God the Father.
Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest.**

COLLECT

Priest: 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.

All: Amen.

Please sit

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

THE PILGRIM COURSE

Turning to Christ: a course for the Christian Journey

Our Lent Course this year is a course which will help us learn more about the Christian Faith. There are 2 options available, one on Wednesday evenings at the Martindale Centre at 7.30p.m. and one on Thursdays at 2.00p.m. at 20, Hamsland with the Life and Faith Group. Booklets will be available at each group. All welcome!

STATIONS OF THE CROSS 5.00p.m. in church each Saturday from 17th February to 23rd March

Come and join us for a short time of reflection as we follow the events of the last hours of Jesus' time on earth with scripture readings, meditations and prayers and recognise their meaning in our lives today.

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.

All: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 50:1-6 with the Response: Our God will come and will not keep silence.

The Lord, the God of gods, has spoken; he has called the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting. Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty, God reveals himself in glory. **R**

Our God will come and will not keep silence, before him there is a devouring flame, and round about him a raging storm. He calls the heavens and the earth from above to witness the judgement of his people. **R**

"Gather before me my loyal followers, those who have made a covenant with me and sealed it with sacrifice!" Let the heavens declare his rightness of his cause, for God himself is judge. **R**

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.

All: Thanks be to God.

Please stand

HYMN 93 Christ whose glory fills the skies

All: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All and also with you.

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

All: 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 Christ.

All: Praise to Christ our Lord.

All: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

THIS WEEK AT ST. GILES

MONDAY 12 th	10.00a.m. Prayer for the Annex
TUESDAY 13 th	3.30p.m. HKafe in the Martindale
WEDNESDAY 14 th	9.30a.m. First Steps in the Martindale
ASH WEDNESDAY	10.00a.m. Sung Eucharist in Church
THURSDAY 15 th	2.00p.m. Faith and Life Group
SUNDAY 21st February	Lent 1
8.00a.m.	Holy Communion (Said)
10.00a.m.	Parish Eucharist (Sung)

Father David's working days this week are Tuesday afternoon to Friday morning. If you need to speak to him when he is not there, please leave a telephone message (790317) or email on revdave@timicomail.co.uk For urgent matters call one of our wardens Barbara Fairweather, 01825 790375 or John Whiting, 01825 791132

Father Peter is available to us in the parish for two days per week. Key working times will often be Sunday morning and some part of Wednesdays and Fridays, but it will, of course, be flexible as to what is happening that week. He may also be contacted on dedicated parish phone & email, but please bear in mind he may not be able to respond immediately – His contact details are frpetersutton@outlook.com or 07936 021801

PLEASE PRAY FOR

In our community: for all who live in Danehill Lane, All members of the Cricket Club, St Giles School, its pupils, families, staff and governors.

For healing: Pam Brimfield, Roger & Kim Chaplin, Emmeline, Peter Farr, Clive Hills, Jenny Johnson James Lassis, Esme McNaughton, Pam and John Newman, Linda Owen, Elaine Seears, Janet Slater, Ann Statham. Benjamin True

Recently departed: Dylan Oakley, Geoff Pink, Romaine Pike, Linda Pipe

Anniversaries of death: Rosemary Nott, Maureen Barr, Patricia Bowron

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Priest We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All **Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.**

THE GIVING OF COMMUNION

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

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

The priest and people receive Holy Communion or a Blessing.

The Body/Blood of Christ. **Amen** (said before receiving)

Silence is kept, after which we are invited to stand.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Priest Let us pray

Holy God, we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ:
may we who are partakers at his table,
reflect his life in word and deed,
that all the world may know his power to change and save.
This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

NOTICES

BLESSING

Priest: The Lord be with you

All **And also with you.**

Priest Christ the Son of God perfect in you the image of his glory and
gladden your hearts with the good news of his kingdom; and the
blessing of God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among
you and remain with you always.

All **Amen**

Priest Go in the peace of Christ.

All **Thanks be to God.**

FINAL HYMN 11 Alleluia, sing to Jesus

SERMON – *followed by music for reflection.*

CREED *(please stand)*

All: **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.

INTERCESSIONS *(please kneel or sit)*

Reader: Lord, hear us

All: **Lord, graciously hear us**

At the end: Merciful Father,

All: **Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen**

THE PEACE *(please stand)*

Priest Our Saviour Christ is the Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there shall be no end.
The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

All and also with you.

Priest Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

OFFERTORY HYMN

During the singing of this hymn, a collection is taken. Our charitable Collection for January and February is in support of St. Peter and St. James Hospice. Please put any donations into the orange envelopes and Gift Aid, if appropriate. There is a machine for electronic donations at the back of church. The elements of bread and wine are placed upon the altar.

**'Tis good, Lord, to be here,
thy glory fills the night;
thy face and garments, like the sun,
shine with unborrowed light.**

**'Tis good, Lord, to be here,
thy beauty to behold
where Moses and Elijah stand,
thy messengers of old.**

**Fulfiller of the past!
Promise of things to be,
we hail thy body glorified
and our redemption see.**

**Before we taste of death,
we see thy kingdom come;
we fain would hold the vision bright
and make this hill our home.**

**'Tis good, Lord, to be here.
yet we may not remain;
but since thou bidst us leave the mount,
come with us to the plain.**

Please remain standing after the hymn as the priest says the prayer over the gifts.

Accept our offerings, O Lord, we pray and in sanctifying them grant that they may profit us for salvation. Through Christ our Lord.

All Amen

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Priest The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

The priest sings God's praise in the preface.

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

Please kneel or sit.

The priest continues with the prayers of consecration until this acclamation:

Priest: Great is the mystery of faith:

All: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

At the end of the Eucharistic prayer, we respond:

All: Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**All 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**