

St Nicholas Church, Wells-next-the-Sea

**WELCOME TO THIS SERVICE OF CELEBRATION OF
HER MAJESTY'S PLATINUM JUBILEE**

on this

PENTECOST SUNDAY, 5th June 2022



*We gather together with praise and thanksgiving on our hearts to mark the
Platinum Jubilee of The Queen's reign.*

*We come as people of faith to recognise and celebrate Her Majesty The
Queen's 70 years of her sovereignty and service as a
leader, a mother, a wife, and servant*

HYMN 550 Praise, my soul, the King of heaven

(Remain standing)

God of all nations,

on this day of Pentecost we praise you for the power of your Holy Spirit,
equipping each one of us for our life's work.

We celebrate especially the wonderful work of our Queen,
who has put loyalty before her royalty through all the ages of her reign.
And who, day by day, has served you, her God and Christ her King,
with humility, resilience and grace.

For her courage, her dignity, her sincerity, **We praise you**

For her dedication, her resilience, her faith, **We praise you.**

For all the ways she has put service before self, **We praise you**

And we ask your blessing on her and all those she loves at this special time,
and always.

(sit)

God of grace and glory, we give you thanks for the gift of your servant Elizabeth our Queen,
 for the example of service and steadfastness which she has shown among us.
 Give us courage and energy, that our whole life, might be dedicated to the common good in the world you have made.
 In the power of the Holy Spirit of Pentecost we pray,
Amen

We give thanks for the work of your Spirit in Her Majesty's deep sense of vocation and the example of a life symbolised by service and sustained by faith.
 God over all, **we give you thanks.**

We give thanks for her witness to your reign of justice and mercy through our risen and ascended Lord Jesus Christ.
 God over all, **we give you thanks.**

We give thanks for governance that cares for both citizens and global neighbours.
 God over all, **we give you thanks.**

We give thanks for the steadfast witness of the Christian Church and of communities of faith here and around the world.
 God over all, **we give you thanks.**

We give thanks that we can gather in our diversity and celebrate today.
 God over all, **we give you thanks**

FORGIVENESS

We ask forgiveness (*sit or kneel*)

As we prepare to confess our sins, may we be enlightened by the words of Queen Elizabeth, from her 1984 Christmas message.

“Forgiveness lies at the heart of the Christian faith. Above all, we must retain the child’s readiness to forgive, with which we are all born and which it is all too easy to lose as we grow older. Forgiveness can heal broken families; it can restore friendships and it can reconcile divided communities. It is in forgiveness that we feel the power of God’s love.”

Merciful God, we approach you asking for forgiveness, for healing and reconciliation and to feel the power of your Love.

We have not simply done justice and loved kindness -
 We have stretched our grasp with greed.
 We have ravaged your creation with entitlement.

Forgive us.

Quotations from Queen Elizabeth for reflection

I declare before you all that my whole life whether it be long or short shall be devoted to your service... But I shall not have strength to carry out this resolution alone unless you join in it with me, as I now invite you to do: I know that your support will be unfailingly given. God help me to make good my vow, and God bless all of you who are willing to share in it.

Princess Elizabeth, 21 April 1947

When I spoke to you last... I asked you all, whatever your religion, to pray for me on the day of my Coronation - to pray that God would give me wisdom and strength to carry out the promises that I should then be making... I have been uplifted and sustained by the knowledge that your thoughts and prayers were with me.

Her Majesty the Queen, Coronation Day, 2 June 1953

‘I know just how much I rely on my faith to guide me through the good times and the bad. Each day is a new beginning. I know that the only way to live my life is to try to do what is right, to take the long view, to give of my best in all that the day brings, and to put my trust in God...I draw strength from the message of hope in the Christian gospel.’ *Queen Elizabeth, 2002 (p.6 in The Servant Queen, by Mark Greene & Catherine Butcher)*

The Queen, in her 1975 Christmas message said, ‘His [Jesus’s] simple message of love has been turning the world upside down ever since. He showed that what people are and what they do, does matter and does make all the difference.... It does matter therefore what each individual does each day. Kindness, sympathy, resolution and courteous behaviour are infectious. Acts of courage and self-sacrifice ...are an inspiration to others. And the combined effect can be enormous.... We may feel powerless alone but the joining efforts of individuals can defeat the evils of our time. Together they can create a stable, free and considerate society.’

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PRAYER FOR THE QUEEN

Loving Father,
 as we pray for Elizabeth our Queen, strengthen and uphold her in times of joy
 and sustain her in times of sorrow.
 Bless our nation, and its contribution to the life of this United Kingdom.
 In the Spirit of Christ, continue your loving purposes in her
 and unite us also in love and service to one another.
 Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

COMMISSIONING

In 1939, words taken from a poem by Minnie Louise Haskins were shared by Princess Elizabeth, then 13 years old, with her father, King George VI.

“I said to the man who stood at the Gate of the Year, ‘Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown.’ And he replied, ‘Go out into the darkness, and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be to you better than light, and safer than a known way.’”

SENDING FORTH

**Let us put our hands into the hand of God and go out with joy
 Awakened to the treasure within and around us,
 to bring transformation, challenge and hope to the world.
 And may the abundant blessings of God,
 Source, Saviour and Spirit
 Be ours today and always. Amen.**

HYMN 238 Great is thy faithfulness

NATIONAL ANTHEM

As we are forgiven, give us the readiness of a child
 To forgive others,
 Those who have caused division and pain
 Those who spread intolerance and prejudice
 Those who destroy that which we try to build up.

Open our hearts to abandon prejudice and suspicion.

Use us to restore harmony

That all may do justice, love kindness and walk humbly walk with you

And feel the power of your love.

**Heavenly Father we pray in the power of the Spirit and in union with
 Christ our Lord**

NEW TESTAMENT READING *(all sit)*

ACTS 2.1-21



HYMN 144 Father Lord of all creation

GOSPEL READING *(all stand)*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John, reading from chapter 14.

All: **Glory to you, O Lord**

At the end, the reader says: This is the Gospel of the Lord

All: **Praise to you, O Christ**

TALK

PRAYERS for the church, our nation and the world

SHARING OF THE PEACE

HYMN 81 Brother, sister, let me serve you

SHARING AT THE TABLE OF OUR LORD

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation; in your love you made us for yourself. When we turned away you did not reject us, but came to meet us in your Son.

You embraced us as your children and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.

In Christ you shared our life that we might live in him and he in us.

He opened his arms of love upon the cross and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.

On the night he was betrayed, at supper with his friends he took bread, and gave you thanks he broke it and gave it to them, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

Father, we do this in remembrance of him: his body is the bread of life.

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At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks, and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins; do this in remembrance of me.

Father, we do this in remembrance of him: his blood is shed for all.

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory, send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.

As we eat and drink the holy gifts make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.

With your whole Church throughout the world we offer you this sacrifice of praise and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven”

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father,

which art in heaven....

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you and his blood which he shed for you. Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

(All are welcome to share in the Communion. If you are a non-communicant, and would like a Blessing, leave your hands at your side)



POST COMMUNION COLLECT for Pentecost

Faithful God, who fulfilled the promises of Easter by sending us your Holy Spirit. Give us the gift of love, that we might learn to understand one another across our differences. And give us the power to speak your words of truth and justice in every place and time. **Amen**