



**THE PARISH OF  
WITNEY**

Saint Mary the Virgin



**775**

Serving Witney  
since 1243

## Solemn Pontifical Mass

Celebrant & Preacher the Bishop of Lincoln

***A Kingdom Church***

Sunday 5 May 2019

10.45am

|

**We warmly welcome everyone  
to Saint Mary's Church in the Parish of Witney.**

We are an inclusive church embracing a hospitable Christianity. Everyone is welcome at this service. If you usually receive communion please join us - or please come forward to receive a blessing.

We are four Church of England churches, some large and some small, serving the town of Witney and the villages round about.

We are here to worship God and to help each other to grow in faith.

We are committed to living our lives in the love, joy and hope of the risen Christ.

You can find us in church, in schools, in hospitals, village halls, supermarkets, nursing homes, up late with the Street Pastors, at the toddler group... wherever people are.

**A particular welcome on Sunday as we continue our 775 celebrations, marking 775 years since this new church was dedicated. We also give thanks that historically we were part of Lincoln Diocese and today we welcome Bishop Christopher, the Bishop of Lincoln, to this church here in Witney as he speaks to us on being *A Kingdom Church* as part of our 775 series.**

**If you are interested in becoming a part of what is happening through the church please speak to one of the welcomers afterwards.**

## ***Order of Service***

### **The Gathering**

*As the bell sounds, we stand for the entrance of the Altar party and sing the processional hymn*

Church of God, elect and glorious,  
holy nation, chosen race;  
called as God's own special people,  
royal priests and heirs of grace:  
know the purpose of your calling  
show to all his mighty deeds;  
tell of love which knows no limits,  
grace which meets all human needs.

God has called you out of darkness  
into his most marvellous light,  
brought his truth to life within you,  
turned your blindness into sight.  
Let your light so shine around you  
that God's name is glorified;  
and all find fresh hope and purpose  
in Christ Jesus crucified.

Once you were an alien people,  
strangers to God's heart of love;  
but he brought you home in mercy,  
citizens of heaven above.  
Let his love flow out to others,  
let them feel a Father's care;  
that they too may know his welcome  
and his countless blessings share.

Church of God, elect and holy,  
be the people he intends;  
strong in faith and swift to answer  
each command your master sends:  
royal priests, fulfil your calling  
through your sacrifice and prayer;  
give your lives in joyful service –  
sing his praise, his love declare.

Words: M Seddon © Laudate! 825  
Music: BLAENWERN, William Rowlands (1860-1937)

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

*All*    **Amen.**

Peace be with you  
**and also with you.**

*All*

Alleluia, Christ is Risen!

*All*    **He is Risen indeed. Alleluia!**

*The Bishop introduces the service and we are invited to the  
recollect our sins and failings as we prepare for the Eucharist*

I set no store by life: I only want to finish the race  
and complete the task which the Lord Jesus assigned to me,  
of bearing witness to the gospel of God's grace.  
Conscious of our failure to proclaim the gospel,  
let us call to mind our sins.

*Silence*

**Almighty God, long-suffering and of great goodness:  
 I confess to you, I confess with my whole heart  
 my neglect and forgetfulness of your commandments,  
 my wrong doing, thinking, and speaking;  
 the hurts I have done to others,  
 and the good I have left undone.  
 O God, forgive me, for I have sinned against you;  
 and raise me to newness of life;  
 through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

May almighty God have mercy on you,  
 ✕ forgive you your sins,  
 and bring you to everlasting life.  
**Amen.**

### ***The Gloria***



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***All: Glory, glory to God, glory to God in the highest heav'ns.  
 Peace, peace, peace on the earth, peace to God's people,  
 all people on earth.***

***Choir:*** Lord God, heavenly King,  
 almighty God and Father, we worship you,  
 we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

***All: Glory, glory to God, glory to God in the highest heav'ns.  
 Peace, peace, peace on the earth, peace to God's people,  
 all people on earth.***

***Choir:*** Lord Jesus Christ, Lord Jesus Christ,  
 only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,  
 you take away the sin of the world:  
 have mercy, mercy on us,

**All: Have mercy, mercy on us.**

*Choir:* You are seated at the right hand, at the right hand of the Father: receive, Lord, receive our prayer.

**All: Receive Lord, receive our prayer.**

***Glory, glory to God, glory to God in the highest heav'ns.***

***Peace, peace, peace on the earth, peace to God's people, all people on earth.***

*Choir:* 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, glory of God, the glory of God the Father.

**All: *Glory, glory to God, glory to God in the highest heav'ns.***

***Peace, peace, peace on the earth, peace to God's people, all people on earth.***

*Choir:* Amen!

**All: Amen!**

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## ***The Collect***

*The Bishop introduces a period of silence with the words:*

Let us pray

God of life, in your risen Son  
you reveal your abiding presence among us  
and summon those reborn in baptism  
to lives of worship and service.  
Fill this assembly with reverence  
as we come before you in prayer.  
Grant us courage and zeal  
in bearing witness before the world  
to your Son, Jesus Christ, the first-born from the dead,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## The Liturgy of the Word

*All sit.*

### ***The First Reading***

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?' He asked, 'Who are you, Lord?' The reply came, 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.'

Acts9.1-6

This is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*The congregation stands*

## **Gradual Hymn**

Bring to the Lord a glad new song,  
children of grace extol your king:  
your love and praise to God belong  
to instruments of music, sing!  
Let those be warned who spurn God' name,  
let rulers all obey God's word,  
for justice shall bring tyrants shame  
let every creature praise the Lord.

Sing praise within these hallowed walls,  
worship beneath the dome of heaven;  
by cymbals' sounds and trumpets calls  
let praises fit for God be given:  
with string and brass and wind rejoice  
then, join our song in full accord  
all living things with breath and voice;  
let every creature praise the Lord.

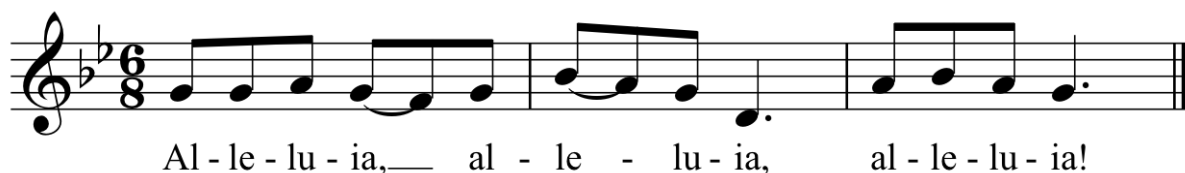
Words; Mrs B Petter & Jubilate Hymns

Laudate 705

Music: JERUSALEM, CHH Parry (1848-1918)

## ***The Gospel Reading***

*All remain standing as we sing the Alleluia and the Gospel is  
declaimed*





The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

✠ Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, 'I am going fishing.' They said to him, 'We will go with you.' They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, 'Children, you have no fish, have you?' They answered him, 'No.' He said to them, 'Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.' So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, 'It is the Lord!' When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the lake. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread.

John 21.1-9

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

***The Sermon***

*By the Bishop of Lincoln*

## *The Creed*

*We stand*

**All 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***

*The Bishop invites us to pray for the intercessions*

We pray for strength to follow Jesus.  
Father, by your Spirit  
**bring in your Kingdom.**

*After the prayer for the departed*

Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord  
**and let light perpetual shine upon them.**

May they rest in peace  
**and rise in glory. Amen.**

And so we unite our prayers with those of faithful disciples and pilgrims in every generation, the apostles, martyrs and saints who inspire us with their lives to answer the call of God and most chiefly with those of Mary, Mother of all Christians.

*Silence is kept and the Bishop concludes the intercessions with a collect*

O God,  
the strength of all those who put their trust in you,  
mercifully accept our prayers  
and, because through the weakness of our mortal nature  
we can do no good thing without you,  
grant us the help of your grace,  
that in the keeping of your commandments  
we may please you both in will and deed;  
through Jesus Christ yours Son, our Lord. **Amen.**

## The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The two disciples told what had happened on the road to Emmaus, and how Jesus had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread. Alleluia!

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

Let us offer one another the sign of peace.

### *The Offertory Hymn*

*As the following hymn is sung the gifts of bread and wine are brought to the Altar and placed upon it. The bishop takes the gifts and honours them and the Altar with incense. The bread and wine are gifts from God and our offering of them back to God is a sign of the offering of our lives in the Lord's service.*

How shall I sing that majesty  
which angels do admire?  
Let dust in dust and silence lie;  
sing, sing, ye heavenly choir.  
Thousands of thousands stand around  
thy throne, O God most high;  
ten thousand times ten thousand sound  
thy praise; but who am I?

Thy brightness unto them appears,  
whilst I thy footsteps trace;  
a sound of God comes to my ears,  
but they behold thy face.  
They sing because thou art their Sun;  
Lord, send a beam on me;  
for where heaven is but once begun  
there alleluias be.

Enlighten with faith's light my heart,  
in flame it with love's fire;  
then shall I sing and bear a part  
with that celestial choir.  
I shall, I fear, be dark and cold,  
with all my fire and light;  
yet when thou dost accept their gold,  
Lord, treasure up my mite.

How great a being, Lord, is thine,  
which doth all beings keep!  
Thy knowledge is the only line  
to sound so vast a deep.  
Thou art a sea without a shore,  
a sun without a sphere;  
thy time is now and evermore,  
thy place is everywhere.

*Words: J. Mason, c.1645-1694*  
*Music: COE FENKirchengesang*  
*Cologne, 1623*

### ***The Prayer over the gifts***

#### *The Bishop prays*

Let us pray:

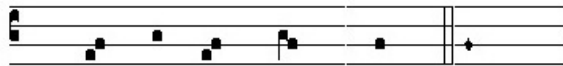
Faithful God,  
you love us with a mother's love;  
look kindly on your children as we gather in praise.  
Pour out your Spirit on all people, that we may live faithfully,  
inspire hope, show love,  
and raise a new song throughout all the earth.

**All Amen.**

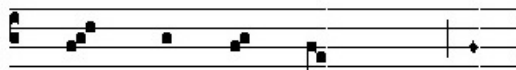
*Christian Aid*



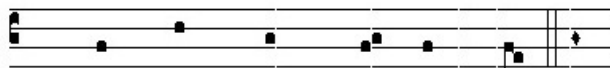
The Lord be with you



**And al-so with you.**



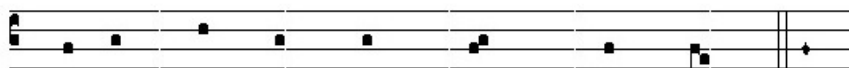
Lift up your hearts.



**We lift them to the Lord.**

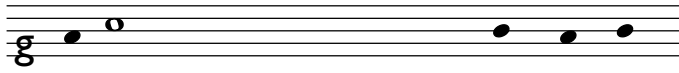


Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

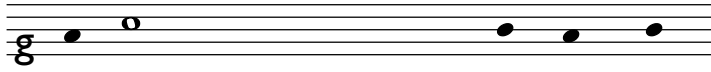


**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

*From Easter Day until the Eve of the Ascension*



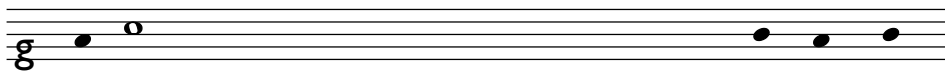
It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,



al-ways and everywhere to give you thanks,



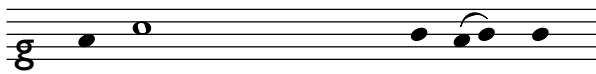
al-migh-ty and e-ter-nal Fa-ther,



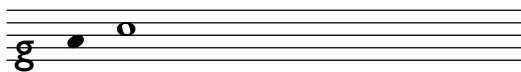
and in these days of Easter to celebrate with joy-ful hearts



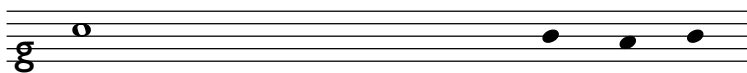
the me-mo-ry of your won-der-ful works.



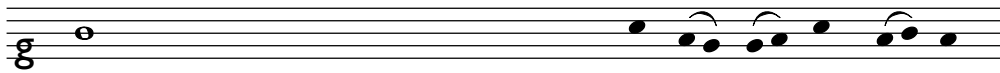
For by the mystery of his pas-sion



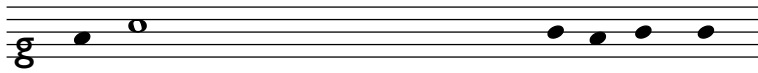
Je-sus Christ, your risen Son,



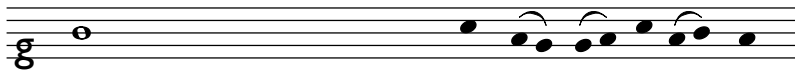
has conquered the powers of death and hell



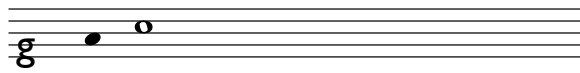
and restored in men and women the im-age of your glo-ry.



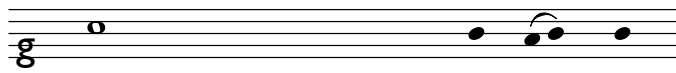
He has placed them once more in pa-ra-dise



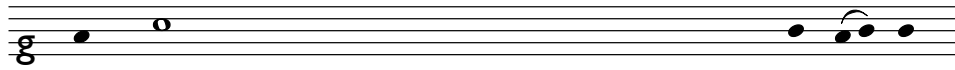
and opened to them the gate of life e-ter-nal.



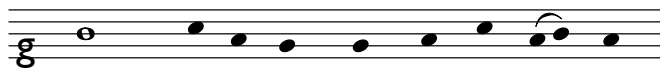
And so, in the joy of this Passover,



earth and heaven resound with glad-ness,



while angels and archangels and the powers of all cre-a - tion



sing for ev-er the hymn of your glo - ry:



9 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God\_ of pow'r and God\_ of might:



17 heav-en and earth, hea-ven and earth are full of your glo-ry, your pow'r and might. Ho -



25 san - na Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the high - est heav'ns, Ho -



33 san - na Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the high - est heav'ns.



41 Bles-sed, bles-sed is He\_ who comes, bles-sed, bles-sed is He\_ who comes,



49 bles-sed is He, bles-sed is He, who comes in the name of the Lord\_ Back to §

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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.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again.**

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 the Mother of God,  
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.  
**Amen.**

Rejoicing in God's new creation,  
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 Bishop breaks the consecrated host.*

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.**

Je-sus, Lamb of God, Bread of Life for us; Je-sus Lamb of God, Wine of Joy for us;  
Source of un - i - ty; Pre-cious cor - ner - stone;  
Bread that makes us one; Wine that heals our pain;

5  
Je - sus, Lamb of God, bear - ing all our sins: have mer - cy on us, give us your peace.

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Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.  
**All Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

*We break the bread for the whole world. We invite all who seek God and are drawn to Christ, and all who walk the way of faith to come forward and receive the body and blood of Christ as directed by the Sidesperson. Or you are warmly invited to come forward for a blessing – please carry this booklet and bow your head. Gluten free wafers are available on request.*

What do you want of me Lord?  
Where do you want me to serve you?  
Where can I sing your praises?  
I am your song.  
Jesus, Jesus, you are the Lord.  
Jesus, Jesus, you are the way.

I hear you call my name Lord  
And I am moved within me.  
Your Spirit stirs my deepest self,  
Sing your song in me.  
Jesus, Jesus you are my Lord.  
Jesus, Jesus you are the way.

Above, below, and around me  
Before, behind, and all through me  
Your Spirit burns deep within me  
Fire my life with Your love.  
Jesus, Jesus be warmth of my heart.  
Jesus, Jesus, you are the way.

You are the light in my darkness  
You are my strength when I'm weary  
You give me sight when I'm blinded  
Come see for me.  
Jesus, Jesus, you are my light.  
Jesus, Jesus, you are the way.

I am your song and servant  
Singing your praise like Mary.  
Surrendered to your Spirit,  
'Let it be done to me.'  
Jesus, Jesus, 'Let it be done to me.'  
Jesus, Jesus, you are the way.

*Words Sr Donna Marie McGargill OSM  
Source: Celebration for everyone*

*Silence is kept. All stand as the Bishop prays*

Lord God,  
Your Son made himself known to his disciples  
in the breaking of the bread:  
open the eyes of our faith,  
that we may see him in all his redeeming work;  
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

*The altar party process to the East end:*

## Rite of Thanksgiving

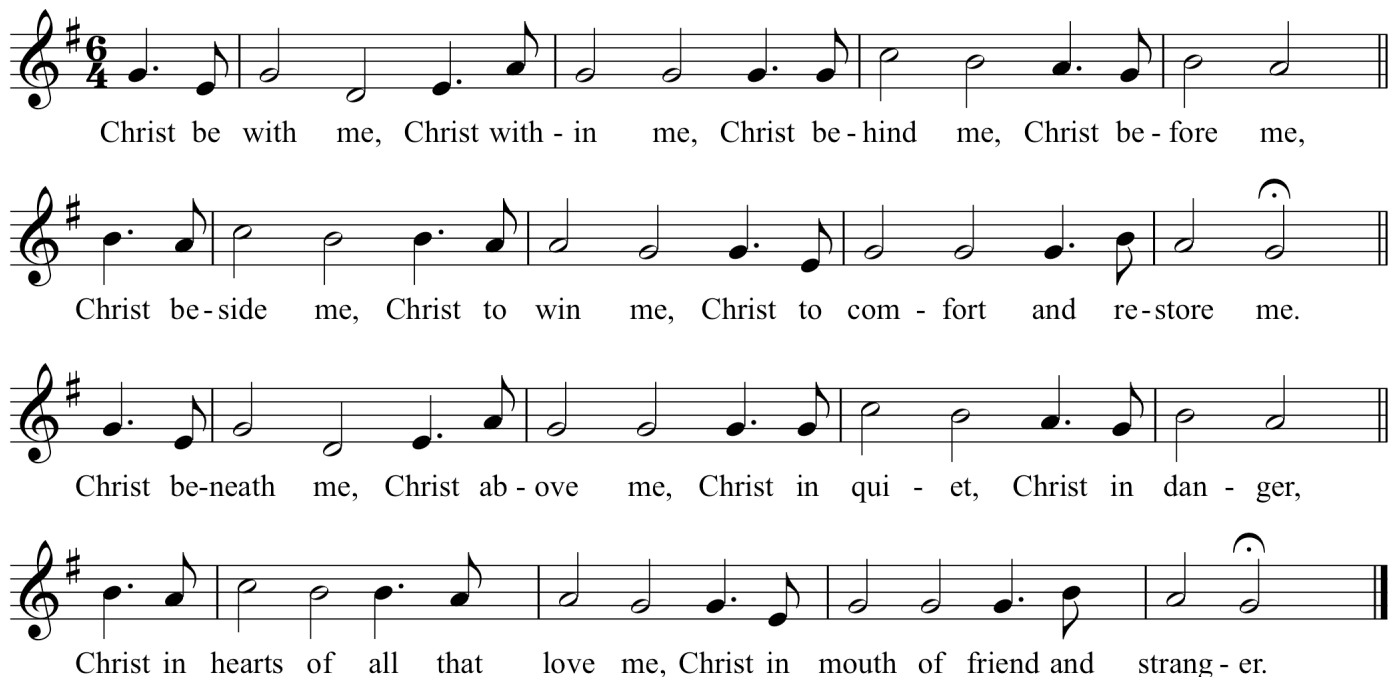
Bishop:

As we recall this church being rededicated in 1243 and the links with the diocese of Lincoln, we rejoice with all who have served in this place before us and give grateful thanks for their faithfulness. We ask God to bless the current and future members of this ancient house of prayer, that God's glory be made known. And so we pray:

**Lord, keep us mindful of the innumerable treasures that have been handed to us from generations before. Give us humility to serve as we've been served. And may the love to which they testified in these stones live on in us so that your kingdom may increase and others may come to know your power to save.**

**Amen.**

*The altar party then return to the principle altar as the following is sung:*



Christ be with me, Christ with - in me, Christ be - hind me, Christ be - fore me,  
Christ be - side me, Christ to win me, Christ to com - fort and re - store me.  
Christ be - neath me, Christ ab - ove me, Christ in qui - et, Christ in dan - ger,  
Christ in hearts of all that love me, Christ in mouth of friend and strang - er.

## ***The Dismissal***

Christ is Risen:

*All* **The world below lies desolate**

Christ is Risen:

*All* **The spirits of evil are fallen**

Christ is Risen:

*All* **The angels of God are rejoicing**

Christ is Risen:

*All* **The tombs of the dead are empty**

Christ is Risen indeed from the dead,  
the first of the sleepers,

*All* **Glory and power are his forever and ever. Amen.**

~ written by Hippolytus (AD 190-236)

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

*All* **who has made heaven and earth.**

Blessed be the name of the Lord,

*All* **now and for ever. Amen.**

The God of peace,

who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,

that great shepherd of the sheep,

through the blood of the eternal covenant,

make you perfect in every good work to do his will

working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight;

✠ and the blessing of God almighty,

the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,

be among you and remain with you always.

*All* **Amen.**

We are raised to new life with Christ.

Go in his peace. Alleluia! Alleluia!

*All* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Go to the world! Go into all the earth.  
Go preach the cross where Christ renews life's worth,  
baptising as the sign of our rebirth.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Go to the world! Go into every place.  
Go live the Word of Christ's redeeming grace.  
Go seek God's presence in each time and space.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Go to the world! Go struggle, bless and pray;  
the nights of tears give way to joyous day.  
As servant Church, you follow Christ's own way.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Organ Extemporisation*

Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,  
for I am with you 'til the age shall end,  
when all the hosts of glory cry 'Amen'  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Words: Sylvia Dunstan (1953-93) © Laudate! 426  
Music: SINE NOMINE, R. Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Let us bless the Lord!  
*All* **Thanks be to God!**

# Join Us

Please support Saint Mary's Witney.

Your contributions make possible our ministry in liturgy and worship, community outreach, schools, learning, late night cafe, street pastors, visiting nursing homes and hospitals and other pastoral care. For more information please speak to one of the Ministry Team or Wardens.

Saint Mary's is profoundly grateful to the priests, lay leaders, volunteers, DCC members and friends whose unparalleled energy and determination make thousands of annual services, programmes and events possible. Please visit the parish website and twitter feed to stay in touch.

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