



AVON VALLEY CHURCHES

ST MARY'S FORDINGBRIDGE

Church of St Mary the Virgin, Fordingbridge

Patronal Festival,

Sunday, 12th September, 2021



The Angel of the Lord brought tidings to Mary
And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.

'Behold, the handmaid of the Lord;
Let it be to me according to your word.'

The Word was made flesh
And dwelt among us.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: YE WATCHERS AND YE HOLY ONES

1. Ye watchers and ye holy ones,
Bright Seraphs, Cherubim and Thrones,
Raise the glad strain, Alleluia.
Cry out, Dominions, Princedoms, Powers,
Virtues, Archangels, Angels' choirs, Alleluia.
2. O higher than the Cherubim,
More glorious than the Seraphim,
Lead their praises, Alleluia.
Thou Bearer of the eternal Word,
Most gracious, magnify the Lord, Alleluia.

3. Respond, ye souls in endless rest,
Ye Patriarchs and Prophets blest,
Alleluia, Alleluia.
Ye holy Twelve, ye Martyrs strong,
All Saints triumphant, raise the song, Alleluia.

4. O friends, in gladness let us sing,
Supernal anthems echoing,
Alleluia, Alleluia.
To God the Father, God the Son,
And God the Spirit, Three in One, Alleluia.

The president greets the people, saying
Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus
Christ be with you
and also with you.

We share items for Prayer or Thanksgiving.

Loving, generous God,
We give you thanks for Mary,
obedient, expectant,
surprised and ecstatic.
For her patient waiting,
her quiet questioning,
her readiness to receive,
her willingness to give,
for her magnificent song of praise
and the welcoming womb for Jesus,
Loving God, we thank you. AMEN.

*A Minister introduces the CONFESSION, followed by a period of silence
for recollection of sins:*

May your loving mercy come to me, O Lord,
And your salvation according to your word.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Your word is a lantern to my feet and a light to my path:

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

O let your mercy come to me that I may live, for your law is my delight. Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

The President gives the ABSOLUTION.

GLORIA

**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.**

*The President introduces a period of silent prayer before the
COLLECT OF THE DAY.*

Almighty God, who looked upon the lowliness of the Blessed Virgin Mary and chose her to be the mother of your only Son: grant that we who are redeemed by his blood may share with her in the glory of your eternal kingdom; 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.**

READING: *Galatians 4:4-7*

At the end the reader says:
For the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

HYMN: FOR MARY, MOTHER OF OUR LORD

1. For Mary, Mother of our Lord,
God's holy name be praised,
Who first the Son of God adored,
As on her child she gazed.
2. Brave, holy Virgin, she believed,
Though hard the task assigned,
And by the Holy Ghost conceived
The Saviour of mankind.
3. God's handmaid, she at once obeyed,
By her 'Thy will be done';
The second Eve love's answer made
Which our redemption won.
4. The busy world had got no space
Or time for God on earth;
A cattle manger was the place
Where Mary gave him birth.
5. She gave her body as God's shrine,
Her heart to piercing pain;
She knew the cost of love divine,
When Jesus Christ was slain.
6. Dear Mary, from your lowliness
And home in Galilee
There comes a joy and holiness
To every family.

7. Hail, Mary, you are full of grace,
Above all women blest;
And blest your son, whom you embrace
In birth and death confessed.

GOSPEL READING: *Luke 1:46-55*

When the Gospel is announced, the Reader says:
Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
Glory to you, O Lord.

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour :
he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.

**From this day all generations will call me blessed :
the Almighty has done great things for me
and holy is his name.**

He has mercy on those who fear him :
from generation to generation.

**He has shown strength with his arm :
and has scattered the proud in their conceit,**

Casting down the mighty from their thrones : and lifting up the lowly.

**He has filled the hungry with good things :
and sent the rich away empty.**

He has come to the aid of his servant Israel :
to remember his promise of mercy,

**The promise made to our ancestors :
to Abraham and his children for ever.**

At the end, the Reader says:
This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We proclaim the Church's faith in Jesus Christ.

We believe and declare that our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is both divine and human.

God, of the being of the Father,
the only Son from before time began;
human from the being of his mother, born in the world;
**fully God and fully human;
human in both mind and body.**

As God he is equal to the Father,
as human he is less than the Father.
**Although he is both divine and human
he is not two beings but one Christ.**

One, not by turning God into flesh,
but by taking humanity into God;
**truly one, not by mixing humanity with Godhead,
but by being one person.**

For as mind and body form one human being
so the one Christ is both divine and human.
**The Word became flesh and lived among us;
we have seen his glory,
the glory of the only Son from the Father,
full of grace and truth.**

From the Athanasian Creed

THE PRAYERS

During which we use the response:

Lord, have mercy on those who fear you.

Holy is your name.

At the end:

**Christ, born of Mary, reigning on high,
hear and accept our prayer. AMEN.**

(Michael Perham for St George's Church, Oakdale, More Prayers for Sundays, 42h, adapted)

Stand for the Peace:

The peace of Christ, Son of God and Son of Mary,
fill our hearts and lives.

The Peace of the Lord be always with you;

And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All exchange a sign of peace.

OFFERTORY HYMN: MOTHER OF GOD'S LIVING WORD

1. Mother of God's living Word,
Glorifying Christ your Lord;
Full of joy, God's people sing,
Grateful for your mothering.
2. Virgin mother, full of grace,
For God's Word to find a place;
Watered by the Spirit's dew
In your womb the Saviour grew.
3. Sharing his humility,
Bethlehem and Calvary,
With him in his bitter pain,
Now in heaven you see him reign.
4. We are God's new chosen race,
New-born children of his grace,
Citizens of heaven who
Imitate and honour you.
5. We, God's people on our way,
Travelling by night and day,
Moving to our promised land,
Walk beside you hand in hand,
6. Christ, your Son, is always near,
So we journey without fear,
Singing as we walk along:
Christ our joy, and Christ our song!

7. Sing aloud to Christ with joy
Who was once a little boy:
Sing aloud to Mary, sing,
Grateful for her mothering.

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THE PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

God of mercy,
**accept our gifts and all we bring before you,
as you accepted the love of Mary,
the mother of your Son Jesus Christ,
who is Lord, now and for ever. AMEN.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER for Feast of BVM

(AL/GP)

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.

Gracious God, we thank you
for sending your Son into the world.
Today we give you special thanks for Mary,
whose willing obedience enabled
your work of salvation
to go forward through him.
With her, the angels and archangels,
and all the company of heaven,
we praise and magnify your name, 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.**

Blessed are you, Lord God, for Jesus your Son,
who, on the night before he died,
took bread and wine, blessed them and said,
This is my Body, This is my Blood,
Eat and drink to remember me.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

Come freshly to us now, Lord God,
pour out your Holy Spirit on this bread and wine
and on your people,
as we eat and drink these holy gifts
and remember Christ's offering of himself on the Cross.

**Renew in us a sense of our calling;
strengthen us to be faithful in our witness;
and transform our lives so that your love
may flow through us
to bring your life and peace to the world.**

Through Jesus Christ the Lord of heaven and earth,
in the power of the Spirit,
we worship you, O Father Almighty,
in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever. AMEN.**

Sit or kneel

Joining our prayers with those of Mary and the whole Church,
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 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.**

I heard the voice of a great multitude crying, Alleluia!

The Lord our God has entered into his kingdom

**Blessed are those who are called
to the supper of the Lamb. Alleluia!**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
grant us peace.**

*All are welcome to receive Communion at this service. If you would prefer
a Blessing, please indicate to the person offering Communion.*

During Communion there will be music, silence, and time for reflection on our worship and the week ahead.

The Choir sings the Anthem: Banks - Of a rose, a lovely rose

MOTHERING GOD

1. Mothering God, you gave me birth
In the bright morning of this world.
Creator, Source of every breath,
You are my rain, my wind, my sun;
You are my rain, my wind, my sun.

2. Mothering Christ, you took my form,
Offering me your food of light,
Grain of life, and grape of love,
Your very body for my peace;
Your very body for my peace.

3. Mothering Spirit, nurturing one,
In arms of patience hold me close,
So that in faith I root and grow
Until I flower, until I know;
Until I flower, until I know.

*(c) Words: Jean Janzen, Tune: Gary Philbrick, 2008, CCL Licence No. 159376.
The text is based on the writings of Julian of Norwich.*

After Communion the Minister prays the Post Communion Prayer, after which:

Lord God, heavenly Father,
**grant to your Church today
the obedience to your will of Mary
the faith of the apostles,
the hope of the martyrs
and the love of the Lord,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. AMEN.**

THE WORD WHOM EARTH AND SEA AND SKY

1. The Word whom earth and sea and sky
Adore and laud and magnify,
Whose might they show, whose praise they tell,
In Mary's body deigned to dwell.

2. To Mary the Archangel came
And God's new message did proclaim,
'Hail, Mary, you shall bear a son
Who shall be called the Holy One.

3. Blest in the message Gabriel brought,
Blest by the work the Spirit wrought;
More blest to bring to human birth
The long-desired of all the earth.

4. Lord Jesus, Virgin-born, to thee
Eternal praise and glory be,
Whom with the Father we adore
And Holy Spirit evermore. Amen.

(Latin, 7th-8th C., after JM Neale. V.2 Anne LeCroy, T. Gonfalon Royal)

THE BLESSING

May the Father, who has loved the eternal Son from before the
foundation of the world, shed that love upon you his children.

AMEN.

May Christ, who by his incarnation gathered into one things earthly
and heavenly, fill you with joy and peace. **AMEN.**

May the Holy Spirit, by whose overshadowing Mary became the God-
bearer, give you grace to carry the good news of Christ. **AMEN.**

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy
Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **AMEN.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. AMEN.