

**Song** Light of the world (Tim Hughes)

*Sermon* (Phil Baker from HCC)

*Song* Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord

*Covenant Prayer*

**I am no longer my own but yours.  
Put me to what you will,  
rank me with whom you will;  
put me to doing, put me to suffering;  
let me be employed for you,  
or laid aside for you,  
exalted for you,  
or brought low for you;  
let me be full, let me be empty,  
let me have all things, let me have nothing:  
I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things  
to your pleasure and disposal.  
And now, glorious and blessed God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
you are mine and I am yours. So be it.  
And the covenant now made on earth,  
let it be ratified in heaven.'**

*Song* Christ be our Light (Bernadette Farrell)

*Closing prayer and Blessing*

May Christ draw us to humility and worship,  
and bring us to see God at work;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

*The Dismissal*

Let us go in peace.

**We go into the world  
to walk in God's light,  
to rejoice in God's love  
and to reflect God's glory. Amen.**



**St Michael's Church, Highworth**  
10.15am Service - Sunday 2nd February 2025

*Welcome*

***Gathering Prayer***

Lord, thank you for the promises

Lord, thank you for the promises that you have made to us,  
for your goodness to us.

Help us to take seriously the promises we make to you and to each other so that we  
might be instruments of your peace and justice in this world.

**Amen.**

God in Christ has revealed his glory.

**Come let us worship.**

From the rising of the sun to its setting

**the Lord's name is greatly to be praised.**

Give him praise, you servants of the Lord.

**O praise the name of the Lord!**

**Song King of Kings (Hillsong)**

*Prayer of adoration*

Holy God, **you are full of love for all your people,  
even though we do not always appreciate it  
and respond as we ought.**

Holy God, **your persistence and patience amazes us –  
you go on loving us  
even when we know we don't deserve it.**

Holy God, **your generosity overwhelms us.**

Holy God, **may we learn to be closer to you,  
to listen more, to feel more,  
to know more of the immensity of your love.**

Holy God, **this is our prayer.**

**Amen.**

***Introduction of the Theme 'The Promises of God'***

### *A Prayer of Confession*

We are sorry, God, that we are often weak and helpless.

**Come O God, you are our Saviour, forgive us.**

We are sorry, God,

that we do not always like to hear the truth because it hurts.

**Come O God, you are our Saviour, forgive us.**

We are sorry, God, that we so often lack motivation

to speak out about the way of life and the gift of love you give to us.

**Come O God, you are our Saviour, forgive us.**

**Amen.**

### *Absolution*

Promises, promises, promises.

Dear God, you promised to love us. And you do!

We promise all sorts of things.

And yet we make mistakes, and don't keep our promises.

Amazingly, God, you still keep your promise to us.

Set us free from the guilt of our promises that we've broken

Thank you, we promise to do our best in the future.

**Amen**

### *Collect*

Almighty and ever-living God,

clothed in majesty,

whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple,

in substance of our flesh:

grant that we may be presented to you

with pure and clean hearts,

by your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,

who is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

**Amen**

### *Reading*

**Luke 2. 22 - 40 (The presentation of Christ)**

**We listen to Simeon's Song by Tommy Walker**

### *Affirmation of faith (Revelation 4)*

We say together in faith

**Holy, holy, holy**

**is the Lord God almighty,**

**who was, and is, and is to come.**

We believe in God the Father, who created all things:

**for by his will they were created and have their being.**

We believe in God the Son, who was slain:

**for with his blood,**

**he purchased us for God,**

**from every tribe and language,**

**from every people and nation.**

We believe in God the Holy Spirit:

**The Spirit and the Bride say, 'Come!'**

**Even so come, Lord Jesus!**

**Amen.**

### **What is God Doing?**

#### *Prayers*

#### *The Lord's Prayer*

*As Jesus our Saviour has taught us, so we pray:*

**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 forever.**

**Amen.**