

DIOCESE OF CANTERBURY
Changed lives - Changing lives



ST LAURENCE CHURCH
All Age Family
Communion
6th February 2022

**Christingle (Candlemas)
Celebration and Thanksgiving
Service for the 70th Anniversary
of the Accession of Queen
Elizabeth II**

'Occasionally during the All Age Family services photographs are taken during this Service. If you do not wish your child to be included in these photographs please make your wishes known to Ali, Yo, Felicity or Sandra.'

The Zoom details for this service are:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88067391814?pwd=NVNzTnhlQ3F1cEJnVVBMUU5JKzICZz09>

Meeting ID: 880 6739 1814
Passcode: 009675

Please ensure that you are all wearing your face masks. Thank you.

As we gather and prepare to join in worship together, music is played on the organ.

I declare before you all that my whole life whether it be long or short shall be devoted to your service... But I shall not have strength to carry out this resolution alone unless you join in it with me, as I now invite you to do: I know that your support will be unfailingly given. God help me to make good my vow, and God bless all of you who are willing to share in it.

Princess Elizabeth, 21 April 1947

When I spoke to you last... I asked you all, whatever your religion, to pray for me on the day of my Coronation - to pray that God would give me wisdom and strength to carry out the promises that I should then be making... I have been uplifted and sustained by the knowledge that your thoughts and prayers were with me.

Her Majesty the Queen, Coronation Day, 2 June 1953

HYMN:

**The Spirit lives to set us free,
walk, walk in the light.
He binds us all in unity,
walk, walk in the light.
*Walk in the light,
walk in the light,
walk in the light,
walk in the light of the Lord.*
Jesus promised life to all,
walk, walk in the light.
the dead were wakened by his call.
walk, walk in the light.**

Walk

**He died in pain on Calvary,
walk, walk in the light.
to save the lost like you and me.
walk, walk in the light.**

Walk

**We know his death was not the
end,
walk, walk in the light.
He gave his Spirit to be our friend.
walk, walk in the light.**

Walk

**By Jesus' love our wounds are
healed,
walk, walk in the light.
the Father's kindness is revealed.
walk, walk in the light.**

Walk

**The Spirit lives in you and me,
walk, walk in the light.
His light will shine for all to see.
walk, walk in the light.**

Walk

Please sit:

GREETING AND WELCOME

Brothers and sisters in Christ, welcome to our Christingle Service today. We have come together in the presence of God our Father to rejoice in the gift of Jesus to us as the light of the world. In this service we hear and receive the story and message of the coming of Christ, and we offer to God our thanksgiving in prayer and song.

We gather also to remember the accession of her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II to the throne on this day, seventy years ago

The Christingle speaks of the world in which we live, and we pray today for all Christians, that we may be mirrors of the light of Christ in the world; for those who do not know the light of Christ in their lives; for those who bear responsibility in our world for government, education, commerce, and communication; for all children and for young people who lack the basic necessities of food, shelter, and clothing; for those who are in special need, the sick and anxious, the lonely and fearful, and for those who are bereaved.

OPENING PRAYER

Almighty God, the fountain of all goodness, bless our Sovereign Lady, Queen Elizabeth, and all who are in authority under her; that they may order all things in wisdom and equity, righteousness and peace, to the honour and glory of your name and the good of your Church and people; 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. Amen.

READING – LUKE 2:22-40

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to

Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.'

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.'

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will

be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord,
Praise to you, O Christ

Reflection

We gather in a circle around the Church in preparation for the Lighting of the Christingles

HYMN

**The orange of Christingle
is like a little earth,
for the God who holds us in his
hands also gave our planet birth:**

***Yes, this is my Christingle
it tells of God above;
It is showing me this Christmas
about Jesus and his love
about Jesus and his love.***

**The four sticks of Christingle,
all loaded with good things,
They're the seasons four of every
year and the gifts that each one
brings:**

Yes, *this is*

**The ribbon of Christingle,
that circle of bright red,
it's the love of God for all the
world
and the blood that Jesus shed:**

Yes, *this is*

**The candle of Christingle
which burns so bright and clear,
it is life and hope for all the world
and it's Jesus who is here:**

Yes, *this is*

PRAYERS

On this feast of Candlemas,

We pray for the Commonwealth Nations as the Queen's Baton travels around the Commonwealth.

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ exchanged the glory of a heavenly throne for the form of a servant, we thank you that you have given Elizabeth our Queen a heart to serve her people, and have kept her devoted in this service beyond all who were before her: encourage us by her example to serve one another, and to seek the common good, until you call us all to reign with Christ in your eternal kingdom.

Come, Lord Jesus,
hear our prayer.

We pray for children growing up in families struggling to make ends meet.

Lord Jesus, it hurts to think about this. Part of us would rather not. We'd rather look away. Help us to reach out, and come alongside them. We thank you for the Christingle and the ribbon that represents your love wrapping itself around the world.

We ask you to wrap your loving arms around each child in need today. Be close to all the children we see on television screens in war torn areas who are frightened and do not have enough of the basic things they need.

Come, Lord Jesus,
hear our prayer.

We pray for the work of The Children's Society. Bless their projects to help children and their families.

Help them to continue to challenge us to care, give and speak up on behalf of others. Bless every area of their work. Uphold their staff in your love and may every child who comes into contact with them continue to receive the love and practical care they need.

Come, Lord Jesus,
hear our prayer.

We pray for the work of The Children's Society to raise awareness about those in difficult

situations, and explain the effects new policies might have on those children who don't have a voice. Help those with power to hear what we are saying to put children and their childhoods above power, popularity or money.

Come, Lord Jesus,
hear our prayer.

We pray for ourselves and for our local community. We pray for our schools, and those in special need of our prayers. We can't love like you do in our own strength.

Come, Lord Jesus,
hear our prayer.

We pray for those who have died:
Those recently departed: Michael Hagger

And all those whose years' mind occur this month:

William Crouch, Michael French, Charles Bladon, Thomas Fitzpatrick, Jane Coleman, Michael Buss, Albert Collins, Victor Botha, Joan Maskell, Brian Kingcome, Martin Chubb, Desna Harries, Christobel Van der Hoeven, Leslie Corfield, Marjorie Addyman, Norman Sheldon, Christian Solari.

Merciful Father

Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ.

WE SHARE GOD'S PEACE

**Shalom, Shalom,
May peace be with you,
Throughout your days;
In all that you do,
May peace be with you,
Shalom, Shalom.
(Repeat)**

WE RETURN TO OUR SEATS

HYMN

*A collection in aid of the **Childrens' Society** will be made during the singing of this hymn*

**Round orange, round orange you
serve as a sign
That God made the round world
with purpose divine**

The power of love is always the same:

Be glad, give thanks, rejoice in God's name.

**Ripe fruits freely given, this truth
you recall,
When God hands out presents
they're meant for all.**

The power

**Red ribbon, you tell of the
bloodshed and pain
Which led to forgiveness when
Jesus was slain.**

The power

**Bright candle, the message you
carry is clear,
The true light from God found a
home with us here.**

The power

**Christingle, Christingle, shine out
in the night
To kindle among us that
marvellous light.**

The power

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER.

Please sit/kneel

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 him thanks and
praise**

**Why do we give thanks and praise
at this table?**

We give thanks for all that God has
done for us.

God the Father created the heavens,
the earth and everything in them;
and created us in his own image.

Let us give thanks and praise

Christ our Lord became human like
us, and died to save us.

Let us give thanks and praise

God sent the Holy Spirit to gather us
together as the people of God

Let us give thanks and praise

So come let us join together to
worship this God who loves

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.**

Please sit/kneel

We praise you Father that before
Jesus our Saviour suffered and died,
he gave us this holy meal to share
and told us to continue it until he
comes again.

**Why do we eat bread together at
this table?**

On the night before he died, Jesus
took bread. After giving thanks, he
broke it, and gave it to his disciples
saying, "Take, eat. This is my body,
given for you. Do this in
remembrance of me."

**Why do we drink from the cup
together at this table?**

In the same way after supper Jesus
took the cup, saying. "This cup is
God's new covenant sealed with my
blood, poured out for you for the
forgiveness of sins. Do this in
remembrance of me"

**What do we remember at this
table?**

We remember the Father's gracious
love for us, Christ's death and
resurrection for us, and the Spirit's
tender care for us.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

We sing:

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

Merciful Father, pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. In eating and drinking together may we be made one with Christ and with one another.

Amen.

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, for ever and
ever. Amen.**

We Share in Holy Communion.

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

**Though we are many, we are one
body**

We sing together

**Lamb of God, you take away the
sin of the world, have mercy on
us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the
sin of the world, have mercy on
us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the
sin of the world, grant us peace.**

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.**

**A Prayer for those joining us on
Zoom who are making their
Spiritual Communion**

**My Jesus, I believe that you are
present in the most Blessed
Sacrament. I love You above `all
things and I desire to receive you
into my soul. Since I cannot now
receive You sacramentally, come
at least spiritually into my heart. I
embrace You as if You were
already there, and unite myself
wholly to You. Never permit me to
be separated from You. Amen.**

COMMUNION HYMN

**Colours of day dawn into the
mind,
the sun has come up, the night is
behind.**

**Go down in the city, into the
street,
and let's give the message to the
people we meet.**

***So light up the fire and let the
flame burn,
open the door, let Jesus return.
Take seeds of his spirit, let the
fruit grow,***

tell the people of Jesus, let his love show.

**Go through the park, on into the town;
the sun still shines on, it never goes down.
The light of the world is risen again;
the people of darkness are needing our friend.
*So light up***

**Open your eyes, look into the sky,
the darkness has come, the sun came to die.
The evening draws on, the sun disappears,
but Jesus is living, and his Spirit is near.
*So light up***

FINAL PRAYER

God of time and eternity, whose Son reigns as servant, not master; we give you thanks and praise that you have blessed this Nation, the Realms and Territories with Elizabeth our beloved and glorious Queen. In this year of Jubilee, grant her your gifts of love and joy and peace as she continues in faithful obedience to you, her Lord and God and in devoted service to her lands and peoples, and those of the Commonwealth, now and all the days of her life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

BLESSING

May the light that is Jesus lead you always.
May your heart be more for the people around you than yourself.
May your resolve be to reach out in love and come alongside those in need with God's generous compassion. And may your life be a witness of the blessing that comes with giving, for the sake of all God's children, and for the glory of God's name. **Amen.**

HYMN

***This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.***

**The light that shines is the light of love,
Lights the darkness from above.
It shines on me and it shines on you,
And shows what the power of love can do.
I'm gonna shine my light both far and near,
I'm gonna shine my light both bright and clear.
Where there's a dark corner in this land
I'm gonna let my little light shine.
*This little light of mine...***

On Monday he gave me the gift of love,

Tuesday peace came from above.
On Wednesday he told me to
have more faith,
On Thursday he gave me a little
more grace.
Friday he told me just to watch
and pray,
Saturday he told me just what to
say.
On Sunday he gave me the power
divine
To let my little light shine.

*This little light of mine, I'm gonna
let it shine.*

*This little light of mine, I'm gonna
let it shine.*

*This little light of mine, I'm gonna
let it shine.*

*Let it shine, let it shine, let it
shine.*

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

Let us bless the Lord
Thanks be to God.

May the divine assistance remain
with us always.

**And with all our brothers and
sisters in Christ.**

May the souls of the faithful
departed through the mercy of God,
rest in peace.

And rise in glory. Amen

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM IS SUNG:

God save our gracious Queen!
Long live our noble Queen!
God save the Queen!
Send her victorious,
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us,
God save the Queen.

Thy choicest gifts in store
On her be pleased to pour,
Long may she reign.
May she defend our laws,
And ever give us cause,
To sing with heart and voice,
God save the Queen.

The Organ Voluntary

Please remain in your seats to
listen to the retiring organ voluntary.

AT YOUR SERVICE

Vicar: Fr. Rodney Dreyer
01580 754459

Churchwardens:
Miss Alison Jones
01580 755705

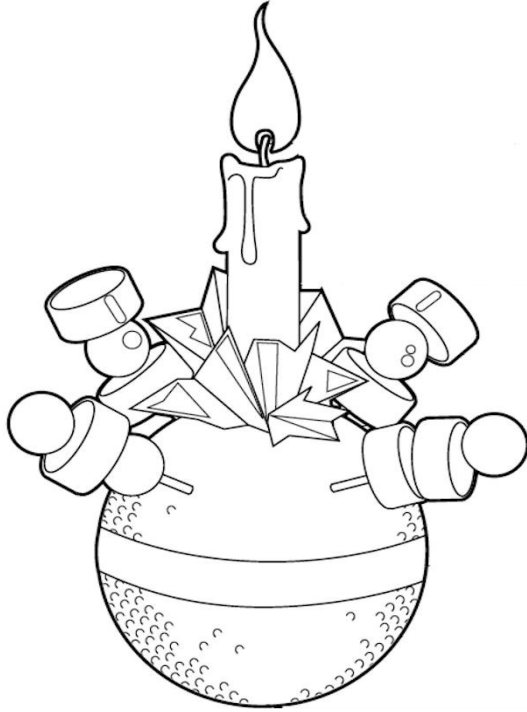
Mrs. Liz Hatcher
01580 712099

Organists:
Dr. Charlotte O' Neill
01580 753817

Mr. Richard O' Neill
01580 753817

Safeguarding:
Mrs Jane Cooper
07825044877





How many words can
you make from the
word CHRISTINGLE?

NOTICES

- Wednesday Eucharist at Bowles Lodge ~ 10.00a.m. Please do join us.
- Coffee After Church - If possible, please bring your own coffee cups/mugs to church on Sunday.
- Now that the permanent Faculty has been granted for the removal of some pews at the back of the Church, we are very happy to inform you that forty beautiful new oak chairs are due to be delivered in mid – March. We are so very thankful to those who paid for the chairs.
- If you would be interested in purchasing an engraved memorial plaque to be fixed on one of the new chairs, please let Father Rodney, Ali or Liz know. We are still sourcing a supplier so have no costs as yet.
- A huge ‘thank you’ to Mrs Kate Lagden for making a piano cover for the second grand piano which was given as a legacy from Miss Nancy Bennett.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2022 – a service for everyone will be held on **Friday 4 March at 7pm at St Laurence Church.**

World Day of Prayer is an international ecumenical organisation which enables women all over the world to share the ideas and concerns of the country writing the service. This year is a special year because the service has been written by England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The service will be followed by tea and coffee.