



St Anne with Holy Trinity, Brondesbury

Confidently sharing the love of Christ

**Last Sunday before Lent
11th February 2024**

Welcome to St Anne's today—it is great to have you with us. St Anne's is the local Church of England parish church and we are a very diverse group of people. We hope that you will feel welcome in our worship today. If you are new, please do say hello—we would love to get to know you. If you are unsure where to find something, or about what is going on, please do ask. We will be happy to help.

Our worship style is quite formal, but we hope relaxed—as we come to worship God in our midst.

All the words for the service will be on the screens at the front however, if you would prefer to have a printed copy in your hands, there are hymn books and service sheets at the back.

*Please stand as the bell is rung as we sing our opening
Hymn **524 – Name of all Majesty***

We meet in the name of God who is (+) Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

The President will introduce the service.

We make our confession for those things which separate us from God and from one another.

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.

Silence is kept

**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.**

We sing together.

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

We are reminded of God's forgiveness.

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.**

We lift our voices in thanksgiving in the words of the Gloria.

**Refrain: 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, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship You we give You thanks,
we praise You for your glory. Refrain:**

**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. Refrain:**

**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. Refrain.**

The Priest introduces a period of silent prayer before the collect.

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.**

Liturgy of the Word *(please sit as the young people leave us for
their lessons. We hear a reading from the Old Testament.*

*Second Kings 2 begins with one of the most dramatic openings in
the scriptures; casually mentioning that God's plan to sweep Elijah
away to heaven in a whirlwind was already afoot.*

*The story looms large with the miraculous and the impossible,
bearing witness to the limitless power of God. The account may
intentionally build upon the ancestral account of Enoch and his
previously unparalleled ascent to heaven in Genesis 5:24.*

*Underneath all of the supernatural occurrences is a narrative about
the continuity of the community after a transition of leadership,
particularly after a great and incomparable leader.*

*A reading from the second Book of Kings
(2 Kings 2: 1-12)*

Now 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.

We hear a reading from the New Testament.

Today's reading, 2 Corinthians 4:3-6, gives us profound insight into how we are transfigured by a double manifestation — of the Messiah's glory as the image of God and of God's glory in the face

of Jesus the Messiah.

*Our clue for interpreting this text is found in the preceding verses. In 2 Corinthians 3:18, Paul speaks about how — through the Spirit of the Lord — all of us, with “unveiled faces,” can “behold” and “reflect” the glory of the Lord as in a mirror. (The Greek *kataprizomai* can mean both “to behold” and “to reflect.”) As this happens, we are “transformed” into that image, from one degree of glory to another.*

A reading from the second letter to the Corinthians
(2 Corinthians 4: 3-6)

And 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.

*We sing our **Gradual Hymn 507 – Meekness and Majesty** during which we stand for the Gospel procession.*

Every time we gather for worship (these days, distant from each other in person or on a screen), we are the disciples on the mountain seeing the rabbi—the carpenter from Nazareth who became our teacher—bathed in light.

At first, it seems, Jesus and Peter, James, and John are out for a hike. A high mountain: the sort of place eager mountaineers might yearn to scale for the vista. Then everything changes.

The vision the disciples behold removes the veil of Jesus’ humanness to reveal his divinity: wondrous, frightening, powerful, unexpected, and rich, connecting all ages (the prophets Elijah and Moses with Jesus), giving enlightenment. His external appearance is utterly changed.

Jesus' transfiguration is not to be approached with the assumption that we can understand it. It means to draw us in toward what is abnormal, unnatural—like the burning fire that does not consume the bush and like the fire Elijah hoped for and received from God on the altar drenched in water to win the wager against the prophets of Baal (Elijah's story in 1 Kings 18). The Transfiguration places Jesus in the lineage and honour of the two prophets who stand beside him on the mountain.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

(Mark 9:2-9)

Six days later, 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.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

We sit to listen to the sermon. After the sermon silence is kept.

We stand to affirm our faith:

Let us declare our faith in God.

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.
We believe in God the Son,**

**who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.
We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us with power from on high.
We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

*We sit as we prayer for the Church, the World and for this community.
A member of the congregation will lead these
After the biddings we pray*

Lord in your mercy
Hear our prayer

Rest Eternal Grant unto them O Lord
And let light perpetual shine upon them
May they rest in peace
And rise in glory

At the conclusion of the prayers

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

Liturgy of the Sacrament (please stand)

Blessed are the peacemakers:
they shall be called children of God.
We meet in the name of Christ and share his peace.
The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

*We share the peace with those around us in a way we are
comfortable until the offertory Hymn is announced.
We sing Hymn 62 – Be still for the presence of the Lord
during which a collection is taken.*

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 Lord be with you,
And also with you.

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

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

The preface continues until we sing.

**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.**

After the Consecration :

Great is the mystery of faith
**Christ has died: Christ is risen:
Christ will come again**

*At the end of the Eucharistic Prayer we sing **Amen.***

We join in the prayer that Jesus taught his friends to say in our preferred version and language.

**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 president breaks the consecrated bread.

We break the bread of life,
and that life is the light of the world.
**God here among us, light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life**

We sing the Agnus Dei.

**Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us
Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us
Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world,
grant us peace.**

The Elevation

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.
**Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father**

*We receive communion. All who would normally receive are welcome to, and you may choose if you are ready to receive the chalice. We receive God's grace in one kind or two. **(Please do not intinct (dip)).** You may also like to come forward for a blessing; and you may wish to light a candle. During communion we listen to Sam play.*

At the end of communion, the priest will lead us in a period of silence, and then a short prayer:

Holy God,

we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ:
may we who reflect his life in word and deed,
that all the world may know his power to change and save;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

We listen to the notices about our community life.

A blessing is offered

The Lord be with you
And also with you

The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing; 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 the peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

*We join in singing our **final hymn – 798 We have a Gospel to
proclaim** omit verse 5 during which the clergy depart.*

You are invited to join us for refreshments downstairs.

Our Community Life Together and Dates for your Diary

Laurence's Larder

As you know Laurence's Larder is back in full swing serving meals every Thursday, and providing some food bags as well. They continue to welcome Tuna but can also use **sardines and long life milk** – though any non perishable everyday food items are great!

Monthly Gardening Morning

A huge thank you for all who helped with Gardening yesterday. Our next scheduled gardening Morning is Saturday 9th March. (which is the second Saturday of the month). Weather permitting! Come along anytime between 10am and 12noon and help keep our garden beautiful.

Mother Christine's Study leave

We are very happy that Mother Christine has the opportunity to take study leave from the 14th February until 9th May 2024. This will be a time of refreshment and we hope inspiration. We are looking for a few people who might fill some of the gaps while she is on leave. If you think you might be able to help, please speak to Mo C or one of the wardens. Tasks include regular washing of altar linen, to supporting Henri at My Move, supporting tea and chat, tidying up after services and keeping an eye on the church.

There will also be some changes during the time that Mo C is away. Three you need to be aware of are:

1. There will be no in person weekday morning prayer, though Tuesday morning prayer will be offered on zoom.
2. Our 1st Sunday Zoom service will conclude after the February service.
3. Tea and Chat will move to being the 2nd and 4th Friday's of the month.

Finance—St Anne's

Our current monthly target for congregational giving is **£2180**. In December we raised £2063. Thank you to everyone for your generosity!

Revision of Electoral Roll

In preparation for our Annual Parish Meeting on the 17th March we need to update our Electoral Roll. This is not a full revision, so if you are already on the roll, you do not need to do anything. If you are a regular at St Anne's and have not signed up, please complete a form which you can collect from the back of church.

St Paul's Adult Learning

St Paul's Cathedral runs a year-round social justice and Christian spirituality programme. Some of these events are in person, and others take place online. You can also access the archive of previous sessions and articles. See more at

<https://www.stpauls.co.uk/events-spirituality-and-social-justice>

Lent and Ash Wednesday

Lent starts this year on **Ash Wednesday – 14th February** and will run till Easter Sunday on the 31st March 2024. Lent is a time when we focus our discipleship, meditation and prayer as we prepare for Easter. Instead of a Lent group this year we are inviting members of the congregation to gather in **small listening groups**. You will need to identify 3 or 4 people you would like to meet with once a week for 4 weeks. Materials to guide your reflection and discussion will be provided.

A guide to Lent is available at the back of church, there are also a small number of Lent devotion books for those who would like to use them.



For our prayers— Peter, Olawale, Eunice, Marco, Irene, Patsy, Joyce, Guy and Renate, AnneMarie and Marion, Emma, Peter and Rhona, Florret, John and Josephine, Harriet, May, Mavis, Kay, Comfort, Jean, Pearl, Peter, Ruth, John and Cecilia. We remember those who have died recently and those whose anniversary of death falls at this time including Ian Cox, Alfred Turner, Joyce Bennett, Cedric Dean, Edith Richards, RenelSmith, Edward Garner, Terry Leathers and Roger Beane.

Services during the week 11th February 2024

Tuesday 8.30am Morning Prayer in Chapel and on Zoom

Wednesday 7pm Ash Wednesday Service

No groups due to half term this week.

Sunday 18th 9 am Morning Prayer in Chapel and Zoom

Lent 1 10am Sung Mass (*half term so no Sunday School*)

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