

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

**THE SUNDAY BEFORE LENT
SUNDAY 23RD 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 altar flowers have been given by Rod Dowdell,
in memory of his son, Matthew***

THE SERVICE BEGINS HERE:

*Please stand to sing **HYMN 178, 'Tis good Lord to be here***

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 Father,
whose Son was revealed in majesty
before he suffered death upon the cross:
give us grace to perceive his glory,
that we may be strengthened to suffer with him
and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory;
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 Book of Exodus (24:12-18),
(read by Fiona MacDonald)

¹²The LORD said to Moses, 'Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.' ¹³So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. ¹⁴To the elders he had said, 'Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.'

¹⁵Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. ¹⁶The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. ¹⁷Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. ¹⁸Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

A reading from the Second Letter of Peter (1:16-21),
(read by Rowena MacDonald)

¹⁶We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷For he received honour and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, 'This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.' ¹⁸We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

⁹So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. ²⁰First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, ²¹because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



*Please stand to sing the **HYMN:***

For the fruits of his creation, thanks be to God;
for the gifts of every nation, thanks be to God;
for the ploughing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safe-keeping, thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labour, God's will is done;
in the help we give our neighbour, God's will is done;
in our world-wide task of caring
for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.

For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God;
for the good we all inherit, thanks be to God;
for the wonders that astound us,
for the truths that still confound us,
most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Please remain standing and face the gospel:

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew
(17:1-9) **Glorify to you, O Lord.**



¹Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. ²And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. ³Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. ⁴Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' ⁵While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!' ⁶When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. ⁷But Jesus came and touched them, saying, 'Get up and do not be afraid.' ⁸And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. ⁹As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, 'Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

*Please sit for the **Sermon:***

The Rev'd Susannah Underwood, Team Vicar

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 led by Kathryn Alford

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: Agnes Ingram, Nigel McNaught & Wendy Wiggins,

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 262, Glorious things of thee are spoken***



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%.*

*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
'Truly the Lord is in this place' by Peter Hurford***

*And then we sing the **HYMN:***

Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One, is here;
come, bow before him now, with reverence and fear.
In him no sin is found, we stand on holy ground.
Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One, is here.

Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around;
he burns with holy fire, with splendour he is crowned.
How awesome is the sight, our radiant King of Light!
Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around.

Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place,
he comes to cleanse and heal, to minister his grace.
No work too hard for him, in faith receive from him;
be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place.

We pray together:

**Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out
in the power of your Spirit
to live and work
to your praise and glory. Amen.**

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

*Then we stand to sing **HYMN 102, A brighter dawn is breaking***

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
Sonata per Organo by Luigi Pagliai

*All are welcome to stay for refreshments in New Church House.
Please take this booklet with you book.*



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

Notice Re Corona Virus - In the light of the global attempt to contain corona virus the Church of England is asking **all communicants to follow these guidelines until further notice:**

* Those who have cold or flu-like symptoms are asked to receive bread only.

* Communion bread/wafers must not be intincted (dipped) into the chalice.

* It is church teaching that receiving only the bread is a full and valid communion.

Community Lunch is **Tomorrow, Monday February 24th at 12.30pm**. If you have not booked and would like to please see Mavis Francis **today**.

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

World Day of Prayer – Friday 6th March at St. Giles, Codicote at 2pm.

Cakes and refreshments after, a service for everybody.

Time for God Lent Group will meet for the first time on **Friday 6th March 9.30am in Church House**. Do come and join us. 01438 487851. Mavis Francis

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.

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.

Palm Crosses – If anybody has palm crosses from last year, please could you hand to Linda Dobbs. Thank you.

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.

In particular there is a pancake race on **Shrove Tuesday at 3.30**, and Eucharists at 9.30am and 8pm (sung) on **Ash Wednesday**.

Lent groups – There are various groups meeting around the team. The material is available free of charge – look for the booklet with a colour picture of the Lent book on the front. It is also available on the web. 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	Evensong
Monday 24 th	9.30am 12.30pm 3.30pm	Sewing Group Community Lunch Craftea
Tuesday 25 th	Shrove Tuesday 9.30am 11.30am 3.30pm	Community Café Organ Rehearsal Pancake Race outside church / Wellington
Wednesday 26 th	Ash Wednesday 8.00am 9.00-9.30am 9.30 10.30am 8.00pm	Breakfast Bible Study Morning Prayer Eucharist with imposition of ashes Quarter Peal (Tonbridge Ringers) Sung Eucharist with imposition of Ashes
Thursday 27 th	10.00am	Knitting Group
Friday 28 th	11.00am 12.00noon 6.30pm 7.45pm	Knebworth & Heath Lodge Services Autumn Vale Service Welwyn Tune Choir Rehearsal
Saturday 29 th	10-11am 10-11.30	Clergy Surgery in the Office Coffee/Traidcraft Stall in Church House
Sunday 1st March	8.00am 9.30am 11.15am 5pm 6.30pm	1st Sunday of Lent Holy Eucharist Parish Eucharist 40 Minutes Standing Committee Evensong at Tewin

Next week's Readings

Genesis 2: 15-17, 3: 1-7

Romans 5: 12-19

Matthew 4: 1-11