



The Benefice of Langelei

**A Service of
Songs of Praise**



*on the retirement of
The Revd Lizzie Hood,
Rector of the Benefice of Langelei*

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Holy Trinity, Leverstock Green

Sunday 28th April 2024 at 3pm

Order of Service

President: The Revd Lizzie Hood

Organists: Ms Rosemary Knight & Miss Bertha Kum

Introit: Prayer of St Richard of Chichester

O holy Jesus, most merciful redeemer, friend and brother,
may I know thee more clearly, love thee more dearly
and follow thee more nearly. Amen.

L.J.White

Processional hymn: Let us build a house

- 1 Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions.
All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.
- 2 Let us build a house where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek
to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness
and a symbol of God's grace.
Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus.
All are welcome, all are welcome,
All are welcome in this place.
- 3 Let us build a house where love is found
in water, wine and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground,
where peace and justice meet.

3 Suffering servant, scorned, ill - treated,
victim crucified!
death is through the cross defeated,
sinners justified:
Yours the glory...

4 Priestly king, enthroned for ever
high in heaven above!
sin and death and hell shall never
stifle hymns of love:
Yours the glory...

5 So, our hearts and voices raising
through the ages long,
ceaselessly upon you gazing,
this shall be our song:
Yours the glory...

Michael Saward (b. 1932)

The Blessing

Go in peace,
and may God's arms surround you and embrace you,
may the Spirit fill your hearts with truth, beauty, and love,
and may Christ Jesus our Lord walk with you
and guide your every step,
both now and for evermore.

Amen.

Organ voluntary

'Gigue' Fugue in C major, BuxWV174, by Buxtehude

Retiring collection in aid of Holy Trinity Church

All are welcome to join us for refreshments in the Village Hall

We wish Lizzie every blessing for a happy retirement!

- 2 Lord, for that word, the word of life which fires us,
speaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze,
teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us:
Lord of the word, receive Your people's praise.
- 3 Lord, for our land in this our generation,
spirits oppressed by pleasure, wealth and care:
for young and old, for commonwealth and nation,
Lord of our land, be pleased to hear our prayer.
- 4 Lord, for our world when we disown and doubt him,
loveless in strength, and comfortless in pain,
hungry and helpless, lost indeed without him:
Lord of the world, we pray that Christ may reign.
- 5 Lord for ourselves; in living power remake us -
self on the cross and Christ upon the throne,
past put behind us, for the future take us:
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.

Timothy Dudley-Smith (b. 1926).

Farewells

Hymn: Christ triumphant

- 1 Christ triumphant, ever reigning,
Saviour, Master, King!
Lord of heaven, our lives sustaining,
hear us as we sing:
 Yours the glory and the crown,
 the high renown, the eternal name.
- 2 Word incarnate, truth revealing,
Son of Man on earth!
power and majesty concealing
by your humble birth:
 Yours the glory...

Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space,
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:
All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

- 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone,
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger;
All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.
- 5 Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard,
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed
as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter;
all are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

Marty Haugen (b. 1950)

Words of welcome and introduction

Opening prayer

**Lord, as we come to worship you
grant us penitence as we remember our sins,
thankfulness as we remember your mercy,
and joy as we remember your goodness.
Lift our hearts and voices to worship you
in Spirit and in truth,
in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Hymn: I heard the voice of Jesus say

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
“Come unto me and rest;
lay down, thou weary one,
lay down thy head upon my breast.”
I came to Jesus as I was,
so weary, worn, and sad;
I found in him a resting place,
and he has made me glad.

2 I heard the voice of Jesus say,
“Behold, I freely give
the living water, thirsty one;
stoop down and drink and live.”
I came to Jesus, and I drank
of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
and now I live in him.

3 I heard the voice of Jesus say,
“I am this dark world's light.
Look unto me; thy morn shall rise
and all thy day be bright.”
I looked to Jesus, and I found
in him my star, my sun;
and in that light of life I'll walk
till trav'ling days are done.

Horatius Bonar (1808–1889)

Prayers of penitence and absolution

Come, let us return to the Lord and say:

**Lord our God, in our sin we have avoided your call.
Our love for you is like a morning cloud,
like the dew that goes away early.
Have mercy on us,
deliver us from judgement,
bind up our wounds and heal us,
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Lord's prayer

**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.**

Choir anthem: Risen Lord

Risen Lord, risen Lord,
give us a heart for simple things,
love, laughter, bread wine and dreams.
Fill us with green, growing hope.
Risen Lord, risen Lord,
make us a people whose song is Alleluia,
whose sign is peace and whose name is love.
Risen Lord, risen Lord,
Give us a heart for simple things,
And to sing Alleluia.

Barry Rose

Hymn: Lord, for the years

I Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided,
urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way,
sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided:
Lord of the years, we bring our thanks today.

5 Lord, your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
and never be the same.
In your company I'll go
where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
in you and you in me.

John L Bell (b.1949) and Graham Maule (b.1958)

Prayers of intercession

These responses may be used

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

This ending may be used

Merciful Father,

**All accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Prayer for the life and witness of our churches:
Loving God,
in Christ you welcome us as your children.
Help us to listen to you, to learn from you,
to serve you in others,
and to trust where you lead.
May the living and beating heart
of our communities be your love,
shown in all we say and do;
to the glory of Jesus Christ, our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Lord enrich you with his grace
and nourish you with his blessing;
the Lord defend you in trouble and keep you from all evil;
the Lord accept your prayers,
and absolve you from your offences,
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Saviour. **Amen.**

Hymn: The Lord's my shepherd

1 The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want;
he makes me lie in pastures green.
He leads me by the still, still waters,
his goodness restores my soul.

And I will trust in you alone,
and I will trust in you alone,
for your endless mercy follows me,
your goodness will lead me home.

2 He guides my ways in righteousness,
and he anoints my head with oil,
and my cup, it overflows with joy,
I feast on his pure delights.
And I will trust...

3 And though I walk the darkest path,
I will not fear the evil one,
for you are with me, and your rod and staff
are the comfort I need to know.
And I will trust...

Stuart Townend (b. 1963), based on Psalm 23

Collect

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ
have overcome death and opened to us
the gate of everlasting life:
grant that, as by your grace going before us
you put into our minds good desires,
so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect;
through Jesus Christ our risen Lord. **Amen.**

Bible reading: Isaiah 43: 1-3

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn: From heaven you came, helpless babe

- 1 From heaven you came, helpless babe,
entered our world, your glory veiled;
not to be served but to serve,
and give your life that we might live.

*This is our God, the Servant King,
he calls us now to follow him,
to bring our lives as a daily offering
of worship to the Servant King.*

- 2 There in the garden of tears,
my heavy load he chose to bear;
his heart with sorrow was torn.
'Yet not my will but yours,' he said.

- 3 Come see his hands and his feet,
the scars that speak of sacrifice,
hands that flung stars into space,
to cruel nails surrendered.

- 4 So let us learn how to serve,
And in our lives enthrone him;
Each other's needs to prefer,
For it is Christ we're serving.

Graham Kendrick(b.1950)

Bible reading: Philippians 4: 4-9

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn: Will you come and follow me?

- 1 Will you come and follow me
if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown
in you and you in me?
- 2 Will you leave yourself behind
if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare
should your life attract or scare,
will you let me answer prayer
in you, and you in me?
- 3 Will you let the blinded see
if I but call your name?
Will you set the pris'ners free
and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean
and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean
in you, and you in me?
- 4 Will you love the 'you' you hide
if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
to reshape the world around
through my sight and touch and sound
in you, and you in me?