

*The Benefice of St Mary the Virgin,  
Higham Ferrers with St John the Baptist,  
Chelveston-cum-Caldecott*

## A DAY AT THE SEASIDE



**4th Sunday before  
Lent**

*6th February 2022*

# Welcome to this Online Service



The season of **Epiphany** ended with Candlemas last week. Now the countdown to Lent has begun and we are on the road to Jerusalem, Holy Week and Easter.

We walk with Jesus and his twelve disciples and today our theme is Jesus' call to each of them to follow him – despite their not knowing where their commitment will lead them.

The scene of today's service is one we may recognise and all the action takes place during "A day at the seaside" – not a bucket and spade or donkey in sight!

## ***Paul introduces the service***

*We sing together*

## ***Hymn***

**I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
"Come unto me and rest;  
lay down, O weary one,  
lay down your head upon my breast."**

I came to Jesus as I was,  
so weary, worn, and sad;  
I found in him a resting place,  
and he has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
“Behold, I freely give  
the living water, thirsty one;  
stoop down and drink and live.”  
I came to Jesus, and I drank  
of that life-giving stream;  
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,  
and now I live in him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
“I am this dark world's light.  
Look unto me; your morn shall rise  
and all your day be bright.”  
I looked to Jesus, and I found  
in him my star, my sun;  
and in that light of life I'll walk  
till trav'ling days are done.

*Horatius Bonar 1846*

### ***The Greeting - Michelle***

We meet in the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

The Lord of glory be with you.  
**The Lord bless you.**

## ***The Collect - Special prayer of the day***

Lord of the hosts of heaven,  
our salvation and our strength,  
without you we are lost:  
guard us from all that harms or hurts  
and raise us when we fall;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## ***Bible Reading*** – Luke 5: 1 - 11

Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets.

He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch."

Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets."

When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. So they signalled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink.





But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who are partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching

people.

When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

## ***Hymn***

**Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us  
o'er the world's tempestuous sea;  
guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,  
for we have no help but thee;  
yet possessing every blessing,  
if our God our Father be.**

**Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us:  
all our weakness thou dost know;  
thou didst tread this earth before us,  
thou didst feel its keenest woe;  
lone and dreary, faint and weary,  
through the desert thou didst go.**

**Spirit of our God, descending,  
fill our hearts with heavenly joy,  
love with every passion blending,  
pleasure that can never cloy:  
thus provided, pardoned, guided,  
nothing can our peace destroy.**

*James Edmeston*

## ***Reflection – Paul***

### ***Hymn -***

**I will make you fishers of men  
Fishers of men, fishers of men  
I will make you fishers of men  
If you follow me  
If you follow me, if you follow me  
I will make you fishers of men  
If you follow me**

**Hear Christ calling come unto me  
Come unto me, come unto me  
Hear Christ calling come unto me  
I will give you rest  
I will give you rest, I will give you rest**

**Hear Christ calling come unto me  
I will give you rest**

*Alfred Newman*

### ***Prayers - led by Brenda and John Eldred***

Lord, we are yours and you have called us in the midst of daily lives to follow you, to serve you, to spread your good news. We want to do so, but Lord we often feel unworthy, we feel like we are the chief of sinners, we feel unclean, and not holy at all. Your holiness, your love, and your presence scares us. Calm our fears, dry our tears, that we may know deep within ourselves your love, grace and forgiveness.



So we pray for the good of the church and the concerns of those in need.

- For Christians worshipping today across the world, recalling especially those who are persecuted for their faith and worship in secret and in fear
- For world leaders in these tense times. We pray for all involved in trying to bring peace to the many troubled areas of God's world.
- For all who are unwell or disturbed in body, mind or soul. Bring them peace and the comfort of your love, O Lord
- For everyone touched by the loss of loved ones praying that the pain of bereavement may be eased by your overpowering peace and hope.
- For ourselves as we seek to live in your world, living in your faith and seeking your glory

Bring healing to all wounds,  
make whole all that is broken,  
speak truth to all illusion,  
and shed light in every darkness,  
that all creation will see your glory and know your Christ.

Hear the cries of all who pray to you, and grant that, as we proclaim the greatness of your name, all people will know the power of love at work in the world.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## ***The Lord's Prayer***

Believing the promises of God,  
let us pray together with confidence as our Saviour has taught us;

**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.**

## ***Hymn***

**I'll go in the strength of the Lord,  
In paths he has marked for my feet;  
I'll follow the light of his word,  
Nor shrink from the dangers I meet.  
His presence my steps shall attend,  
His fulness my wants shall supply;  
On him, till my journey shall end,  
My unwavering faith shall rely.**

***I'll go, I'll go in the strength,  
I'll go in the strength of the Lord,  
I'll go, I'll go in the strength,  
I'll go in the strength of the Lord.***

**I'll go in the strength of the Lord  
To work he appoints me to do;  
In joy which his smile doth afford**

**My soul shall her vigour renew.  
His wisdom shall guard me from harm,  
His power my sufficiency prove;  
I'll trust his omnipotent arm,  
And prove his unchangeable love.**

*Alfred Newman*

### ***Final Prayer and Blessing - Michelle***

Go before us, Lord, in all we do  
with your most gracious favour,  
and guide us with your continual help,  
that in all our works begun, continued and  
ended in you,  
we may glorify your holy name,  
and finally by your mercy receive everlasting life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Go now, and forsaking everything else, follow Christ.  
By the grace of God, be all you have been called to be,  
and cast wide the net of God's love.  
Remind one another of the good news and hold firmly to his  
saving faith.  
And may God give you a vision of glory;  
May Christ Jesus touch you with the fire of mercy;  
And may the Holy Spirit hear your prayers and renew your  
strength.  
And the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with  
you now and for always  
**Amen**

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