

Service Sheet

5th February 2023, 10.30am St Mary's
The Third Sunday before Lent

Welcome to St Mary's Church! We are so glad you are here – whether you are in the church building or watching online. If you are here for the first time or visiting, please say hello (in the chat feature online, or to the service leader or a member of the welcome team in church). You can find out more about our church on our website (www.denhamparish.church) or Facebook page (facebook.com/denhamparish.church).

Christoph Lindner, Rector

WELCOME

OPENING PRAYER (Psalm 112. 1,4)

Praise the LORD!

How joyful are those

who fear the LORD

and delight in obeying his commands.

Light shines in the darkness for the godly.

**They are generous, compassionate,
and righteous.**

HYMN

Thou, whose almighty word

Chaos and darkness heard,

And took their flight;

Hear us, we humbly pray,

And where the gospel-day

Sheds not its glorious ray,

Let there be light!

Thou who didst come to bring,

On thy redeeming wing,

Healing and sight;

Health to the sick in mind,

Sight to the inly blind,

O now to all mankind

Let there be light!

Spirit of truth and love,

Life-giving, holy Dove,

Speed forth thy flight;

Move on the waters' face,

Bearing the lamp of grace,

And in earth's darkest place

Let there be light!

Holy and blessed Three,

Glorious Trinity,

Wisdom, love, might;

Boundless as ocean's tide

Rolling in fullest pride,

Through the world far and wide

Let there be light!

CONFESSION

God of mercy, we acknowledge that

we are all sinners. We turn from the

wrong that we have thought and said

and done, and are mindful of all that

we have failed to do. For the sake of

Jesus, who died for us, forgive us for

all that is past, and help us to live each

day in the light of Christ our Lord. Amen.

ABSOLUTION

May almighty God have mercy on

you, forgive you your sins, and bring

you to everlasting life, through Jesus

Christ our Lord. **Amen**

COLLECT

Eternal God, whose Son went among

the crowds and brought healing with

his touch: help us to show his love, in

your Church as we gather together,

and by our lives as they are transformed

into the image of Christ our Lord. **Amen**

LIGHTS AND BUCKETS

FIRST READING: Matthew 5. 13-20

'You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

'Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfil. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished.

Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SONG

I am a city on a hill.
I am a light in the darkness
Jesus living in me can change the world
(x2)

Let my light shine let my light shine
Let my light shine
(x2)

If God is for me who can stand against me

Let my light shine, let my light shine
Let my light shine
(x2)

We are a city on a hill
We are a light in the darkness
Jesus living in us can change the world
(x2)

Let your light shine let your light shine
Let your light shine
(x2)

If God is for us who can stand against us
Let your light shine, let your light shine
Let your light shine
(x2)

(Children leave for Sunday Club)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SECOND READING: 1 Cor 2. 1-5

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

OFFERTORY HYMN

Longing for light,
we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in your church gathered today.

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has power to save us.
Make us your living voice.

Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others
Shared until all are fed.

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
Walls made of living stone.

Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
Making your kingdom come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour, and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

All things come from you, and of your own do we give you. Amen.

PRAYERS

*We pray for our five mission partners:
Bible Reading Fellowship, Church Army,
SHOC/Trinity, Tearfund and Wycliffe Bible
Translators. We thank you for their sharing
of good news in action and word and pray
that you would sustain and inspire them.
May they see rich fruit in their work for you.*

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

**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**

SONG

We are marching in the light of God (x4)

We are marching O-oh
We are marching in the light of God
(x2)

(Xhosa)

Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkos
(x4)

Siyahamba O-o
Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkos
Siyahamba O-o
Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkos

MEANWHILE AT SUNDAY CLUB...

SENDING OUT PRAYER

Light of the world, shine through us.

**Like salt of the earth,
scatter us where there is need.
Help us to work together
to repair and renew,
to rebuild and rejoice,
in Jesus's name. Amen.**

BLESSING

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Ian Jennings will be retiring from his role as associate minister at Denham Parish Church

on Sunday, 23 April. We are so grateful for everything he has brought to our ministry and mission over the last four years. Ian has quickly become a much-loved member of our community. We will make sure that we stay in touch and invite him back on occasions.

Please pray for Ian as he prepares for this transition. **Make sure to put 23 April in your diary.**

PAM DYMOTT'S FUNERAL is being held at St Mary's Church on Tuesday, 14th February, at 10.30am.

Weekly Diary

Weds 8th Feb - Little Lions toddler group. St Mark's. Contact: eddalindner18@gmail.com

Weds 8th Feb 1-5pm Warm Space at St Mark's

Thurs 9th Feb 8pm. Baptism Preparation Evening. St Mary's Vestry. Contact Church office for more details.

Tues 14th Feb 10.30am. Funeral for t/l Pam Dymott. St Mary's.

Let's pray together ...

- For creation care and all our efforts to look after our planet - individually, as a nation and international community.
- For conflicts and wars in our world: For people of peace to find ways of making peace.
- For those who are unwell.
- For those who have lost loved ones, especially the family of Pam Dymott and Kath Swinson.

Join us for a cuppa every Wednesday until 1st March from 1pm-5pm:



email: office@denhamparish.church

phone: 01895 832771