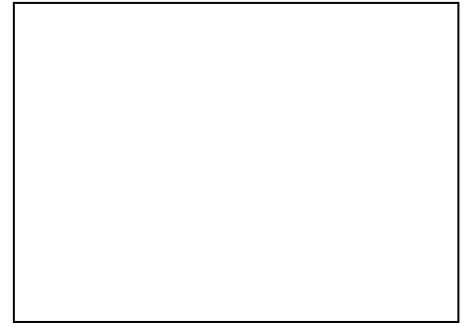


Order of Service – Brightons

Sunday 29th December 2019 (All Age)



Welcome

- *We offer ourselves with our children to God in worship*

Good morning! Welcome to Brightons Parish Church especially if you are a visitor with us this morning.

After the service there will be refreshments and we hope that one and all will take up the opportunity to stay for some time together.

On your way in you will have received a news sheet, so please take the time to read it, take it away or download it later from the website or Facebook page.

Within that you'll see we've had two bereavements...

Gathering Moment

We gather with our children to offer our worship to God, and as we begin our time together, let us take a moment to pause, asking the Lord to presence Himself among us and whilst we do that the Bible will be brought in. (PAUSE)

The choir will now sing the introit...

INTROIT:

'BREATHE ON ME, BREATH OF GOD'

(CHOIR)

Call to Worship

After Jesus was born, three magi came to visit Him, and we read in Matthew's gospel:

"On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts..." (Matthew 2:11)

We may not come with gifts of gold or spices, but we come with the gift of our faith, our worship, and our love. So, let us bring these to Jesus and rejoice in Him as we sing together two songs...

We'll sing these one after the other, and at the beginning of the second hymn the adults are invited to sit, though the children may remain standing if they wish, and we'll take up the offering then for the life and witness of the church...

if any of the children would like to help, then they should go to the front doors at the beginning of the second hymn.

So, let us begin with ...

Hymn *Hymn of the Saviour* **(RIBBONS)**

OFFERING UPLIFTED (WHILST WE SING...)

(INVOLVE CHILDREN/YOUTH IN OFFERING)

HYMN *MP-1221 PRAISE IS RISING* **(SHAKERS)**

- *We ask for God's help and listen for Him speaking to us*

Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Boys and girls, we are going to pray now, but we are going to use our bodies to help us pray some short prayers. During this prayer you can keep your eyes open if you want, or you can close them. So, first can everyone find their...

- **HEART**

- **Lord Jesus, You love us, and we come to worship You today because we also love You.**

- **HEAD**

- **Lord Jesus, I want to know You better, so please help me understand You.**

- **EARS**

- **Lord Jesus, help me hear Your voice today, as we read the Bible and think and talk about You.**

- **MOUTH (STICK OUT TONGUE)**

- **Lord Jesus, guard my tongue, so that I only speak words which are kind and helpful.**

- **EYES**

- **Lord Jesus, help me to see who needs my help today.**

- **POINT TO OFFERING**

- **Lord Jesus, we bring these offerings as a sign of our love for You and the people around us. May these gifts help Your Kingdom grow in this world.**

Now, boys and girls, we're going to finish with that special prayer Jesus taught us, and during the prayer JILL is going to use sign language, and if you want to, you can copy her signing.

So, let's pray one more time.

**Our Father who is in heaven
hallowed be Your name.
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For Yours is the kingdom,
the power and the glory, for ever, Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING (MARALYN STIRLING)

Matthew 4:12-20

All Age Talk

- Well, boys and girls, have you ever played the game, “Simon Says”? [EXPLAIN GAME – THEN PLAY]**
- Well done everyone. To win the game, you have to listen very carefully and do exactly what Simon says.**
- And that game reminds me of something Jesus said, He said to His friends, and He says to us:**

“Go and make disciples...teaching them to obey everything I have commanded You.”

- **We read those words at the end of the book of Matthew and Jesus says those words in the area called Galilee.**
- **But when Jesus first met His friends, He also met them in the area of Galilee, and Maralyn just read about that first meeting for us.**
- **On both occasions, Jesus was with His friends in Galilee, and on both occasions, Jesus said some very important words.**
- **The first time they met, what did Jesus say? [“Come, follow me”] and then at the end, what did Jesus say? [“Go and make disciples...”]**
- **Both times Jesus is talking about disciples – “Come, follow me” was an invitation to be a disciple of Jesus – and then He commands us to go make disciples who also follow Jesus. But here’s a question:**
- **What is a disciple? Can anyone tell me? [GET IDEAS]**
- **I want to help you picture this, so I’ll need 4 helpers – who wants to be my helper?**
- **[DRESS UP WITH TOWELS OVER HEADS & MINE]**
- **So, a disciple was someone to was learning from a teacher, a rabbi. I’m the rabbi – these are my disciples.**

- **Now, a disciple was to learn what the rabbi knew, to do what the rabbi did, and to be like the rabbi. So, you four have got to do whatever I do.**
- **[ACT OUT ACTIONS FOR DISCIPLES TO COPY]**
- **And whatever I say, you've to learn it as well.**
- **[SPEAK SIMPLE SENTENCES]**
- **Now, one of the things that rabbis did was to walk around a lot, and as they walked they taught their disciples, helping their disciples become like them. [WALK AROUND SANCTUARY]**
- **And as they walked around dust would gather behind them and so much dust would be kicked up that it made some people very dirty with dust – who do you think got dirty with the dust? [THE DISCIPLES]**
- **And so there was phrase that was used, “may you be covered in the dust of your rabbi” – but it meant more than just the dust of the road; it meant everything that the rabbi was trying to share with His disciples – the things they should know and do and become.**
- **And so, disciples were people who learnt from a rabbi – they learnt to know and do and be like their teacher.**
- **And so, when Jesus said, “Come, follow me...”, and when He said, “Go and make disciples....” – this is what He had in mind: that those fishermen, His**

friends, and you and I, we are all to learn from Jesus – we are His disciples – we are to learn His ways, we are to learn what He knows, do what He did, and become more like Jesus.

- And so, whatever is important to Jesus, is to become important to us, because Jesus says to all of us, “Come, follow me”, and also says to all of us, “Go and make disciples...”**
- So, why don't you turn to your neighbour – point at them – and say, “You are a disciple of Jesus”. [EVERYONE TO BE INVOLVED INC. ADULTS]**

PRAISE *Step by step* **(ACTIONS)**

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND FOR OTHERS
(DAVID MACASKILL)**

All Age Activity

- So, who are disciples of Jesus? [ALL OF US]**
- As disciples of Jesus, what is important to Jesus, should be important to us, because as His disciples we are learn what He knows, do what He does, and become more like Jesus.**
- And if God has been at work in the ministries and generations gone before us, then we should know a little bit of what is important to Jesus.**

- **And it's crucial that we know what is important to Jesus because next year change is coming – in our church, in our denomination, in our world – and if we are to make good decisions, then we need to be clear about what is important to Jesus.**
- **And so, in a moment, we are going to do something together, from the youngest to the oldest.**
- **You'll need to make sure you have a post-it note and a pen to share.**
- **In a moment, I'd like you to break into small groups, and try to make sure everyone is included, and on your post-it note, please answer this question:**
 - **What is important to Jesus?**
 - **Give up to 3 examples of what that looks like.**
- **Now, in your group, no one is allowed to write the same answer – so, everyone has to come up with something different for “what is important to Jesus?”**
- **And underneath that, it would be great to get some of your ideas of what that looks like, and you might want to turn to today's passage for some ideas.**
- **I'd like all of us to do this, from the children all the way up – and when the kids are finished, they can put their post-its on this board and then get a colouring sheet.**
- **[DO ACTIVITY]**
- **On your way out today, please put your post-it notes on a board – there are various ones around.**
- **These post-it notes are going to be used by the Strategy Group within the Kirk Session to begin a**

process whereby we become clearer about the mission and values of this congregation.

- **This is only the first step in the process, there's much more work to be done, and there will be more opportunities in the future. But thank you for sharing in today and we look forward to getting your post-its.**

- *We respond to God*

We close our time together with a final hymn...

Hymn *MP-549 Our eyes have seen the glory*

Benediction

**Go as disciples of Jesus,
Go to follow Him, live for Him,
And call others to do so as well.**

**And as you go
the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you,
this day and for evermore.**

THREEFOLD AMEN (ALL)

- *Go to REAR door*