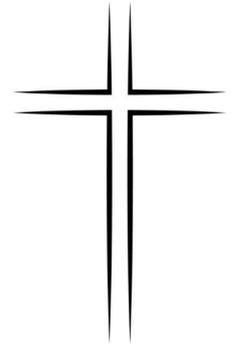


The Second Sunday of Christmas - 3rd January 2021



The Lord be with you
and also with you.

The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together.
Isaiah 40 verse 5

Beloved in Christ, we come together to offer to Almighty God our worship and praise and thanksgiving, to confess our sins and to receive God's forgiveness, to hear his holy word proclaimed, to bring before him our needs and the needs of the world, and to pray that in the power of his Spirit we may serve him and know the greatness of his love.

Let us confess our sins to God our Father. Kneel.
The sun of righteousness has dawned with healing in his wings. Malachi 4: 2
Let us come to the light of Christ, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

Silence is kept.

Turn to us again, O God our saviour, and let your anger cease from us:
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Show us your compassion, O Lord, and grant us your salvation:
Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Your salvation is near for those that fear you, that glory may dwell in our land:
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

The priest pronounces the absolution.
Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy on you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Proclaiming and Receiving the Word - We stand together

O Lord, open our lips
and our mouth will proclaim your praise.

God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be for ever. Amen.

Praise the Lord.

The Lord's name be praised.

Psalm 147 verses 13-21

Sing praise to the Lord, O Jerusalem;
praise your God, O Zion;
For he has strengthened the bars of your gates
and has blest your children within you.
He has established peace in your borders
and satisfies you with the finest wheat.
He sends forth his command to the earth
and his word runs very swiftly.
He gives snow like wool
and scatters the hoarfrost like ashes.
He casts down his hailstones like morsels of bread;
who can endure his frost?
He sends forth his word and melts them;

he blows with his wind and the waters flow.

He declares his word to Jacob,

his statutes and judgements to Israel.

He has not dealt so with any other nation;

they do not know his laws. Alleluia.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be for ever. Amen.

The First lesson : Ephesians 1: 3-14

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ* before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance,* having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this* is the pledge of our inheritance towards redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

The Canticle : Jubilate - Psalm 100

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness;

come into his presence with singing.

Know that the Lord is God.

It is he that made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise.

Give thanks to him, bless his name.

For the Lord is good;

his steadfast love endures for ever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be for ever. Amen.

The Second Lesson: John 1: 1-9, 10-18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life,* and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.*

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own,* and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son,* full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, 'This was he of whom I said, "He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me." ') From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth

came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son,* who is close to the Father's heart,* who has made him known.

Alleluia, alleluia. Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia.

Sermon - Canon Michael Parker

The Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Let us pray - we kneel together

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

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.

Show us your mercy, O Lord,
and grant us your salvation.
O Lord, save the Queen
and grant her government wisdom.
Let your ministers be clothed with righteousness
and let your servants shout for joy.
O Lord, save your people
and bless those whom you have chosen.
Give peace in our time, O Lord,
and let your glory be over all the earth.
O God, make clean our hearts within us
and renew us by your Holy Spirit.

The Collect for the 2nd Sunday of Christmas

Almighty God, in the birth of your Son you have poured on us the new light of your incarnate Word, and shown us the fullness of your love: Help us to walk in this light and dwell in his love that we may know the fullness of his joy; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Heavenly Father, in whom we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray that your Holy Spirit may so guide and govern us that in all the cares and occupations of our daily life, we may never forget your presence but may remember that we are always walking in your sight, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

As we close our prayers we keep silence.

May God the Holy Spirit make us steadfast in faith, joyful in hope and constant in love. And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you now and always. **Amen.**

As we await our coming Saviour, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

Parish Notices

For folks at home. Google St Gall's Church to find our parish website. Put 'St Gall's Church' into YouTube and 'Like' and 'Subscribe' to the St Gall's channel.

Our Church Office had reopened with our three volunteers. Through this next six week lockdown they will be working from home. Nanette, Mary and Helen have been reaching out and getting in touch. Our office ministry in the coming weeks will be all about reaching out and getting in touch by phone. Would you like a chat? Or know someone who would? You can contact Nanette on 91459756. Would you like someone to be prayed for? Is there someone in your family who is ill or in need of prayer? Get in touch with the team and they will pray for them.

Up-Coming Services in Church

Subject to any changes due to lockdown developments. Online services still available.

10th January - 10 a.m. - Morning Prayer

17th January - 10 a.m. - Morning Prayer

23rd January - 10 a.m. - Morning Prayer

31st January - 10 a.m. - Morning Prayer

7th February - 10 a.m. Parish Communion

This service should follow the successful format used on Christmas Eve. Bring your own bread and wine along and share in the Eucharist.