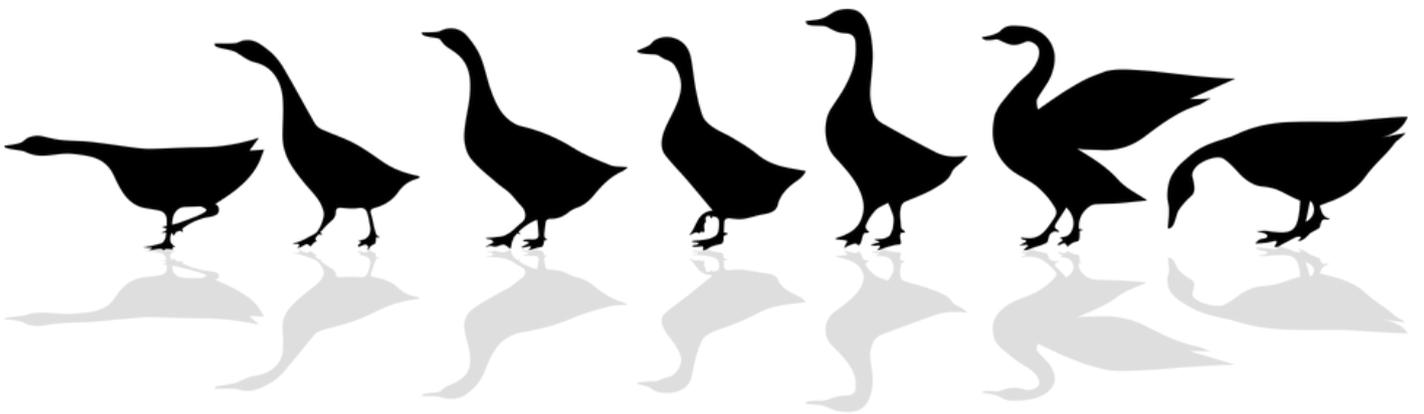


Dedication Festival Sunday



St Wulstan's Church, Warndon

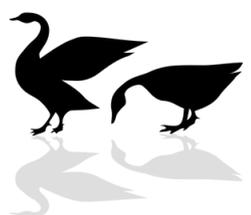
GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
and also with you.

**Almighty God,
to whose glory today we celebrate
the dedication of this house of prayer:
we praise you for the many blessings
you have given to those
who worship you here:
and we pray that all who seek you
in this place today may find you,
and, being filled with the Holy Spirit,
may become a living temple acceptable to you;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.**

THE SPECIAL PRAYER FOR TODAY

Lord God, who raised up Wulfstan to be a bishop among your people
and a leader of your Church: help us, after his example,
to live simply,
to work diligently and
to make your kingdom known;
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.



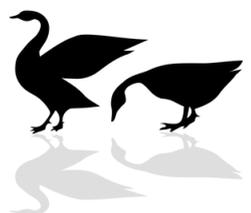
READINGS FROM THE BIBLE

Genesis 28:10–19 --- Jacob's Dream at Bethel

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went towards Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the Lord stood beside him and said, 'I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.'

Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, 'Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!' And he was afraid, and said, 'How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.' So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. He called that place Bethel; but the name of the city was Luz at the first.

*For the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.*



We share together in the words of Psalm 122

I was glad when they said to me
'Let us go to the house of the Lord.'

And now our feet are standing within your gates
**O Jerusalem; Jerusalem,
built as a city that is at unity in itself.**

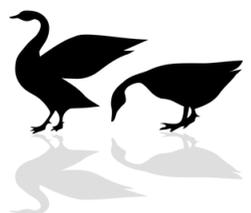
Thither the tribes go up,
the tribes of the Lord, as is decreed for Israel,
to give thanks to the name of the Lord.
**For there are set the thrones of judgement,
the thrones of the house of David.**

O pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
'May they prosper who love you.
**Peace be within your walls
and tranquillity within your palaces.'**

For my kindred and companions' sake,
I will pray that peace be with you.

For the sake of the house of the Lord our God,
I will seek to do you good.

*Blessed be God,
Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer
Blessed be God forever*

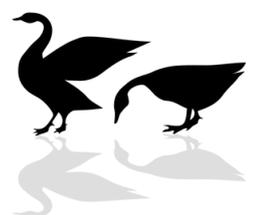


1 Kings 8.22-30 --- Solomon's Prayer of Dedication

Then Solomon stood before the altar of the Lord in the presence of all the assembly of Israel, and spread out his hands to heaven. He said, 'O Lord, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and steadfast love for your servants who walk before you with all their heart, the covenant that you kept for your servant my father David as you declared to him; you promised with your mouth and have this day fulfilled with your hand. Therefore, O Lord, God of Israel, keep for your servant my father David that which you promised him, saying, "There shall never fail you a successor before me to sit on the throne of Israel, if only your children look to their way, to walk before me as you have walked before me." Therefore, O God of Israel, let your word be confirmed, which you promised to your servant my father David.

'But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Even heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you, much less this house that I have built! Have regard to your servant's prayer and his plea, O Lord my God, heeding the cry and the prayer that your servant prays to you today; that your eyes may be open night and day towards this house, the place of which you said, "My name shall be there", that you may heed the prayer that your servant prays towards this place. Hear the plea of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray towards this place; O hear in heaven your dwelling-place; heed and forgive.'

*For the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.*



Matthew 21.12-16 --- Jesus Cleanses the Temple

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew:

Glory to you O Lord

Then Jesus entered the temple and drove out all who were selling and buying in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold doves. He said to them, 'It is written, "My house shall be called a house of prayer"; but you are making it a den of robbers.'

The blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he cured them. But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the amazing things that he did, and heard the children crying out in the temple, 'Hosanna to the Son of David', they became angry and said to him, 'Do you hear what these are saying?'

Jesus said to them, 'Yes; have you never read, "Out of the mouths of infants and nursing babies you have prepared praise for yourself"?'

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you O Christ.

A REFLECTION

DECLARING OUR FAITH

Let us declare our faith in God, saying

We believe in God the Father,

from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.

We believe in God the Son,

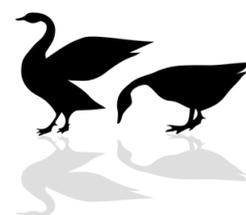
who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit,

who strengthens us with power from on high.

We believe in one God;

Father, Son and Holy Spirit.



PRAYING FOR OTHERS

THE PEACE

Peace to this house from God our heavenly Father.

Peace to this house from his Son who is our peace.

Peace to this house from the Holy Spirit, the life-giver

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

RECEIVING FORGIVENESS

We are a temple of God's indwelling Holy Spirit,
yet we have grieved him.

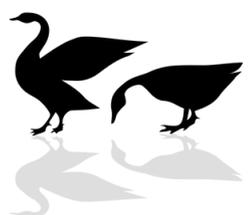
The temple of our bodies does not belong to us,
but was bought at the price of Christ's precious blood.

So we come, in sorrow yet with confidence,
to ask forgiveness of our Father in heaven.

Silence.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed, through negligence,
through weakness, through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry 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 grant that we may serve you
in newness of life to the glory of your name.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.



THE SONG OF THE ANGELS

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.**

CELEBRATING THE EUCHARIST

Lord, teach us how to repay you for your goodness towards us.
We will lift up the bread of life and the cup of salvation
and call upon your name.

Amen.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

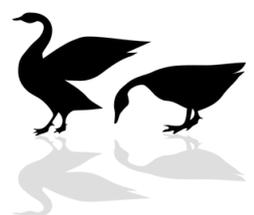
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks, almighty and eternal Father, enthroned upon the praises of your people. We thank you for this house of prayer, in which you bless your family as we come to you in pilgrimage. Here you reveal your presence in sacramental signs and make us one with you through the unseen bond of grace.



Here you build your temple of living stones and bring the Church to its full stature as the body of Christ throughout the world, to reach its perfection at last in the heavenly city of Jerusalem, which is the vision of your peace.

Therefore, in union with the heavenly Jerusalem, with angels in joyful assembly, with all whose names are written in heaven and with the spirits of the righteous made perfect, we lift up our voices to join in the triumphal song of praise:

**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.

We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you. He broke the bread, gave it to them and said: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

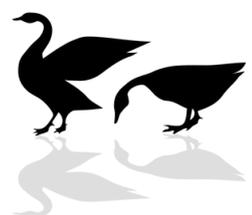
When supper was ended he took the cup of wine. Again he praised you, gave it to them and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross. Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Jesus Christ is Lord!

**Lord, by your cross and resurrection
you have set us free.**

You are the Saviour of the World.



Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth. Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with St Wulfstan and all the saints to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever.

Amen!

THE LORDS PRAYER

Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us,
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray.

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. Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. 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.

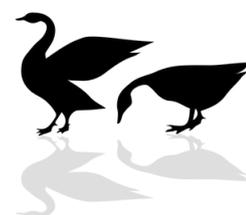
THE BREAKING OF BREAD

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.**

SHARING THE COMMUNION TOGETHER

Come, for all things are now ready. Come to the table with all your kin and share with all in need: the gift of healing for those in pain, the gift of forgiveness for those in sin, the gift of assurance for those in doubt, the gift of life for those who give themselves to the Lord, and the gift of Sabbath for God's people, a Saviour for us all.



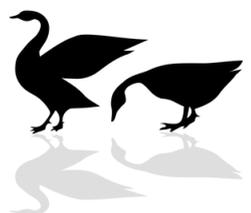


We share communion together

PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION

God, shepherd of your people,
whose servant Wulfstan
revealed the loving service of Christ
in his ministry as a pastor of your people:
by this eucharist in which we share
awaken within us the love of Christ
and keep us faithful to our Christian calling;
through him who laid down his life for us,
but is alive and reigns with you, now and for ever.

**Almighty God, eternal Father,
we have sat at your feet,
learnt from your word
and eaten from your table.
We give you thanks and praise
for accepting us into your family.
Send us out with your blessing,
to live and to witness for you
in the power of your Spirit,
through Jesus Christ,
whose life we proclaim.**



BLESSING AND FAREWELL

Unless the Lord builds the house,
those who build it labour in vain.

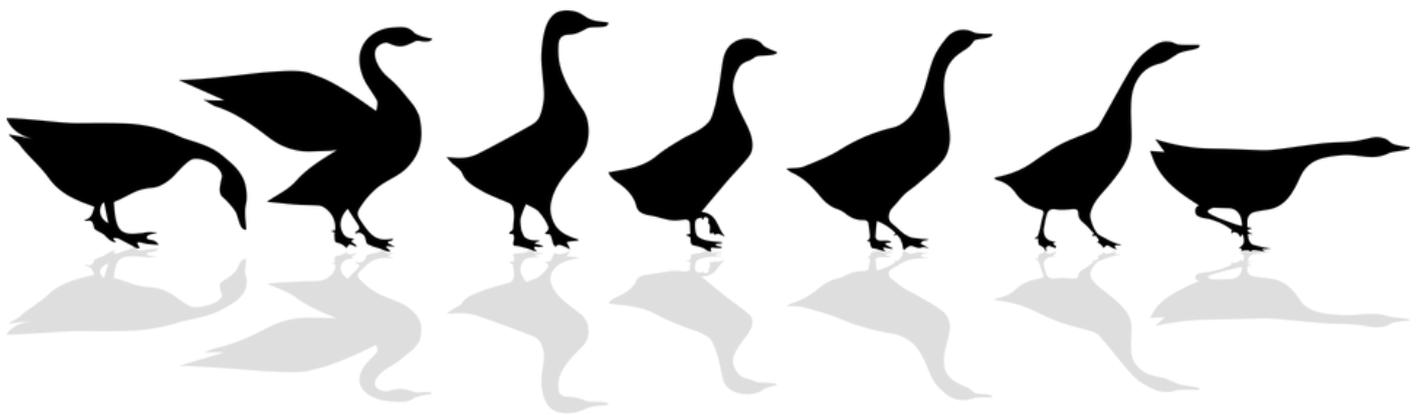
May the Lord look with favour on us his people
and in his mercy hear the cry of our hearts:

Bless the earth,
heal the sick,
let the oppressed go free
and fill your Church
with power from on high.

Amen!

Like living stones,
precious in his sight,
go in peace to proclaim
the mighty acts of God.

Thanks be to God!



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