



Sunday 9th February 2025

The Fourth Sunday before Lent

You are most welcome.

A message to new visitors is found on page 3.

Our 10:30am order of service begins on page 5.

8:00am Holy Communion (*Book of Common Prayer*)

Celebrant: The Rector

10:30am Parish Eucharist (*Common Worship*)

Celebrant: The Rector

Preacher: The Rector

Setting: *'A People's Mass'*, Anthony Gregory Murray

with Coventry Gloria Moger Alleluia. Ordinary Time 1

Hymns: 232, 342, 449, Sheet

Music at Communion:

'Thee we adore thee, O hidden Saviour thee.'

Mode V

'Will you come and follow me'

Kelvingrove

Postlude: *"Toccata in C (from Toccata, Adagio and Fugue BWV 564)"*

J S Bach

For your prayers

At This Time

Baby Dylan Andrew Brooks, Gillian Kullman, Jennie Frampton, Lindsay Gorringer, Chris Pratt, HM The King, the bereaved, and those suffering during warfare

Recently Departed Year's Mind

Steven Ward, Sarah Harris, David Burton, Ian Ward
Keith Michael Turton, Megan Whale, Joan Roome, Anne Elizabeth Sargeant, Alexander Taylor Bruce, Midge Jordan, Christopher Clogg, Jean Elizabeth North, Doreen Evelyn Warren, Thomas George Hughes, Simon Frank Morgan.

Reflection for the week

The Reverend Howard Pashley

Jesus has taken his disciples up a mountain, the traditional Old Testament location for receiving commandments, and has preached his well known "Sermon on the Mount". In the middle part of his sermon he talks of his disciples being the salt of the earth and the light of the world.

As an ex-chemist I know a lot about salt, after all the chemical industries in Cheshire and in Middlesbrough were both based on the availability of salt. Also if chemists get invited to join a City Guild it's nearly always the Salter's. However, after about four years of travelling to Moorfield's eye hospital with my wife, I think I know something about light, and the lack of it!

Sitting in the waiting room of Clinic 1 is a salutary experience (salt again!) as one sees so many people with so many types of visual impairment passing by and they often have other additional impairments as well. They are also very diverse in age and language, but then so are the medical staff, and when it comes time to call someone for their appointment, everyone listens out for each other, so that people don't miss out. Perhaps it's a bit like that in heaven! Perhaps, perhaps not, but at the very least the staff at Moorfield's are the light of the world.

In these troubled time the world is very much in need of light!

We're all called to be the light of the world and not hide our lamps under a box. I keep mine in a very

cracked jar. It's not much to look at but I hope that some of the light gets through.

May the Lord lift up the light of His countenance upon you and give you peace.

Amen

New to St Clements?

Welcome! We're delighted that you're here

There has been a place of Christian prayer on this site for more than 1,000 years. All are welcome at our services - whatever your background and whatever your faith.

Many of the words of our service can be found from page five of this booklet. Feel free to join in with the words in bold, and to stand, kneel, or sit as you feel able and comfortable. Don't worry about getting it 'right', we're all learning to pray!

The service will start with notices and a hymn. We then bring to mind the times we've not loved God, our neighbours, and ourselves fully. Though it can be uncomfortable admitting we are sinners, we want to be honest with God (and ourselves) that we're not perfect. We can trust that God is utterly loving and forgiving.

A series of readings from scripture follows, and then the sermon, in which the preacher attempts to break open the scriptures and apply them to our lives today.

We pray for the needs of the Church and world, and then the altar is prepared. Our collection is gathered before the service, for the work of St Clement's, and offered up to God

at this point. You can still donate, if you wish, on the way out of church - the giving station is to the left of the porch.

The priest leads the Eucharistic Prayer - the prayer of thanksgiving - during which we offer bread and wine to God, and He transforms it into the Body and Blood of Christ.

All baptised Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion (it's fine to only receive the Body or Blood if you prefer. For reasons of hygiene please don't dip the wafer into the chalice). Or do come forward holding this booklet to receive a blessing. **If you need a gluten-free wafer please let someone at the door know before the service.**

We share refreshments in the Sunley Room (accessed up the ramp behind the organ), and you are most welcome to stay. Toilets may also be found here.

The Church is open daily for peace and prayer. If you'd like to know more about our worship or faith, do talk to people in the congregation or one of the priests. You can also visit our website, www.stclementschurchsandwich.org.uk

Music at 10:30am today

As a number of choir members are away today, the communion music consists of two hymns – one very old, the other very modern.

The first hymn is “Thee we adore, O hidden Saviour, thee” by St Thomas Aquinas (1227-74) and set to a modal melody sung in unison – one vocal line. This poem is a hymn of adoration and devotion to Jesus Christ, who is present in the sacrament of the Eucharist. The speaker expresses awe and humility in the presence of Christ, acknowledging the inadequacy of human understanding and the power of Christ’s sacrifice. The poem emphasizes the desire for a deeper connection with Christ, both in this life and in the afterlife. It also reflects the theological teachings of Thomas Aquinas’ time, which stressed the importance of the Eucharist as a means of receiving Christ’s grace and the central role of Christ in Christian worship. The poem’s language and imagery, such as the references to Christ as “hidden Saviour” and “Fountain of goodness” are consistent with the devotional practices and beliefs of the medieval period.

It is followed by “Will you come and follow me” also known as “The Summons” which is a modern hymn by John Bell (b1949) and Graham Maule (b1958) of the Iona Community that offers a mature call to discipleship and witness that challenges us to ponder what following Christ may mean. The phrase, “Will you come and follow me?” suggests what Jesus expects of his followers. This text does not itemize the requirements for discipleship; it poses difficult questions to a would-be follower. In structuring this hymn, the authors employ an ancient teaching method, the Socratic method, in which

students learn by probing a subject with questions but are not supplied answers. Jesus frequently used the same technique when he interacted with people, requiring them to examine their lives and spiritual motivation. In the last verse the call is answered with “Let me turn and follow you and never be the same”. The hymn is set to a traditional Scottish melody called Kelvingrove.

The outgoing organ voluntary is the first part of a tri-partite work by J S Bach – the Toccata, Adagio and Fugue in C. and dating from between 1719 and 1727. The Toccata is dramatic in its opening which leads to a pedal solo and then all coming together in the main part of the work. This piece was the very first one to be played on this organ in its opening recital given by Dr Peter Hurford on the 17th June 1995.

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Order of Service

The Gathering

*Notices are given before the service.
Stand for the opening hymn:*

Hymn 232

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

The Lord be with you and also with you.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Confessing our Sins

The Celebrant introduces a period of silence in which all call to mind their sins. Then all kneel or sit.

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 Celebrant pronounces the forgiveness of sins. All stand. The Gloria is sung, the congregation singing parts in bold.

Glory to God, glory in the highest, peace to his people, peace on earth. **Glory to God, glory in the highest, peace to his people, peace on earth.**

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father. **Glory to God, glory in the highest, peace to his people, peace on earth.**

We worship you, **glory in the highest, give you thanks, glory in the highest, praise you for your glory. Glory to God, glory in the highest, peace to his people, peace on earth.**

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, **have mercy on us**. You are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer, **receive our prayer**.

Glory to God, glory in the highest, peace to his people, peace on earth. **Glory to God, glory in the highest, peace to his people, peace on earth**.

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 glory of God the Father. **Glory to God, glory in the highest, peace to his people, peace on earth. Amen. Amen.**

The Celebrant says: O God, you know us to be set in the midst of so many and great dangers, that by reason of the frailty of our nature we cannot always stand upright: grant to us such strength and protection as may support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; 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.

All say Amen. All sit.

The Scriptures

Isaiah 6:1-8 (9-end)

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said:

‘Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory.’

The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: ‘Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!’

Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: ‘Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.’ Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, ‘Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?’ And I said, ‘Here am

I; send me!’ And he said, ‘Go and say to this people:

“Keep listening, but do not comprehend; keep looking, but do not understand.”

Make the mind of this people dull, and stop their ears, and shut their eyes, so that they may not look with their eyes, and listen with their ears, and comprehend with their minds, and turn and be healed.’

Then I said, ‘How long, O Lord?’ And he said:

‘Until cities lie waste without inhabitant, and houses without people, and the land is utterly desolate; until the Lord sends everyone far away, and vast is the emptiness in the midst of the land.

Even if a tenth part remains in it, it will be burned again, like a terebinth or an oak whose stump remains standing when it is felled.’

The holy seed is its stump.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

*Remain seated as the Choir sing
Psalm 138 Confitebor tibi*

*I will give thanks unto thee, O Lord,
with my whole heart : even before the*

gods will I sing praise unto thee.

*I will worship toward thy holy temple,
and praise thy Name, because of thy
loving-kindness and truth : for thou
hast magnified thy Name and thy
word above all things.*

*When I called upon thee, thou heardest
me : and enduedst my soul with much
strength.*

*All the kings of the earth shall praise
thee, O Lord : for they have heard the
words of thy mouth.*

*Yea, they shall sing in the ways of
the Lord : that great is the glory of the
Lord.*

*For though the Lord be high, yet hath
he respect unto the lowly : as for the
proud, he beholdeth them afar off.*

*Though I walk in the midst of trouble,
yet shalt thou refresh me : thou shalt
stretch forth thy hand upon the
furiousness of mine enemies, and thy
right hand shall save me.*

*The Lord shall make good his loving-
kindness toward me : yea, thy mercy,
O Lord, endureth for ever; despise not
then the works of thine own hands.*

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Now I should remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to someone untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace towards me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Hymn 342

Turn to face the Book of the Gospels as it moves to the centre of the nave. 'Alleluia' is sung.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Hear the Gospel of our

Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Luke 5.1-11

Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, 'Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch.' Simon answered, 'Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets.' When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. So they signalled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, 'Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!' For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that

they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people.' When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

A sermon is preached.

The 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.

The Intercessions & Peace

Kneel or sit to pray. The following response may be used: Lord, in your mercy hear our prayer

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

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

As the altar is prepared, and the collection offered to God, we sing:

Hymn Number 449

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Celebrant prays over the offerings, and all respond Amen.

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.**

The Celebrant prays the Preface, leading into:

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 kneel or sit*

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ; who in the same night that he was betrayed,

took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying:

Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, 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.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we, in the company of Mary, Clement, Peter, Paul, and all the

saints, may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever. *All say boldly:* Amen.

Preparation for Communion

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.

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.**

Jesus, lamb of God, have mercy on us. Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us. Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us peace.

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Blessed are those who are called to his supper. **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

Holy Communion

Sidespeople will indicate when to move for Holy Communion. All who are baptised are welcome to receive Communion, or do bring this booklet with you to indicate that you wish to receive a blessing instead.

After all have received Holy Communion, Stand as the Celebrant says Let us pray: Go before us, Lord, in all we do with your most gracious favour, and guide us with your continual help, that in all our works begun, continued and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name, and finally by your mercy receive everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *All say* Amen.

All say 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.

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?

'Tis mystery all: the Immortal dies!
Who can explore his strange design?
In vain the first-born seraph tries
to sound the depths of love divine.

'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore,
let angel minds enquire no more.

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.

Going out into the World

The Lord be with you. And also with you. *The Celebrant blesses and dismisses the congregation.* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. In the name of Christ, Amen!

The organ postlude is part of our act of worship, please remain quiet. If you are able, do please stay for refreshments after the service - served in The Sunley Room (behind the organ)

Congregation Questionnaire

In order to help us in making decisions about priorities, the Parochial Church Council ask everyone to consider filling in the congregational questionnaire that we have launched today.

The responses will be of huge benefit in guiding our next steps. This is an opportunity for everyone - no matter how long or short your time at St Clement's has been - to have your say.

You can complete the questionnaire online at www.stclementsandwich.org.uk/questions - or hard copies are available in church.

Church of England National Online Service

Every Sunday the Church of England offers a pre-recorded online service, coming from a different Church, primarily for those at home.

Last week St Clement's lead the worship - with readings, a visit to the Churchyard Rediscovered, a sermon, and several pieces from our Choir. This video has now had over 360,000 views at the time of going to print! A huge thank you to all who contributed - there has been some really positive feedback.

You can watch now by going to www.stclementsandwich.org.uk/onlineservice

A message from Derek Kirkaldie, Reader

Our Zoom Compline congregation continues to grow. This ancient service of Night Prayer is the perfect way to unwind at the end of a busy day.

To join click on the link in our website
<https://stclementsandwich.org.uk/zoom-compline/>
or email d.kirkaldie@stclementsandwich.org.uk
for a personal invitation.

Next service 18th February 7.30pm, everyone is welcome.
Please feel free to invite a friend.

The funeral of David Burton,

much loved member of our congregation and town community, will take place in St Clement's on Thursday 27th February at noon. All are very welcome, further details to follow.

Parish Directory

PARISH OFFICE

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Parish Administrator

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Monday-Friday 9:00am-12:30pm (1:00pm Fridays)

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The week ahead

Monday 10th February - Feria

Tuesday 11th February - Feria

Wednesday 12th February - Feria

10:00am Holy Communion (*Book of Common Prayer*)

10:45am Interment of Ashes

Thursday 13th February - Feria

Friday 14th February - The Feast of Sts Cyril, M and Methodius, B

10:00am Coffee Pot (*Parish Hall*)

Saturday 15th February - Feria

Sunday 16th February - The Third Sunday Before Lent

8:00am Holy Communion (*Book of Common Prayer*)

10:30am Parish Eucharist (*Common Worship*)

Celebrant: The Rector

Preacher: The Reverend Robin Bendall

www.stclementsandwich.org.uk

Please take this booklet home with you to read, recycle, or pass on