



# The Parish of Wellow

## MORNING PRAISE

10am - Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2018 - Third Sunday of Epiphany

**“Then Abraham approached him and said: "Will you sweep away the righteous with the wicked? What if there are fifty righteous people in the city? Will you really sweep it away and not spare the place for the sake of the fifty righteous people in it?" Genesis 18:23-25**

### Welcome/Notices

#### Hymn

Be still for the presence of the Lord  
The holy one is here  
Come bow before him now  
With reverence and fear  
In him no sin is found  
We stand on holy ground  
Be still for the presence of the Lord  
The holy one is here  
Be still for the glory of the Lord  
Is shining all around  
He burns with holy fire  
With splendour he is crowned

How awesome is the sight  
Our radiant king of light  
Be still for the glory of the Lord  
Is shining all around  
Be still for the power of the Lord  
Is moving in this place  
He comes to cleanse and heal  
To minister his grace  
No work to hard for him  
In faith receive from him  
Be still for the power of the Lord  
Is moving in this place

#### Confession

**Father eternal, giver of light and grace, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour, in what we have thought, in what we have said and done, through ignorance, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We have wounded your love and marred your image in us. We are sorry and ashamed and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past and lead us out from darkness to walk as children of light. Amen.**

#### The collect for the Third Sunday of Epiphany

Almighty God, whose Son revealed in signs and miracles the wonder of your saving presence: renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your mighty power; 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.**

#### Song

We bow down and confess  
You are Lord in this place  
We bow down and confess  
You are Lord in this place.

You are all I need  
It's your face I seek  
In the presence of Your light  
We bow down, We bow down (Repeat)

### Our vision at St Julian's

We long to see people - *‘Living lives worthy of the Lord, that seek to please Him in every way, that bear fruit in every good work, that grow in the knowledge of God and are being strengthened according to His glorious might.’ - Colossians 1:10-11*



Living the story. Telling the story.

## Shaping our Future

In response to God's immense love for us, we seek to be **God's people living and telling the story of Jesus**

We have discerned three priorities for action that need to be at the centre of our diocesan life to help each and every one of us:

- 1. To place mission and evangelism at the heart of everything we do.**
- 2. To realign our ministry resources towards mission.**
- 3. To identify, develop and use the gift of all our people**

*Gracious God, may your Holy Spirit guide us into the future.*

*Help us, throughout the diocese, to show uninhibited reliance on your grace and power as we seek the renewal of our lives.*

*Give us courage, rigour, imagination and generosity in order that your kingdom may come and your abundant life be known by all. Amen*

**Reading** – Genesis 18:16-33

16 When the men got up to leave, they looked down toward Sodom, and Abraham walked along with them to see them on their way. 17 Then the LORD said, "Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do? 18 Abraham will surely become a great and powerful nation, and all nations on earth will be blessed through him. 19 For I have chosen him, so that he will direct his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing what is right and just, so that the LORD will bring about for Abraham what he has promised him." 20 Then the LORD said, "The outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is so great and their sin so grievous 21 that I will go down and see if what they have done is as bad as the outcry that has reached me. If not, I will know." 22 The men turned away and went toward Sodom, but Abraham remained standing before the LORD. 23 Then Abraham approached him and said: "Will you sweep away the righteous with the wicked? 24 What if there are fifty righteous people in the city? Will you really sweep it away and not spare the place for the sake of the fifty righteous people in it? 25 Far be it from you to do such a thing-- to kill the righteous with the wicked, treating the righteous and the wicked alike. Far be it from you! Will not the Judge of all the earth do right?" 26 The LORD said, "If I find fifty righteous people in the city of Sodom, I will spare the whole place for their sake." 27 Then Abraham spoke up again: "Now that I have been so bold as to speak to the Lord, though I am nothing but dust and ashes, 28 what if the number of the righteous is five less than fifty? Will you destroy the whole city because of five people?" "If I find forty-five there," he said, "I will not destroy it." 29 Once again he spoke to him, "What if only forty are found there?" He said, "For the sake of forty, I will not do it." 30 Then he said, "May the Lord not be angry, but let me speak. What if only thirty can be found there?" He answered, "I will not do it if I find thirty there." 31 Abraham said, "Now that I have been so bold as to speak to the Lord, what if only twenty can be found there?" He said, "For the sake of twenty, I will not destroy it." 32 Then he said, "May the Lord not be angry, but let me speak just once more. What if only ten can be found there?" He answered, "For the sake of ten, I will not destroy it." 33 When the LORD had finished speaking with Abraham, he left, and Abraham returned home. This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Talk** Tenacious Prayer – *Katie Chapman*

**Hymn**

<p>1 How deep the Father's love for us, How vast beyond all measure, That He should give His only Son To make a wretch His treasure. How great the pain of searing loss - The Father turns His face away, As wounds which mar the Chosen One Bring many sons to glory.</p> <p>2 Behold the man upon a cross, My sin upon His shoulders; Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice Call out among the scoffers.</p>	<p>It was my sin that held Him there Until it was accomplished; His dying breath has brought me life - I know that it is finished.</p> <p>3 I will not boast in anything, No gifts, no power, no wisdom; But I will boast in Jesus Christ, His death and resurrection. Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer; But this I know with all my heart - His wounds have paid my ransom.</p>
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**Prayers of Intercession**

Almighty God, you call us to shine like stars in the world, to shed light like a lamp set upon a lamp stand. Help us, and all your Church, to fulfil at least a little of that calling through our words, our actions, our living, and our loving, to share something of what we have received from you. Where there is darkness, **let us bring light.**

Teach us to speak openly and honestly of our faith, not falling into the language of jargon or cliché, but testifying in our own words to what Jesus means to us. Where there is darkness, **let us bring light.**

Teach us to work with our fellow Christians of all denominations and none, recognising the need to learn from one another, and working together in the cause of the Gospel. Where there is darkness, **let us bring light.**

Teach us to love those around us, not simply other believers, nor merely in words, but all people, and through actions that speak unmistakably of our sincerity. Where there is darkness, **let us bring light.**

Almighty God, it is easy to talk of being your people; much harder to live as though we are. Equip us and enable us to respond to that challenge, and reach out in love to the world. Where there is darkness, **let us bring light**

Let us pray using the words our Saviour taught us.

**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.**

**Hymn**

- 1 O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder  
consider all the works thy hand hath made,  
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,  
thy power throughout the universe displayed;  
*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,  
how great thou art, how great thou art!*  
*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,  
how great thou art, how great thou art!*
- 2 And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,  
sent him to die - I scarce can take it in:  
that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,  
he bled and died to take away my sin;  
*Then sings my soul, ...*
- 3 When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation  
and take me home - what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then shall I bow in humble adoration,  
and there proclaim, my God, how great thou art!  
*Then sings my soul,...*