

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



MEETING POINT

Last Sunday after Trinity
24th October 2021

‘I can see clearly now’
Online Worship



***Welcome to our Online Worship –
Meeting Point***

*As Sunday Services now take place in our churches,
our Online Worship continues in ‘Meeting Point’ –
we are joined together as one worshipping family through our
services at home and in church through the seasons of the
Church Year and the themes of the Gospel.*

*Sunday Meeting Point helps us deepen our faith as we explore
readings from scripture and experiences from our day to day lives.*

*Meeting Point today explores Jesus’ healing of the blind beggar
Bartimaeus in Jericho. He might be physically blind, but ‘sees’ who
Jesus is more clearly than many others! His faith leads to his healing
and he follows Jesus as a disciple.*

Thanks to all who have made today’s service possible
including members of the Ministry Team and Vidar for sharing
his story as part of our service today.

The Welcome

Michelle introduces today's service.

Hymn



**And can it be that I should gain
An interest in the Saviour's blood?
Died He for me, who caused His pain—
For me, who Him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be,
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?**

***Amazing love! How can it be,
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?***

**He left His Father's throne above—
So free, so infinite His grace—
Emptied Himself of all but love,
And bled for Adam's helpless race:
'Tis mercy all, immense and free,
For, O my God, it found out me!**

**Long my imprisoned spirit lay,
Fast bound in sin and nature's night;
Thine eye diffused a quickening ray—
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;
My chains fell off, my heart was free,
I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.**

**No condemnation now I dread;
Jesus, and all in Him, is mine;
Alive in Him, my living Head,
And clothed in righteousness divine,
Bold I approach the eternal throne,
And claim the crown, through Christ my own.**

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Music: from Thomas Campbell 'The Bouquet', 1825

Greeting *Michelle & Chris*

Welcome in the name of Christ
God's grace, mercy and peace be with you.
And also with you.

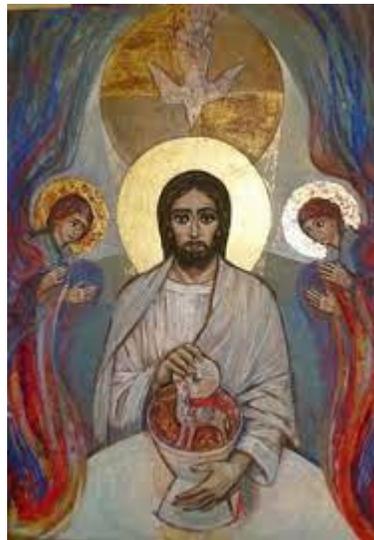


Opening Acclamation

God in Christ has revealed his glory.
Come let us worship.

From the rising of the sun to its setting
the Lord's name is greatly to be praised.

Give him praise, you servants of the Lord.
O praise the name of the Lord!



Collect - Linda

Grant, we beseech you, merciful Lord,
to your faithful people pardon and peace,
that they may be cleansed from all their sins
and serve you with a quiet mind;
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**

St Mark's Gospel, Chapter 10 – read by Brenda



They came to Jericho. As Jesus and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside.

When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"

Jesus stood still and said, "Call him here." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart; get up, he is calling you."

So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus.

Then Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?"

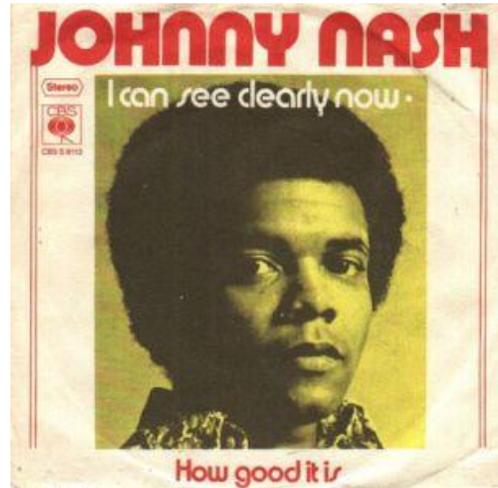
The blind man said to him, "My teacher, let me see again."

Jesus said to him, "Go; your faith has made you well."

Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

Mark 10:46-52

Song



I can see clearly now, the rain has gone
I can see all obstacles in my way
Gone are the dark clouds that had me blind
It's gonna be a bright, bright sun-shining day
It's gonna be a bright, bright sun-shining day

I think I can make it now, the pain has gone
All of the bad feelings have disappeared
Here is that rainbow I've been praying for
It's gonna be a bright, bright sun-shining day

(Johnny Nash, 1972)



Vidar's Story

Hymn

**Amazing grace, How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now I am found,
Was blind, but now I see.**

**'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.**

**Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come,
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far
And grace will lead me home.**

**The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be,
As long as life endures.**

**Yea, when this flesh and heart shall fail,
And mortal life shall cease
I shall possess within the veil,
A life of joy and peace.**

**When we've been there ten thousand years
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we've first begun.**

Words: John Newton (1725–1807)

Music: Scottish melody

Reflection - Michelle



Hymn

**Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art.
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**

**Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word;
Be thou ever with me and I with thee Lord.
Be thou my great father and I thy true son
thou in me dwelling and I one with thee.**

**Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight.
Be thou my whole armour, be thou my true light,
thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tower.
O Raise thou me heavenward, great Power of my
power.**

**High King of heaven, thou heaven's bright sun
O grant me its joys after victory is won
great heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

Words: Trad. Translated by Mary E Byrne (1880-1931)

Music: Irish traditional melody

Prayers – led by Lynda

We pray for our world, our church and those in need, those who mourn, and those who have died. We pray too for ourselves, that we may follow the way of Jesus and so gain eternal life.

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.**

The Peace – Michelle and Chris

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace.
If we live in the Spirit, let us walk in the Spirit.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Let us offer one another
a sign of peace.



Hymn

**We are marching in the light of God,
We are marching in the light of God.**

**We are marching, marching,
We are marching, marching,
We are marching in the light of God.**

**We are living in the love of God,
We are living in the love of God,**

**We are living, living,
We are living, living,
We are living in the love of God,**

**We are marching in the light of God,
We are marching in the light of God.**

*Words: Anders Nyberg (b. 1955), Andrew Maries (b. 1949)
Music: South African traditional melody*



Final Prayer – Linda

Father of light,
in whom is no change or shadow of turning,
you give us every good and perfect gift
and have brought us to birth by your word of truth:
may we be a living sign of that kingdom
where your whole creation will be made perfect
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.



Blessing – Michelle

May the Lord bless you and keep you.
May the Lord make his face to shine upon you,
and be gracious to you.
May the Lord lift up his countenance upon you,
and give you peace.
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
come down upon you this day, and remain with you always.

Amen



Check out the weekly Newsheet via the website and keep up to date with all that's happening – don't forget the Benefice Vision Day in The Bede House today Sunday 24th October from 12.30pm. Bring a packed lunch and spend a couple of hours together as we explore our joint mission and how God is calling us to grow in faith and service to our local communities. Don't worry if you can't be there but please do pray for this time together and do feel free to talk to Michelle or any of the Ministry Team about any thoughts or ideas you may have.

Find more information on the website by visiting www.stmarystjohnunited.co.uk and go the 'Keeping in Touch' tab then select 'Newsletters' from the drop-down menu.



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