

Where all find a welcome and are nurtured in their journey with Christ.

# The first Sunday of Lent

Sunday 6 March 2022 at 10.00 am

"And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness."

Mark 1.12

## The Gathering

Our worship begins at the sound of the bell, please stand as the sacred ministers enter and the introit hymn is sung.

All for Jesus! All for Jesus!
This our song shall ever be;
For we have no hope nor Saviour
If we have not hope in thee.

All for Jesus! thou wilt give us

Strength to serve thee hour by hour:

None can move us from thy presence

Whilst we trust thy love and pow'r.

All for Jesus! at thine altar
Thou dost give us sweet content;
There, dear Saviour, we receive thee
In thy holy sacrament.

All for Jesus! thou hast loved us,
All for Jesus! thou hast died,
All for Jesus! thou art with us,
All for Jesus, glorified!

All for Jesus! All for Jesus!
This the Church's song shall be,
Till at last the flock is gathered
One in love, and one in thee.

Words: W. J. Sparrow-Simpson (18591952) Music: J. Stainer (1840-1901) Hymn Tune: ALL FOR JESUS

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

Amen.

## The Greeting

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

and also with you.

## Words of Welcome

## **Prayers of Penitence**

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness,

where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. Let us confess our sins remembering before God the times when we have fallen from temptation into sin.

Silence is kept.

We confess to you our selfishness and lack of love: fill us with your Spirit.

Lord, have mercy.

### Lord, have mercy.

We confess to you our fear and failure in sharing our faith: fill us with your Spirit.

Christ, have mercy.

#### Christ, have mercy.

We confess to you our stubbornness and lack of trust: fill us with your Spirit.

Lord, have mercy.

### Lord, have mercy.

The president says

May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by his Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord.

#### Amen.

## The Collect

The president introduces a period of silent prayer with the words 'Let us pray'.

Almighty God,

whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; 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.

#### Amen.

## The Liturgy of the Word

Please sit.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

What does scripture say?

"The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart"

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim);

because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Romans 10. 8b-13

This is the word of the Lord.

#### Thanks be to God.

Please stand as the gradual hymn is sung. During the hymn a procession will make its way to the centre of the nave from where the Gospel for the day is read. To symbolise our desire to turn to Christ in our daily lives, at the end of the hymn we remain standing and turn to face the place where the Gospel is proclaimed.

Forty days and forty nights
Thou wast fasting in the wild;
Forty days and forty nights
Tempted, and yet undefiled.

Sunbeams scorching all the day; Chilly dew-drops nightly shed, Prowling beasts about thy way, Stones thy pillow, earth thy bed.

Shall not we thy sorrows share, And from earthly joys abstain, Fasting with unceasing prayer, Glad with thee to suffer pain?

And if Satan, vexing sore,
Flesh or spirit should assail,
Thou, his vanquisher before,
Grant we may not faint nor fail.

So shall we have peace divine; Holier gladness ours shall be; Round us too shall angels shine, Such as ministered to thee.

Keep, O keep us, Saviour dear, Ever constant by thy side, That with thee we may appear At th'eternal Eastertide.

## **Gospel Reading**

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory. The Lord is a great God, O that today you would listen to his voice. Harden not your hearts.

cf Psalm 95.3,8

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

#### Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone."

Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devilsaid to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for

it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." Jesus answered him, "It is written,

'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"

Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,'

and

'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone."

Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test." When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

Luke 4.1-13

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

### Sermon

Please sit after the preacher leads us in prayer.

## **Affirmation of Faith**

Please stand with the president.

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

Though he was divine, he did not cling to equality with God, but made himself nothing. Taking the form of a slave, he was born in human likeness. He humbled himself and was obedient to death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God has raised him on high, and given him the name above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

cf Philippians 2.6-11

## **Prayers of Intercession**

Following an invitation to pray from the intercessor we kneel or sit to pray.

The response to the bidding.

Lord, in your mercy.

#### Hear our prayer.

Then at the end.

Merciful Father,

Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, Our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen.

## The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Please stand with the president.

#### The Peace

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us access to his grace.

Romans 5.1,2

The peace of the Lord be always with you

and also with you.

### **Preparation of the Table**

The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.

A hymn is sung.

My God, how wonderful thou art, Thy majesty how bright, How beautiful thy mercy seat, In depths of burning light!

How dread are thine eternal years,
O everlasting Lord,
By prostrate spirits day and night
Incessantly adored!

How wonderful, how beautiful,
The sight of thee must be,
Thine endless wisdom, boundless pow'r,
And awesome purity!

O how I fear thee, living God,
With deepest, tend'rest fears,
And worship thee with trembling hope,
And penitential tears!

Yet I may love thee too, O Lord,
Almighty as thou art,
For thou hast stooped to ask of me
The love of my poor heart.

No earthly father loves like thee,
No mother, e'er so mild,
Bears and forbears as thou hast done
With me thy sinful child.

Father of Jesus, love's reward,
What rapture will it be,
Prostrate before thy throne to lie,
And gaze and gaze on thee!

Words: F. W. Faber (1814-1863) Music: J. Turle (1802-1882) Hymn Tune: WESTMINSTER

## Taking of the Bread and Wine

God of our journey, as we walk with you on your path of obedience, sustain us on our way and lead us to your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

#### Amen.

### The Eucharistic Prayer (A)

Please kneel or sit.

The Lord is here.

#### His Spirit is with us.

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 and good to give you thanks and praise, almighty God and everlasting Father, through Jesus Christ your Son.

For in these forty days you lead us into the desert of repentance that through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline we may grow in grace and learn to be your people once again.

Through fasting, prayer and acts of service you bring us back to your generous heart.

Through study of your holy word you open our eyes to your presence in the world and free our hands to welcome others into the radiant splendour of your love.

As we prepare to celebrate the Easter feast with joyful hearts and minds we bless you for your mercy and join with saints and angels for ever praising you and singing:

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.

Accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, and as we follow his example and obey his command, grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: 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.

Therefore, heavenly Father,
we remember his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross;
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;
we look for the coming of your kingdom,
and with this bread and this cup
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise, and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty, renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.

Silence is kept.

## The Lord's Prayer

Lord Jesus, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to 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.

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who 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.

### **Breaking of the Bread**

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

The **Agnus Dei** is sung as the bread is broken for distribution.

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us peace.

#### **Invitation to Communion**

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

## Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word, and I shall be healed.

The president and people receive communion. All baptised Christians are welcome to receive the sacrament. Please follow the guidance offered by the stewards.

If you are not baptised, or would prefer to not receive then do still come forward for a blessing bringing this book with you so the president knows your intention.

The sacrament is available in both kinds, however if you wish to only receive the bread please do so and then return to your place. Receiving in one kind is still considered to be full communion by the Church of England. Please do not dip bread in the wine (sometimes called 'intincting').

To the words "The Body/Blood of Christ" the communicant replies "Amen".

For those at home it might be helpful to use this prayer during the distribution.

Spirit of the desert, you drove Jesus to the edge of the world to find his truth and calling:
scour our hearts
and awaken our hunger
that freed from empty clinging
we might find ourselves in you;
through Jesus Christ, the Lord of the wilds.
Amen.

#### **Choir Anthem**

#### 'Steal away to Jesus'

Traditional arr. T. Brace (b. 1951)

One or two Communion Hymns may be sung during the distribution as time allows.

Please remain seated.

Abba, Father, let me be
Yours and yours alone.
May my will for ever be
More and more your own.
Never let my heart grow cold,
Never let me go.
Abba, Father, let me be
Yours and yours alone.

Words & Music: D. Bilbrough (b. 1965) Music arrangement: C. Tambling (1964-2015) O for a closer walk with God, A calm and heav'nly frame; A light to shine upon the road That leads me to the Lamb.

What peaceful hours I once enjoyed, How sweet their mem'ry still! But they have left an aching void The world can never fill.

The dearest idol I have known,
Whate'er that idol be,
Help me to tear it from thy throne,
And worship only thee.

So shall my walk be close with God, Calm and serene my frame; So purer light shall mark the road That leads me to the Lamb.

Words: W. Cowper (1731-1800)

Music: melody from 'Scottish Psalter' (1635)

Hymn Tune: CAITHNESS

### **The Post Communion Prayer**

Please stand with the president who introduces a time of silent prayer with the words 'Let us pray'.

Heavenly Father, your Son battled with the powers of darkness, and grew closer to you in the desert: help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer that we may witness to your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord.

#### Amen.

God of our pilgrimage,
you have fed us with the bread of heaven.
Refresh and sustain us
as we go forward on our journey,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

A hymn is sung.

All my hope on God is founded;
He doth still my trust renew.
Me through change and chance he guideth,
Only good and only true.
God unknown,
He alone
Calls my heart to be his own.

Pride of man and earthly glory,
Sword and crown betray his trust;
What with care and toil he buildeth,
Tow'r and temple, fall to dust
But God's pow'r,
Hour by hour,
Is my temple and my tow'r.

God's great goodness aye endureth,
Deep his wisdom, passing thought:
Splendour, light and life attend him,
Beauty springeth out of naught.
Evermore
From his store
New-born worlds rise and adore.

Daily doth th'Almighty giver
Bounteous gifts on us bestow;
His desire our soul delighteth,
Pleasure leads us where we go.
Love doth stand
At his hand;
Joy doth wait on his command.

Still from man to God eternal
Sacrifice of praise be done,
High above all praises praising
For the gift of Christ his Son.
Christ doth call
One and all:
Ye who follow shall not fall.

Words: R. Bridges (1844-1930) based on the German of J. Neander (1650-1680) Music: H. Howells (1892-1983) Hymn Tune: MICHAEL

## The Dismissal

### The Blessing

God,

who from the death of sin raised you to new life in Christ, keep you from falling and set you in the presence of his glory; 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

Go in the peace of Christ.

#### Thanks be to God.

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Organ voluntary

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