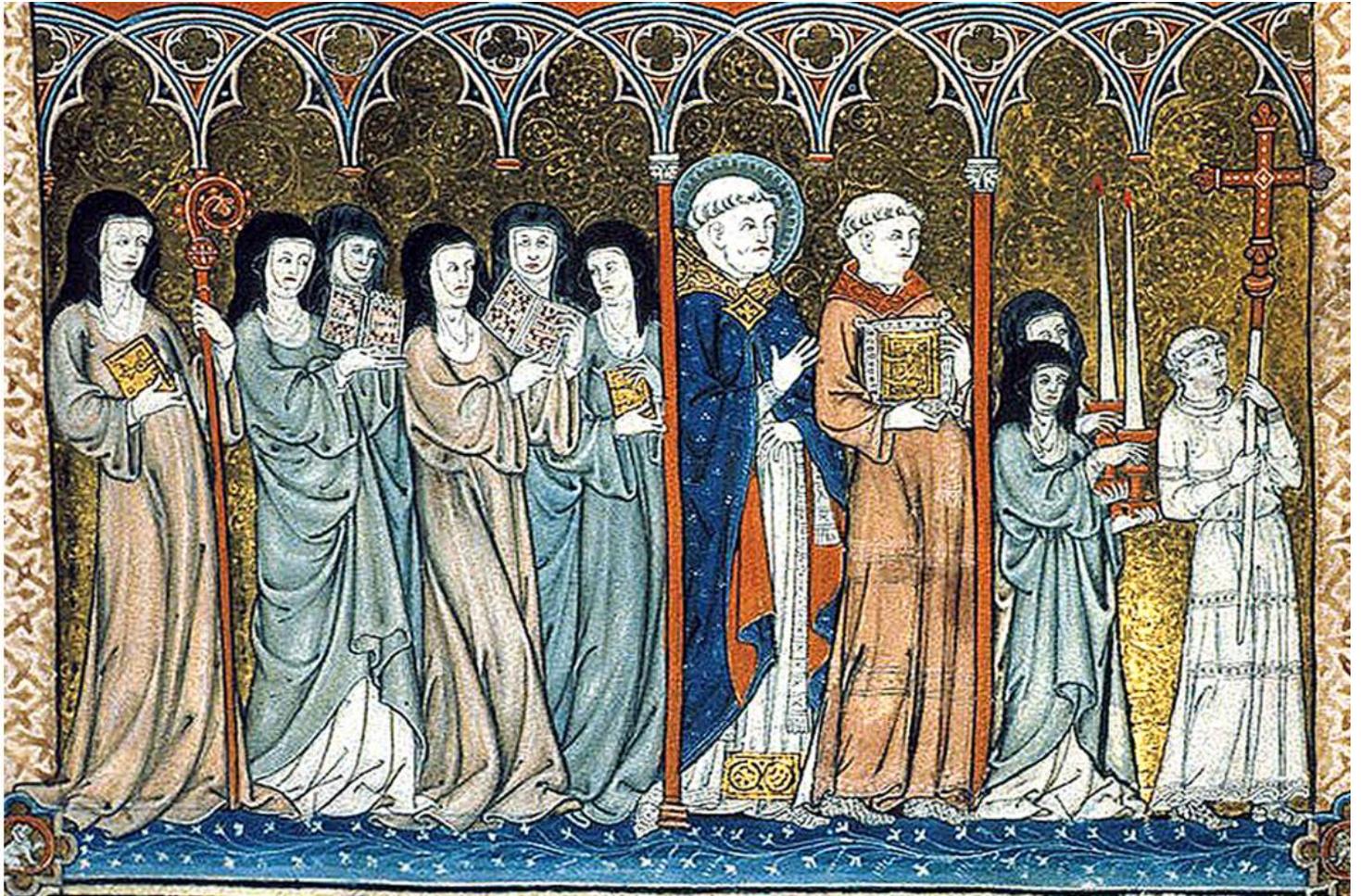


Tuesday 26 October 2021

St Cedd



Cedd was a disciple of St. Aidan of Lindisfarne. His three brothers, Chad, Cynebill, and Cćlin, all became monks. King Peada of Mercia invited him to preach among the Middle Angles. A year later, he went to Essex as a missionary after its king converted to Christianity.

As Bishop, Cedd re-instated St. Paul's in London as the main seat of his diocese. He ordained priests and deacons and created the two monastic foundations of Tilbury and Lastingham.

Cedd died of the plague that same year at Lastingham.

Sermon © Revd Jane Hyde.

Liturgy © 2000 The Archbishops' Council.

Bible readings © the publishers of the NRSV translation.

Celtic prayers of intercession © Faith and Worship.

The liturgy assumes the service is Eucharistic. The prayers of consecration appear at the end.

The hymns are YouTube links. To hear the hymns please hover the mouse over each link, press Ctrl and then return.

To see service transcripts from previous weeks, please visit the page,
<http://www.medlockhead.co.uk/resources/index.htm>

Introduction and welcome

HYMN 1 All creatures of our God and King ([click on this link to hear the hymn](#))

The Welcome

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit

All Amen.

The Lord be with you

All And also with you.

The Preparation

**All Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Our Lord Jesus Christ said:

The first commandment is this:

‘Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord.

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,
with all your soul, with all your mind,
and with all your strength.’

And the second is this: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’

There is no other commandment greater than these.

On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

All Amen. Lord, have mercy.

Jesus said to the apostles, ‘Go and make disciples of all the nations.’

Conscious of our failure to obey his commands,
let us call to mind our sins.

All 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.
Amen.

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.

All Amen.

The Gloria

This Gloria is sung to the tune of 'Cwm Rhondda'. Click [here](#) for the tune.

All Glory be to God in Heaven,
Songs of joy and peace we bring,
Thankful hearts and voices raising,
To creation's Lord we sing.
Lord we thank you, Lord we praise you,
Glory be to God our King:
Glory be to God our King.

Lamb of God, who on our shoulders,
Bore the load of this world's sin;
Only Son of God the Father,
You have brought us peace within.
Lord, have mercy, Christ have mercy,

**Now your glorious reign begin:
Now your glorious reign begin.**

**You O Son of God are Holy,
You we praise with one accord.
None in heav'n or earth is like you,
Only you are Christ the Lord.
With the Father and the Spirit,
Ever worshipped and adored:
Ever worshipped and adored.**

The Collect for St Cedd

Everlasting God,
whose servant Cedd carried the good news of your Son to the people of Essex:
grant that we who commemorate his service
may know the hope of the gospel in our hearts
and manifest its light in all our ways;
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.

All Amen.

First reading

A reading from the book of Psalms

- 1 When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, ♦
then were we like those who dream.
- 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter ♦
and our tongue with songs of joy.
- 3 Then said they among the nations, ♦
'The Lord has done great things for them.'
- 4 The Lord has indeed done great things for us, ♦
and therefore we rejoiced.
- 5 Restore again our fortunes, O Lord, ♦
as the river beds of the desert.
- 6 Those who sow in tears ♦
shall reap with songs of joy.

7 Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed, ♦
will come back with shouts of joy,
bearing their sheaves with them. *Psalm 126*

This is the Word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God.

Second reading

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes [\[a\]](#) for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. *Romans 8:18-25*

This is the Word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God.

HYMN 2 [Amazing grace](#)

[\(click on this link to hear the hymn\)](#)

Gospel reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

All Glory to you O Lord.

Jesus said, 'What is the kingdom of God like? And to what should I compare it? It is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in the garden; it grew and became a tree, and the birds of the air made nests in its branches.'

Again he said, 'To what should I compare the kingdom of God? It is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.' *Luke 13:18-21*

This is the Gospel of the Lord

All Praise to you O Christ.

Sermon

Cedd (or is it Kedd, Sedd or Chedd?—the jury is divided!) is remembered as one of the early Celtic saints sent from Lindisfarne to spread the Gospel to pagans: in his case originally to Mercia and subsequently to the East Saxon kingdom.

In terms of our Gospel reading, he might be described as the mustard seed or the yeast in the bread making process as he was one man, among a very few others, sent to evangelise and convert whole peoples (usually starting with royalty) to Christianity.

Something small can effect significant change. In these Gospel parables a small seed grows into a tree large enough for the birds to build their nests in it, and a small amount of yeast can make a number of loaves. Many things in life begin in a small way without any great awareness of what they may become. We hear of successful businesses begun at kitchen tables or charitable initiatives (think of Captain Tom) begun with a simple idea. In Cedd's case the 'seed' was the Word of God, planted in the hearts and minds of individuals, which grew and bore fruit for the benefit of all.

When we think of Christ himself, He began as an itinerant carpenter, preaching His way around a backwater of the Roman Empire. Luke begins the story of Jesus in a quiet town; Nazareth in the Judean hill country. By the time the Evangelist laid down his pen at the end of the Acts of the Apostles ... within a single generation ... we are in Rome. The yeast of God's action has risen steadily, through the Roman Empire and into the world, in ways that Jesus's first hearers could not possibly have imagined. Today it is estimated that just under a third (31%) of the world's population is Christian ... all from that small 'seed'!

We ourselves may feel small and insignificant in God's scheme of things. Many of us who don't feel called to go out into the world to spread the gospel, to preach or to teach are nonetheless part of God's 'seed collection'. Simple acts of kindness and service offered to others are effectively the kingdom of God growing in our hearts and the world. This growth may be small, undramatic and humble...but it is a way of showing our faithfulness. And just as the yeast must be mixed with flour and water to grow and become bread so must we be mixed within the love of God to become effective in our discipleship. It is engagement and presence rather than size that really matters to God.

In the new Diocesan plans for Mission Communities we are being asked to join other sister and brother Christians from nearby churches and come together to offer what particular gifts, skills and facilities might benefit us all in wider community. In that, all of us are being asked to contribute what we can ... however large or small that contribution might be. What matters is that we are willing to be part

of the 'seed mix' ... maybe a small, but not less vital, part of all that goes into helping God's Kingdom to grow and flourish.

Whilst we ourselves strive to grow in discipleship, the secret of the Kingdom of God is to allow Jesus to grow in us, to allow Him to work through us. As we do so, we come to love Him and depend on Him as our travelling companion and guide. Like the birds making their nests in the branches of the the mustard tree, we too will find a home in His heart and find nourishment in His care.

Cedd devoted his whole life to bringing the Gospel of Christ to the pagan peoples of our land. We thank God that we are inheritors of the seed he planted, and pray that we might bear good fruit. Amen.

The Creed

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
the source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?

All We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?

All We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?

All We believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

All This is our faith.

We believe and trust in one God,

Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Prayers of intercession

I lay my head to rest,
and in doing so,
lay at your feet
the faces I have seen,
the voices I have heard,

the words I have spoken,
the hands I have shaken,
the service I have given,
the joys I have shared,
the sorrows revealed,
I lay them at your feet,
and in doing so
lay my head to rest. © *John Birch*

You are the peace of all things calm
You are the place to hide from harm
You are the light that shines in dark
You are the heart's eternal spark
You are the door that's open wide
You are the guest who waits inside
You are the stranger at the door
You are the calling of the poor
You are my Lord and with me still
You are my love, keep me from ill
You are the light, the truth, the way
You are my Saviour this very day. *Celtic oral tradition—First Millennium*

A Familiar Stranger
I saw a stranger today.
I put food for him
in the eating-place
And drink
in the drinking-place
And music
in the listening-place.
In the Holy name
of the Trinity
He blessed myself
and my family.
And the lark said in her warble
Often, often, often
Goes Christ
in the stranger's guise.

O, oft and oft and oft,
Goes Christ
in the stranger's guise. *Celtic Rune of Hospitality*

Merciful Father,

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

The peace

Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and his name shall be called the Prince of Peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you,

All **And also with you.**

HYMN 3 **Bless the Lord, my soul** (please click on this link to hear the hymn)

The liturgy of the Communion Service appears below

The Dismissal

May your past be a pleasant memory,
your future filled with delight and mystery,
your now a glorious moment,
that fills your life with deep contentment:
and the blessing of God the Almighty:
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be with you now and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

HYMN 4 **Bread of Heaven** (please click on this link to hear the hymn)

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Eucharistic Prayer (prayer E)

The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
And now we give thanks, most gracious God,
surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses
and glorified in the assembly of your saints.
The glorious company of apostles praise you.
The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.
The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.
We, your holy Church, acclaim you.
In communion with angels and archangels,
and with all who served you on earth and worship you now in heaven,
we raise our voice to proclaim your glory,
for ever praising you and saying:

**All 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.

Great is the mystery of faith:

All Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

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 Cedd 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.

All Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**All Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**All Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

**All Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.**

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 We do not presume
to come to this your table, merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness,
but in your manifold and great mercies.
We are not worthy
so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table.
But you are the same Lord
whose nature is always to have mercy.
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ
and to drink his blood,
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,
and that we may evermore dwell in him,
and he in us.
Amen.

Communion is distributed.

Prayer after Communion

Holy Father,
who gathered us here around the table of your Son
to share this meal with the whole household of God:
in that new world where you reveal
the fullness of your peace,
gather people of every race and language
to share with Cedd and all your saints
in the eternal banquet of Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen

All Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work
to your praise and glory.
Amen.