



Chet Valley Churches



Holy Communion
Second Sunday of Christmas
2nd January 2022

Introduction

Good morning and welcome to the Chet Valley for our Sunday Worship. It is the first Sunday of a new year. There is much that we hope for this year and there is much that we might hope to leave behind in the old year. But our worship is something that is common to both, sustaining us and our faith in the God we praise and celebrate.

♪ Carol: *Of the Father's Love Begotten*

Of the Father's love begotten,
Ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega;
He the source, the ending he,
Of the things that are, that have been,
And that future years shall see,
Evermore and evermore.

By his word was all created;
He commanded; it was done:
Heaven and earth and depth of ocean,
Universe of three in one,
All that grows beneath the shining
Of the light of moon and sun,
Evermore and evermore.

Blessed was that day for ever
When the virgin, full of grace,
By the Holy Ghost conceiving,
Bore the Saviour of our race,
And the child, the world's redeemer,
First revealed his sacred face,
Evermore and evermore.

Glory be to God the Father,
Glory be to God the Son,
Glory to the Holy Spirit,
Persons three, yet Godhead one.
Glory be from all creation
While eternal ages run,
Evermore and evermore.



The Preparation

This day is a new day that has not been before.
This year is a new year an opening door.

Enter Lord Christ
we have joy in your coming.

You have given us life
and we welcome your coming.

**I turn now to face you,
I lift up my eyes.
Be blessing my face Lord;
be blessing my eyes.
May all my eye looks on
be blessed and be bright,
my neighbours, my loved ones
be blessed in your sight.**

You have given us life
and we welcome your coming.

Be with us Lord,
we have joy, we have joy.

This year is a new year an opening door.

Be with us Lord,
we have joy, we have joy.



Collect

Almighty God,
in the birth of your son
you have poured on us the new light of your incarnate Word,
and shown us the fullness of your love;
help us to walk in his light and dwell in his love
that we may know the fullness of his joy;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

Confession

As we come to the Lord near the start of this New Year,
let us seek his grace to number our days,
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom
as we confess our sins in penitence and faith.

Pause

**We confess the times
when we have put self-interest before love,
when we have allowed what is false
to obscure what is true,
when we have caused division and hurt
and failed in the life of the Spirit.
We pray for forgiveness, and healing.**

Absolution

May the God of all healing and forgiveness
draw us to himself,
and cleanse us from all our sins
that we may behold the glory of his Son,
the Word made flesh,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.



The Ministry of the Word (John 1:1-14)

The Word was first, the Word present to God, God present to the Word.

The Word was God, in readiness for God from day one.

Everything was created through him; nothing—not one thing!—came into being without him. What came into existence was Life, and the Life was Light to live by.

The Life-Light blazed out of the darkness; the darkness couldn't put it out.

There once was a man, his name John, sent by God to point out the way to the Life-Light. He came to show everyone where to look, who to believe in. John was not himself the Light; he was there to show the way to the Light.

The Life-Light was the real thing: Every person entering Life he brings into Light. He was in the world, the world was there through him, and yet the world didn't even notice.

He came to his own people, but they didn't want him. But whoever did want him, who believed he was who he claimed and would do what he said, He made to be their true selves, their child-of-God selves.

These are the God-begotten, not blood-begotten, not flesh-begotten, not sex-begotten.

The Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighbourhood.

We saw the glory with our own eyes, the one-of-a-kind glory, like Father, like Son; generous inside and out, true from start to finish.

Reflection [Rev Alison]

For our reflection, I'd like us to focus on one sentence from our Gospel reading:

*The Word became flesh and blood,
and moved into the neighbourhood.*

Think about your own neighbourhood:

- The beautiful places, the scarred places, the 'redundant' spaces, the derelict spaces;
- The places where people live and the places that are uninhabited by humans.

Think about the people who live in your neighbourhood:

- I wonder how many of your neighbours you know;
- I wonder how easy you find your neighbours;
- I wonder how many people live near you whose story you do not know or know only in part;

If God moved into your neighbourhood:

- I wonder which places you would take him to; I wonder if there is anywhere you would prefer God did not go.
- I wonder who you would introduce him to; I wonder who else God might like to meet;

*The Word became flesh and blood,
and moved into the neighbourhood.*

After his resurrection, Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit would be with us until the end of the age...

So, God **has** moved into the neighbourhood.

What are we doing about it?

How do we introduce God to our neighbours today?

How do we introduce our neighbours to God today?

What will we do in 2022?

Will it be different from 2021 and previous years?

♪ **Carol: Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Come to Us**

Lord Jesus Christ, you have come to us,
You are one with us, Mary's son.
Cleansing our souls from all their sin
Pouring your love and goodness in
Jesus our love for you we sing, living Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ, now and every day
Teach us how to pray, Son of God.
You have commanded us to do
This in remembrance, Lord, of you
Into our lives, your power breaks through, living Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ, you have come to us,
Born as one with us, Mary's son.
Led out to die on calvary,
Risen from death to set us free,
Living Lord Jesus help us see You are Lord.



The Intercessions

We pray that the light of the world may shine so brightly in our lives that other people notice it and are attracted to you by the way we live and love.

Pause

God with us, **hear our prayer**

We pray that our world may stop its noise, chatter and arguing long enough to hear angels singing of hope and peace.

Pause

God with us, **hear our prayer**

We pray for our families and all our friends and neighbours; may every relationship we have be filled with your love.

Pause

God with us, **hear our prayer**

We pray for the homeless and all refugees and exiles; for children from broken homes, and all who are destitute, malnourished or ill.

Pause

God with us, **hear our prayer**

We pray for all from whom we are separated now through death; may they live in your light forever and may their loved ones know your presence with them.

Pause

God with us, **hear our prayer**

Loving God, we can never thank you enough for moving into our neighbourhoods, and we praise you now and in our lives.

God with us,

Receive our prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Peace

Christ is our peace.

If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation.

The old has passed away:

behold, everything has become new.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

A sign of peace may be shared.



♪ **Hymn: Let Us Build a House—All Are Welcome**

Let us build a house where love can dwell
And all can safely live,
A place where saints and children tell
How hearts learn to forgive.

Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
Rock of faith and vault of grace;
Here the love of Christ shall end divisions;

Let us build a house where prophets speak,
And words are strong and true,
Where all God's children dare to seek
To dream God's reign anew.

Here the cross shall stand as witness
And a symbol of God's grace;
Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:

Let us build a house where love is found
In water, wine and wheat:
A banquet hall on holy ground,
Where peace and justice meet.

Here the love of God, through Jesus,
Is revealed in time and space;
As we share in Christ the feast that frees us:

All are welcome, all are welcome,
All are welcome in this place.



The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation;
in your love you made us for yourself.

When we turned away you did not reject us,
but came to meet us in your Son.

**You embraced us as your children
and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.**

In Christ you shared our life
that we might live in him and he in us.

**He opened his arms of love upon the cross
and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

On the night he was betrayed,
at supper with his friends
he took bread, and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to them, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:
his body is the bread of life.**

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,
he gave you thanks, and said:
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins;
do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:
his blood is shed for all.**

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory,
send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine
may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.

**As we eat and drink these holy gifts
make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.**

With your whole Church throughout the world
we offer you this sacrifice of praise and lift our voice
to join the eternal song of heaven:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**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.**

Breaking of the Bread

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

We break the bread of life,
and that life is the light of the world.
**God here among us,
Light in the midst of us,
Bring us to light and life.**

Communion

Christ is the true bread
which has come down from heaven.
Lord, give us this bread always.

Receiving the Sacrament



Post-Communion Prayer

**Almighty Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
eternal ever-blessed, gracious God;
to me the least of saints, to me allow
that I may keep a door in paradise;
that I may keep even the smallest door,
the furthest door, the darkest, coldest door,
the door that is least used, the stiffest door,
if so it be but in your house, O God!
If so it be that I can see your glory, even afar,
and hear your voice, O God!
and know that I am with you,
you my God.**

♪ Hymn: *We Have a Gospel to Proclaim*

**We have a gospel to proclaim
Good news for men in all the earth;
The gospel of a saviour's name:
We sing his glory, tell his worth.**

**Tell of his birth at Bethlehem,
Not in a royal house or hall
But in a stable dark and dim:
The word made flesh, a light for all.**

**Tell of his death at Calvary,
Hated by those he came to save;
In lonely suffering on the cross
For all he loved, his life he gave.**

**Tell of that glorious Easter morn:
Empty the tomb, for he was free.
He broke the power of death and hell
That we might share his victory.**

**Tell of his reign at God's right hand,
By all creation glorified;
He sends his Spirit on his church
To live for him, the Lamb who died.**

**Now we rejoice to name him King:
Jesus is Lord of all the earth.
This gospel message we proclaim:
We sing his glory, tell his worth.**

Responsory

Jesus stands at the door and knocks.
Lord Jesus, enter our homes and our lives.

The Blessing

May God the Father keep you in all your days.
May God the Son shield you in all your ways.
May God the Spirit bring you healing and peace.
May God the Holy Trinity drive all darkness from you
and pour upon you blessing and light.
Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Proclaim the Word made flesh.
Glory, thanks and praise to God.

The ministers and people depart.

