

The Blofield Benefice

Service for Sunday

14th February 2021



God who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.”

2 Corinthians.4.6

Opening prayer

Lord, direct our thoughts, and teach us to pray.
Lift up our hearts to worship you in spirit and in truth,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen

Hymn

- 1 Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true, the only light,
Sun of righteousness, arise,
Triumph o'er the shades of night;
Day-spring from on high, be near;
Day-star, in my heart appear.
- 2 Dark and cheerless is the morn
Unaccompanied by thee:
Joyless is the day's return,
Till thy mercy's beams I see,
Till they inward light impart,
Glad my eyes, and warm my heart.
- 3 Visit then this soul of mine;
Pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
Fill me, radiancy divine;
Scatter all my unbelief;
More and more thyself display,
Shining to the perfect day.

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)
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Prayer of Confession

The gospel calls us to turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ.

As we offer ourselves to him in repentance and faith, we renew our confidence and trust in his mercy.

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.

May almighty God,
who sent his Son into the world to save sinners,
bring *you* his pardon and peace, now and for ever.
Amen.

The Collect Prayer

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

A reading from the Gospel of Mark

The transfiguration *Mark 9.2-13*

² After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them. ³ His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them. ⁴ And there appeared before them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus.

⁵ Peter said to Jesus, 'Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters – one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' ⁶ (He did not know what to say, they were so frightened.)

⁷ Then a cloud appeared and covered them, and a voice came from the cloud: 'This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!'

⁸ Suddenly, when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus.

⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus gave them orders not to tell anyone what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead. ¹⁰ They kept the matter to themselves, discussing what 'rising from the dead' meant.

¹¹ And they asked him, 'Why do the teachers of the law say that Elijah must come first?'

¹² Jesus replied, 'To be sure, Elijah does come first, and restores all things. Why then is it written that the Son of

Man must suffer much and be rejected? ¹³ But I tell you, Elijah has come, and they have done to him everything they wished, just as it is written about him.'

After the reading this response is used

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Praise Song

(You may like to listen this song and join in the refrain in italics)

- 1 Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One is here;
Come bow before Him now with reverence and fear.
In Him no sin is found, we stand on holy ground;
Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One is here.
- 2 Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around;
He burns with holy fire, with splendour He is crowned.
How awesome is the sight, our radiant King of light!
Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around.
- 3 Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place;
He comes to cleanse and heal, to minister His grace.
No work too hard for Him, in faith receive from Him;
Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place.

David J Evans (born 1957)
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The Sermon

The Confession of faith
**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.**

The Intercessions

Living God, let your light shine in our hearts,
that we may see your glory in the face of Christ.

By the eyes of faith, deepen our vision, O Lord, that we
may see more fully the splendour of your glory, in your
creation, in your Word and in our fellow believers. Make
our lives true temples of your Spirit.

Inspire us by the same Spirit to live lives that are
transformed by being in your presence.

Bathe your Church in your glory and light and renew our
commitment to tell of your wonders.

Living God, let your light shine in our hearts,
that we may see your glory in the face of Christ.

Reveal anew to us the challenge of your Kingdom.
Those graces we receive from our time in your presence,
may we be willing to share with others.
Give to political leaders zeal for your justice and peace,
built upon the rock of truth.
Unite all people in pursuit of the common good.

Living God, let your light shine in our hearts,
that we may see your glory in the face of Christ.

We give thanks to you today for those whose service
and dedication helps to make this world and our
communities a better place and safer place.
We give thanks to you for our emergency services, for
Doctors, nurses and medical personnel of many
disciplines. May great strength and fortitude be given to
them at this time.
So may we ever praise you with thankful hearts.

Living God, let your light shine in our hearts,
that we may see your glory in the face of Christ.

We hold before you today all whose lives are
overshadowed by darkness and fear, by despair and
anxiety. Bless who are ill or struggling in mind or body,
particularly those we hold before you now.
Enfold these ones and ourselves in your love. Grants us
trust in your unfailing promise of salvation.
We remember before you loved ones who have died
recently with gratefulness for their lives and pray for
those grieving over their loss.

Living God, let your light shine in our hearts,
that we may see your glory in the face of Christ.
Amen

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

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**

A hymn is sung.

1 Lord, the light of Your love is shining,
in the midst of the darkness, shining:
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us;
set us free by the truth You now bring us -
shine on me, shine on me.

*Shine, Jesus, shine,
fill this land with the Father's glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze,
set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow,
flood the nations with grace and mercy;
send forth Your word,
Lord, and let there be light!*

2 Lord, I come to Your awesome presence,
from the shadows into Your radiance;
by the blood I may enter Your brightness:
search me, try me, consume all my darkness -
shine on me, shine on me.

Chorus

3 As we gaze on Your kingly brightness
so our faces display Your likeness,
ever changing from glory to glory:
mirrored here, may our lives tell your story -
shine on me, shine on me.

Chorus

Graham Kendrick (born 1950)
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Concluding prayer

Now may the Lord of peace himself
give you peace at all times and in every way.
The Lord be with you all;
and the blessing of God, father, Son and Holy Spirit
remain with you this day and always.

Amen.