

*The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Parish of Welwyn,
Welwyn Team, Diocese of St Albans*

**THE FOURTH SUNDAY BEFORE LENT
SUNDAY 9TH FEBRUARY 2020**

**8am Said Eucharist
9.30am Parish Eucharist,
With Activity Based Church and Crèche
(Common Worship Order 1)**

***Welcome! If you are new to this church please introduce
yourself to one of the clergy and take a newcomers' leaflet.
There is an induction loop for those with hearing aids.
All children, regular and visitors, are
welcome to Activity Based Church and Crèche***

***Hymns can be found in the Green Hymn Books
Please join in the words in **Bold** in the order of service***

THE SERVICE BEGINS HERE:

*Please stand to sing **HYMN 334, All people that on earth do dwell***

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
and also with you.

The deacon introduces the confession

**Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly,
love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

The priest pronounces God's forgiveness

'What are we thinking about today?'

– then Activity Based Church leaves for Church House

We remain standing to sing:

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

We remain standing for the collect:

Let us pray:

Almighty God,
who alone can bring order
to the unruly wills and passions of sinful humanity:
give your people grace
so to love what you command
and to desire what you promise,
that, among the many changes of this world,
our hearts may surely there be fixed
where true joys are to be found;
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**

We sit to listen to this Sunday's bible readings.



A reading from the Prophet Isaiah (58:1-9),
(read by Don Bell)

Thus says the Lord:

¹Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. ²Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practised righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgements, they delight to draw near to God. ³'Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?' Look, you serve your own interest on your fast-day, and oppress all your workers. ⁴Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. ⁵Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD? ⁶Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? ⁷Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? ⁸Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rearguard. ⁹Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians (2:1-12),
(read by Daphne Skinner)

¹When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. ²For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. ³And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. ⁴My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God. ⁶Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. ⁷But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. ⁸None of the rulers of this age understood this;

for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹But, as it is written,

‘What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the human heart conceived,
what God has prepared for those who love him’ –

¹⁰these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God’s except the Spirit of God.

¹²Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*Please stand to sing the **HYMN 463, Thine for ever***



Please remain standing and face the gospel:

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (5:13-20)

Glorify to you, O Lord.



Jesus went up the mountain and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to teach them: ¹³You 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.

¹⁴You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden.

¹⁵No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In 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.

¹⁷Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfil. ¹⁸For 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. ¹⁹Therefore, 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.

²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please sit for the **Sermon**: Kathryn Alford, Ordinand

Please stand to affirm our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is
worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Please sit or kneel for the intercessions lead by Mike Carpenter

Intentions for prayer: The sick: Shem Biran, Alice Burnapp, Sheila Edmondson, Edward Dunsterville, Catherine England, John Farrow, Roger Francis, Charlotte Grandville, Mary Gregory Anne Gurney, Doreen Hakansson, Sue Keach, Audrey Taylor and Linda Thistlethwaite
Departed: Wendy Wiggins, Ethel Moore, Nigel McNaught

We use the following response

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

And at the end

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

*Please stand for The Peace, which the priest introduces with a sentence
from Scripture*

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

We share the peace with our neighbours

*We sing the **HYMN***



During the hymn a collection is taken, and the altar prepared.

You can also donate online at www.welwyn.org.uk or give by standing order. If you are a tax-payer, Gift Aid envelopes are available in the pews; by completing the details you will enable us to increase the value of your donation by 25%.

1. Fill thou my life, O Lord my God,
in every part with praise,
that my whole being may proclaim
thy being and thy ways.
- 2 Not for the lip of praise alone,
nor e'en the praising heart
I ask, but for a life made up
of praise in every part:
- 3 Praise in the common things of life,
its goings out and in;
praise in each duty and each deed,
however small and mean.

4 Fill every part of me with praise:
let all my being speak
of thee and of thy love, O Lord,
poor though I be and weak.

5 So shall no part of day or night
unblest or common be,
but all my life, in every step,
be fellowship with thee.

The priest gives thanks over the bread and over the wine, and the people respond:

Blessed be God for ever

The Eucharistic Prayer

Please remain standing throughout the prayer, but sit if you need to

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

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 indeed right, ..

... we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and singing:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

All glory be to you, our heavenly Father, ...

... which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith
**Christ has died, Christ is risen,
Christ will come again**



Therefore, Lord and heavenly Father, ...

... in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours,
almighty Father, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please kneel or sit

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.**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

We sing:

**Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us (x2)
Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace**



Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ
which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you.
Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.



*Please move for communion following the direction of the
stewards. All are welcome to come to the rail. Baptised
Christians are welcome to receive the bread and the wine, all
others are welcome to come for a blessing (please indicate this by
crossing your arms and bowing your head).*

***During communion the choir sings the anthem
'A prayer of Richard of Chichester'***

O holy Jesu, most merciful redeemer, friend and brother,
May I know thee more clearly,
Love thee more dearly,
And follow thee more nearly. Amen.

*And then we sing the **HYMN 361, Forth in the peace of Christ we go***

ABC show us their work, and the notices and banns of marriage are given

We pray together:

**Merciful Father,
who gave Jesus Christ to be for us the bread of life,
that those who come to him should never hunger:
draw us to the Lord in faith and love,
that we may eat and drink with him
at his table in the kingdom,
where he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. Amen.**

*Then we stand to sing **HYMN 400, Light of the minds***

The priest says the blessing ending:

...be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

The ministers and people depart.

The organist plays a voluntary – Toccata by E Gigout

All are welcome to stay for refreshments in New Church House.

Please take this booklet with you book.



NOTICES

Parish Office: secretary@welwyn.org.uk, 01438 840964

Monday and Tuesday 9am-1pm

Friday 9am-12pm.

CLOSED ON Wednesday and Thursday.

Clergy surgery (particularly for bookings of marriages and baptisms) is open on Saturday 10-11am, when coffee is also served in Church House.

The Rector: The Rev'd Dr David Munchin, rector@welwyn.org.uk, 01438 714150

The Curate: The Rev'd Dominic Holroyd-Thomas, curate@welwyn.org.uk, 01438 813043

Further information: www.welwyn.org.uk; 'The Welwyn Magazine';

Facebook page: St Mary's Church, Welwyn Twitter: wsm_church

Craftea is in Church House **tomorrow** from 3.30 to 5.00pm. All KS1 and KS2 children welcome with their parent/ carer to join in activities, stories, and have a cooked tea with a very friendly group of children and parents/ carers. Please let us know if you are coming email craftea@welwyn.org.uk. Cost £2.50.

Time for God - Friday 15th February at 9.30am. Buddhism is the topic for our next Time for God meeting which will be held in Church House. Do come and join us if you are interested. At our meetings we discuss a variety of topics.

Urgent Help needed for Coffee Rota – Sunday mornings after the 9.30am Service. Please contact Jean Perriman if you can help. Many thanks.

Help needed with worship - The Rector and Organist are thinking of getting together a small group of instrumentalists to help lead worship on occasions – any instrumentalists – guitars, flutes, clarinets, tubas etc. – do let the Rector know either by dropping an email to davidmunchin@outlook.com.

Community Lunch - Monday February 24th at 12.30pm. To reserve a place please put **£12** in an envelope together with your name, telephone number and diet requirements. Reservations from 10th -20th February. Envelopes can be handed to Mavis Francis or take your envelope to the Danesbury Charity Shop. **Please note the increase in price.**

Mission Action Plan - Please take time to look at our Mission Action Plan on the Diocesan Website – thinking about how you might be involved in the mission and ministry of this church. If you don't have access to the web here are the headlines: a '10 big questions' course in the autumn, more involvement in Welwyn Week, engaging with newly built houses, Lent course and sermon series looking at environmental healing.

Accident reporting - Just a reminder – if you are in church or church house leading a group and there is an accident, please record it on an accident report form in the middle vestry where you can also find a first aid kit. If you have a problem with that please report to a churchwarden or Rector.

Fairtrade - The profit figure for 2019 has been confirmed: a surplus of **£1,032**. This is the profit made from sales of fairtrade goods and donations for refreshments each week. As in previous years, we're donating it to **Traidcraft Exchange**, as part of the church's annual giving, to help with the charity's work in the poorest countries around the world helping people trade their way out of poverty. Thanks for your support. Maggie Varco.

Lent, Holy Week and Easter - Please ensure you have a copy Lent, Holy Week and Easter leaflet with all the details of Lent groups, services and activities over this period. You can attend a Lent group with or without reading a copy of the Lent book, but if you would like to buy a copy of the book to read, the Rector has a small number of 'Saying to Yes to Life', by Ruth Valerio (the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book) at £7.00.

This Week in the Welwyn Team

Tonight	6.30pm	Choral Evensong
Monday 10 th Feb	9.30am 3.30pm	Sewing Group Craftea
Tuesday 11 th Feb	9.30am 2.30pm	Community Café Church Fellowship in Church House
Wednesday 12 th Feb	8.00am 9.00am 9.30am 10.30am 2.15pm 8.00pm	Breakfast Bible Study Morning Prayer Eucharist Rector's Bible Study Group Book Group Deanery Synod
Thursday 13 th Feb	10.00am 1.30pm 8.00pm	Knitting Group St. Mary's School visit to the church Book Club
Friday 14 th Feb	9.30am 6.30pm 7.45pm	Time for God in Church House Welwyn Tune Choir Rehearsal
Saturday 15 th Feb	10-11am 10-11.30 10-12noon 10-4pm	Clergy Surgery in the Office Coffee/Traidcraft Stall in Church House District Bells Meeting (Room 4) Dante Study Day with Susannah
Sunday 16th February	8.00am 9.30am 6.30pm	2nd Sunday before Lent Holy Eucharist Parish Eucharist Holy Communion at Tewin

Next week's Readings

Genesis 1: 1-2:3,
Romans 8: 18-25
Matthew 6: 25-end