

Essex Association of Change Ringers District

**St’s Church
place**

photo

Evensong

Saturday 17th January 2026, 4.00pm

Led by Rev.

Priest in Charge

Welcome

Priest: The light and peace of Jesus Christ be with you
All and also with you.

Priest: The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.
All Let us rejoice and sing God's praise for ever.

Hymn: Angel Voices Ever Singing A&M589

Stand if able to

Priest: Today we give thanks for those whose ministry begins not at the lectern or altar, but in towers and ringing chambers; those who call us to worship with rope and rhythm, for the community they create, and the joy they bring.
May every bell rung in our parishes proclaim God's presence, peace, and praise. Amen.

Let us pray.

Faithful one, whose word is life: come with saving power to free our praise, inspire our prayer and shape our lives for the kingdom of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

Christ the light of the world has come to dispel the darkness of our hearts.

In his light let us examine ourselves and confess our sins.

All Lord God, we have sinned against you; we have done evil in your sight. We are sorry and repent. Have mercy on us according to your love. Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin. Renew a right spirit within us and restore us to the joy of your salvation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Priest: May the Father of all mercies cleanse you from our sins and restore you in his image to the praise and glory of his name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The Collect(s)

Collect for Bell Ringers

Almighty God, whose voice brings worlds into being and whose Spirit calls your people together, we thank you for the ministry of our bell ringers: for their commitment, their practice, and their care for tradition.

Bless their ringing, that with each stroke our villages may hear good news, be stirred to worship, and be drawn closer to your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The Collect for Peace

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed; give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that both, our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that, by thee, we being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

All Amen.

The Collect for Aid against all Perils

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

All Amen.

The Word.

Psalm 150

O praise God in his holiness;
Praise him in the firmament of his power.

**All: Praise him for his mighty acts;
Praise him according to his excellent greatness.
Praise him with the blast of the trumpet;**

Praise him upon the harp and lyre.
**All: Praise him with timbrel and dances;
Praise him upon the strings and pipe.**
Praise him with ringing cymbals;
Praise him upon the clashing cymbals.
All: Let everything that has breath praise the Lord

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; As it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.

First Lesson: Exodus 19. 16-19. *We sit*
Read by

[16] On the morning of the third day there was thunder and lightning. A thick cloud covered the mountain. A trumpet gave out a very loud blast. Everyone in the camp trembled with fear. [17] Then Moses led the people out of the camp to meet with God. They stood at the foot of the mountain. [18] Smoke covered Mount Sinai, because the LORD came down on it in fire. The smoke rose up from it like smoke from a furnace. The whole mountain trembled and shook. [19] The sound of the trumpet got louder and louder. Then Moses spoke. And the voice of God answered him.
This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Hymn: Tell Out My Soul – A&M394 *We stand if able*

Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 12. 12-27 *We sit*
Read by

[12] There is one body, but it has many parts. But all its many parts make up one body. It is the same with Christ. [13] We were all baptized by one Holy Spirit. And so we are formed into one body. It didn't matter whether we were Jews or Gentiles, slaves or free people. We were all given the same Spirit to drink. [14] So the body is not made up of just one part. It has many parts. [15] Suppose the

foot says, "I am not a hand. So I don't belong to the body." By saying this, it cannot stop being part of the body. ^[16] And suppose the ear says, "I am not an eye. So I don't belong to the body." By saying this, it cannot stop being part of the body. ^[17] If the whole body were an eye, how could it hear? If the whole body were an ear, how could it smell? ^[18] God has placed each part in the body just as he wanted it to be. ^[19] If all the parts were the same, how could there be a body? ^[20] As it is, there are many parts. But there is only one body. ^[21] The eye can't say to the hand, "I don't need you!" The head can't say to the feet, "I don't need you!" ^[22] In fact, it is just the opposite. The parts of the body that seem to be weaker are the ones we can't do without. ^[23] The parts that we think are less important we treat with special honor. The private parts aren't shown. But they are treated with special care. ^[24] The parts that can be shown don't need special care. But God has put together all the parts of the body. And he has given more honor to the parts that didn't have any. ^[25] In that way, the parts of the body will not take sides. All of them will take care of one another. ^[26] If one part suffers, every part suffers with it. If one part is honoured, every part shares in its joy. ^[27] You are the body of Christ. Each one of you is a part of it.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Sermon.

Prayers

We kneel or sit:

For bell ringers: We give thanks for those who ring our bells, for skill, dedication, and teamwork. May their ringing be a ministry of joy and witness in our parishes

Lord, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer.

For safety and strength: We pray for strength, safety, and focus in practice and performance, and for the care and maintenance of our towers and bells.

Lord, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer.

For our community: For neighbours who hear the bells the lonely, the weary, the joyful, and the searching. May every ring be an invitation to hope.

Lord, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer.

For the worship of the Church: That bells will continue to call people into God's presence, reminding us that prayer still rises from these villages and that Christ is alive in our midst.

Lord, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer.

For ringers past: We remember with gratitude all bell ringers who have gone before us, whose love and commitment built the foundations we enjoy today.

May they rest in God's eternal peace.

Lord, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer.

Merciful Father,

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

As our Saviour taught us so we pray,

All Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that 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: To God Be The Glory Great Things A&M818

Collection is taken

Bell Ringers' Prayer of Dedication

Lord Jesus Christ may the sound of our bells carry your peace into the stillness, your joy into our celebrations, your comfort into our sorrows, and your call into the hearts of all who listen. Make us, like the bells we ring, faithful proclaimers of your love. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you most humble and hearty thanks for all your goodness and loving kindness.

We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And give us, we pray, such a sense of all your mercies that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful, and that we show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

The Blessing.

We stand if abale to

The Lord bless you and watch over you, the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you, the Lord look kindly on you and give you peace; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

Closing Hymn: Now Thank We All Our God A&M739