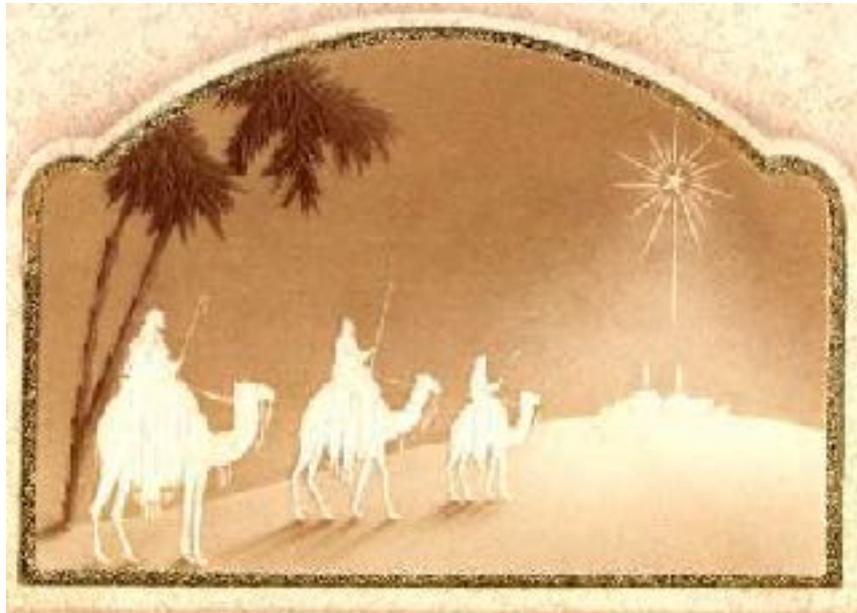


*The Benefice of St Mary the Virgin,  
Higham Ferrers with St John the Baptist,  
Chelveston-cum-Caldecott*

# Meeting Point



# **Second Sunday of Epiphany**

*16th January 2022*

# Welcome to our online Worship

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.

*In this week's service we join Our Lord at the marriage in Cana of Galilee and take inspiration from the account and listen to hymns suitable for a marriage service*

*Many thanks to all who have helped with this Online Service*

## ***Introduction - Paul***



## ***Hymn***

**Love divine, all loves excelling,  
joy of heav'n, to earth come down,  
fix in us thy humble dwelling,  
all thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, thou art all compassion,  
pure, unbounded love thou art.  
Visit us with thy salvation;  
enter ev'ry trembling heart.**

**Come, Almighty, to deliver,  
let us all thy life receive.  
Suddenly return, and never,  
nevermore they temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing,  
serve thee as thy hosts above,  
pray, and praise thee without ceasing,  
glory in thy perfect love.**

**Finish, then, thy new creation;  
true and spotless let us be.  
Let us see thy great salvation  
perfectly restored in thee.  
Changed from glory into glory,  
till in heav'n we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns before thee,**  
*WORDS – Charles Wesley (1707 – 1788)*  
*MUSIC – William Rowlands (1860 – 1937)*

### ***Acclamation - Michelle***

Arise, shine; for your light has come,  
**and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.**  
‘From the rising of the sun to its setting  
**my name is great among the nations,’ says the  
Lord.**

All kings shall fall down before him;  
**all nations shall do him service.**  
I will give you as a light to the nations,  
**that my salvation may reach  
to the end of the earth.**  
The Lord will be your everlasting light  
**and your God will be your glory.**

## ***The Collect - Paul***

Almighty God, whose Son revealed in signs and miracles the wonder of your saving presence: renew your people with your heavenly grace,  
and in all our weakness sustain us by your mighty power;  
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.**

## ***Gospel*** – John 2:1-11 – *read by Ruth*

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come."



His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons.

Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now."

Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

## ***Hymn***

**Make me a channel of your peace.  
Where there is hatred let me bring your love.  
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord  
And where there's doubt, true faith in you.**

**Make me a channel of your peace  
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope  
Where there is darkness, only light  
And where there's sadness, ever joy.**

**Oh, Master grant that I may never seek  
So much to be consoled as to console  
To be understood as to understand  
To be loved as to love with all my soul.**

**Make me a channel of your peace  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned  
In giving to all men that we receive  
And in dying that we're born to eternal life.**

**Oh, Master grant that I may never seek  
So much to be consoled as to console  
To be understood as to understand  
To be loved as to love with all my soul.**

**Make me a channel of your peace  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned  
In giving to all men that we receive  
And in dying that we're born to eternal life.**

*WORDS – attrib St Francis of Assisi*

*TUNE – Sebastian Temple 1928 - 1997*

## **Homily** *from Michelle*



## **Hymn**

**O perfect Love, all human thought transcending,  
Lowly we kneel in prayer before Thy throne,  
That ours may be the love which knows no ending,  
Whom Thou forevermore dost join in one.**

**O perfect Life, be Thou their full assurance,  
Of tender charity and steadfast faith,  
Of patient hope and quiet, brave endurance,  
With childlike trust that fears not pain nor death.**

**Grant us the joy which brightens earthly sorrow;  
Grant us the peace which calms all earthly strife;  
And to life's day the glorious unknown morrow  
That dawns upon eternal love and life.**

*WORDS – Dorothy Frances Gurney (1858 – 1932)  
MUSIC – Joseph Barnby (1838 – 1896)*

**Prayers** *inspired by prayers in the marriage service – led by  
Lynda and Paul*



God of wonder and of joy:  
grace comes from you,  
and you alone are the source of life and love.  
Without you, we cannot please you;  
without your love, our deeds are worth nothing.  
Send your Holy Spirit,  
and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love,  
that we may worship you now with thankful hearts  
and serve you always with willing minds;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,  
who shared at Nazareth the life of an earthly home:  
reign in the homes of us, your servants, as Lord and King;  
give us grace to minister to others as you have ministered to  
us,  
and grant that by deed and word  
they may be witnesses of your saving love  
to those among whom they live;  
for the sake of your holy name. **Amen.**

Eternal God, our maker and redeemer,  
as you once enriched the wedding at Cana  
when your Son turned water into wine,  
so by his presence now bring your joy to this day.  
May we drink deeply from your boundless love  
and know in our hearts the delights of your Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

God of wonder and of joy:  
grace comes from you,  
and you alone are the source of life and love.  
Without you, we cannot please you;  
without your love, our deeds are worth nothing.  
Send your Holy Spirit, and pour into our hearts  
that most excellent gift of love, that we may worship you now  
with thankful hearts and serve you always with willing minds;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

Rejoicing in the presence of God with us,  
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**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 - Paul***

To crown all things there must be love.  
Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.  
The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

## **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.**

*WORDS – James Edmeston (1791 – 1867)*

*MUSIC – Ancient German tune (1847)*

### ***Final Prayer - Paul***

Almighty Father, whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ is the light of the world:

may your people, illumined by your word and our worship,  
shine with the radiance of his glory,

that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth;

for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

## ***Blessing - Paul***

The Lord bless you and keep you:  
The Lord make his face to shine upon you,  
and be gracious to you:  
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you  
and give you peace:

The Lord God almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
the holy and undivided Trinity,  
guard you, save you,  
and bring you to that heavenly city,  
where he lives and reigns for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

## ***A wedding hymn with a message in the tune?***

### ***Brenda recalls her wedding day***

**Glorious things of you are spoken,  
Zion, city of our God;  
he whose word cannot be broken  
formed you for his own abode.  
On the Rock of Ages founded,  
what can shake your sure repose?  
With salvation's walls surrounded,  
you may smile at all your foes.**

**See, the streams of living waters,  
springing from eternal love,  
well supply your sons and daughters  
and all fear of want remove.  
Who can faint while such a river  
ever will their thirst assuage?  
Grace which, like the Lord, the giver,  
never fails from age to age.**

**Saviour, if of Zion's city  
I thro' grace a member am,  
let the world deride or pity,  
I will glory in your name.  
Fading are the world's vain pleasures,  
all their boasted pomp and show;  
solid joys and lasting treasures  
none but Zion's children know.**

*WORDS – John Newton (1725 – 1807)*

*MUSIC – Austrian Hymn - Franz Joseph Haydn  
(1732 – 1809)*

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