

St Michael's Birchwood and St John's
Lemsford
in the Bishop's Hatfield Team
Ministry

Morning Prayer

A congregational version based on
The Book of Common Prayer

Processional hymn (if available)

Welcome

Introduction

We are come together in the presence of Almighty God, and of the whole company of heaven, to offer unto him through our Lord Jesus Christ our worship and praise and thanksgiving; to make confession of our sins ; to pray, as well for others as for ourselves, that we may know more truly the greatness of God's love, and shew forth in our lives the fruits of his grace; and to ask, on behalf of all people, such things as their well-being doth require. Wherefore let us kneel or sit in silence and remember God's presence with us now.

Confession:

(kneel or sit)

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against thy holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done, and there is no health in us. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare thou them, O God, which confess their faults. Restore thou them that are penitent;

according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesu our Lord.

And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy name. Amen.

Words of absolution: we hear God's forgiveness, spoken by the minister. All **Amen**.

O Lord, open thou our lips and our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

(We stand)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Praise ye the Lord.

The Lord's name be praised

Readings

New Testament

1 Corinthians 1.18-25

¹⁸ For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written,

'I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.'

²⁰ Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²² For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³ but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling-block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength

GOSPEL

John 2.13-22

13 The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money-changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, 'Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!' ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, 'Zeal for your house will consume me.' ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, 'What sign can you show us for doing this?' ¹⁹Jesus answered them, 'Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.' ²⁰The Jews then said, 'This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?' ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken

The Apostles ' Creed: (We stand)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth:
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I
believe in the Holy Ghost; 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. All And with thy spirit.

Let us pray
(sit or kneel)

Lord, have mercy upon us.

All: Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Lord's Prayer

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, f
or ever and ever. Amen.

O shew thy mercy upon us.

All: And grant us thy salvation.

O Lord, save the Queen.

All: And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Endue thy ministers with righteousness. All And make thy chosen people joyful. O Lord, save thy people.

All: And bless thine inheritance.

Give peace in our time, O Lord.

All: Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.

O God, make clean our hearts within us. All And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

The minister reads the collect for the day, and then the collects for peace and grace:

Almighty God,
whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain,
and entered not into glory before he was crucified:
mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross,
may find it none other than the way of life and peace;

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Let your merciful ears, O Lord,
be open to the prayers of your humble
servants;
and that they may obtain their petitions
make them to ask such things as shall please
you;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

O GOD, who art the author of peace and lover of
concord, in knowledge of whom standeth our
eternal life, whose service is perfect freedom;
Defend us thy humble servants in all assaults of
our enemies; that we, surely trusting in thy
defence, may not fear the power of any
adversaries, through the might of Jesus Christ our
Lord. Amen.

O LORD, our heavenly Father, almighty and
everlasting God, who hast safely brought us to
the beginning of this day; defend us in the same
with thy mighty power; and grant that this day
we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of
danger; but that all our doings may be ordered by
thy governance, to do always that is righteous in
thy sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS today our intercessions will be the lovely hymn Beauty for brokenness

Prayers for the Church, the world, and people in
need - led by a member of the congregation, and
concluding:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

The Sermon

Notices

Hymn

The Blessing

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