

**The United Benefice of Hunsdon with
Widford and Wareside**



**Morning
Worship**

*In the morning, O LORD, you hear my voice.
Psalm 5:3*

Welcome to our service of Morning Worship.

It is our hope that while you are here you will:

hear from God through his written word,
proclaim the glories of God through song and hymn,
petition God for the needs of his world, and
grow in love for the people of God.

There is an Offertory/Collection during this service.

We invite those who love the Lord Jesus to give generously. If you are a UK tax payer, please give your donation in one of our Gift-Aid envelopes. If you *complete the details* on the front of the envelope, we can reclaim the tax you have already paid.

Please be assured that nobody is under any obligation to give; rather, as the Apostle Paul reminds us:

“Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”
2 Corinthians 9:7

Please do not remove this order of service from the church building. Thank you.

Preparation

Welcome

The Lord be with you

All: and also with you

This is the day that the Lord has made.

All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Penitence

Words of introduction are spoken and the people are invited to confess their sins

Lord God,

we have sinned against you;

we have done evil in your sight.

We are sorry and repent.

Have mercy on us according to your love.

Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin.

Renew a right spirit within us

and restore us to the joy of your salvation;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

God's forgiveness is declared

Blessed is the Lord,

All: for he has heard the voice of our prayer;

therefore shall our hearts dance for joy

All: and in our song will we praise our God.

Hymn – God has spoken by his prophets

The Word of God

The Scriptures

We listen to God speaking to us through the Bible

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Hymn – To God be the glory

Gospel Canticle

The Benedictus (The Song of Zechariah)

**Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel,
who has come to his people and set them free.
He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour,
born of the house of his servant David.**

**Through his holy prophets God promised of old
to save us from our enemies, from the hands of all that hate us,
to show mercy to our ancestors,
and to remember his holy covenant.**

**This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham:
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
free to worship him without fear,
holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.**

**And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
to give his people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of all their sins.**

**In the tender compassion of our God
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
to shine on those who dwell in darkness
and the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace. *Luke 1.68-79***

**Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

Sermon

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers

We pray for the church and the world.

The following responses may be used:

Lord, in your mercy
All: Hear our prayer

and at the end:

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

The Collect

The Lord's Prayer

Gathering our prayers and praises into one, 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.**

The Conclusion

Hymn – What a friend we have in Jesus

The Grace

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all evermore. Amen.**

cf. 2 Cor 13:14

Go in the peace of Christ!

All: Thanks be to God.

This week, in view of God's mercy,
offer yourselves as living sacrifices,
holy and pleasing to God –
this is your true act of worship.

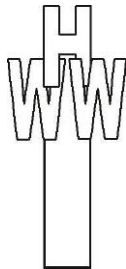
Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world,
but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

cf. Romans 12:1-2

Let your light shine before men,
that they may see your good works
and glorify your Father in heaven.

cf. Matthew 5:16

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Knowing Christ and Making Him Known