



Holy Communion for LENT

Sunday 25th February
2nd Sunday in Lent

Presiding: Revd. Jim
Preaching: Gerda
Deacon: Gill

WELCOME & Introduction

During Lent let us pray to God who meets us in the wilderness of our lives

Creator God,
Walking in the Garden
Breathe life into us

Tempted God,
Praying in the desert
Breathe life into us

Suffering God,
Travelling towards the cross
Breathe life into us

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

HYMN 595 - Be thou my vision

***Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
be all else but naught to me save that thou art;
be thou my best thought in the day and the night,
both waking and sleeping, thy presence my light.***

***Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word,
Be thou ever with me and I with thee Lord;
Be thou my great Father, and I thy true son;
Be thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.***

***Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight;
be thou my whole armour, be thou my true might;
be thou my soul's shelter, be thou my strong tower:
O raise thou me heavenward, great Power of my power.***

***Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise:
Be thou mine inheritance now and always;
Be thou, and thou only, the first in my heart;
O sovereign of heaven, my treasure thou art!***

***High King of heaven, thou heaven's bright son,
O grant me its joys after victory is won;
Great heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be thou my vision, O Ruler of all.***

Prayer of Penitence

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.'

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.

Amen. Lord, have mercy.

Invitation to CONFESSION

We come to God from whom no secrets are hidden,
we bring to God the burdens of our world, and the temptations of our
hearts and minds.

The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart God will not despise.
Let us acknowledge our transgressions in penitence and faith.

Confession (*please sit or kneel*)

**Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy
forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly,
love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

The Kyrie Eleison

***Lord, have mercy
Lord, have mercy***

***Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy***

***Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy***

The Absolution

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and keep us in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE COLLECT (*Prayer of the week - found on the pew sheet*)

Almighty God,
by the prayer and discipline of Lent
may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings,
and by following in his Way
come to share in his glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

READINGS

Genesis 17: 1-7, 15-16

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, 'I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.' Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, 'As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. God said to Abraham, 'As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.'

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Romans 4:13-end

The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations')—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become 'the father of many nations', according to what was said, 'So numerous shall your descendants be.' He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb.

No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith 'was reckoned to him as righteousness.' Now the words, 'it was reckoned to him', were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN 667 - I danced in the morning

*I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,
and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth;
at Bethlehem I had my birth.*

*Dance, then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he.*

*I danced for the scribe and the pharisee,
but they would not dance and they wouldn't follow me.
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John —
They came with me and the Dance went on.
Dance, then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he.*

*I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame;
the holy people said it was a shame.
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me on high,
and they left me there on a cross to die.
Dance, then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he.*

*I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black —
it's hard to dance with the devil on your back.
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone;
but I am the Dance, and I still go on.
Dance, then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he.*

*They cut me down and I leapt up high;
I am the life that'll never, never die;
I'll live in you if you'll live in me —
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.
Dance, then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he.*

Sydney Carter (1915–2004)

Please remain standing for the **GOSPEL READING**

Mark 8.31-end

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to St. Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.' He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON - Gerda

*We stand to affirm our Faith using the words of the **NICENE CREED***

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (Please sit or kneel)

Written by Sarah and read by Tina

These responses may be used

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

at the end

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

Banns of Marriage, Notices & time of sharing

THE PEACE (please stand)

These words may be used

Not an easy peace
Not an insignificant peace
Not a half-hearted peace
But the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you
And also with you

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

OFFERTORY HYMN 494 - I, the Lord of sea and sky

(During the hymn the bread & wine are brought forward, and the altar is prepared]

*I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
My hand will save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?*

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard You calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if You lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

*I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my Word to them.
Whom shall I send?*

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard You calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if You lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

*I the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
Till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?*

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard You calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if You lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

With this bread that we bring
we shall remember Jesus.

With this wine that we bring
we shall remember Jesus.

Bread for his body, wine for his blood, gifts from God to his table we
bring.
we shall remember Jesus.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER (please sit or kneel)
[The Choir may remain standing]

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,
it is our duty and our joy,
At all times and in all places
To give you thanks and praise,
Holy Father, heavenly King,
Almighty and eternal God,
Through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

And now we give you thanks
Because you give us the spirit of discipline
That we may triumph over evil and grow in grace
As we prepare to celebrate the Paschal mystery
With mind and heart renewed

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
forever praising you and Singing:

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, [Hosanna, Hosanna] in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, [Hosanna, 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.***

The Lord's Prayer

As we endure the trials of this world,
we pray for the coming of God's Kingdom
in heaven and on earth.

**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.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ
Though we are many, we are one body
Because we all share in one bread.

The Agnus Dei

***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 are welcome to come forward to receive the bread and the wine or a blessing, it is helpful for us if you say your name when you come to the front.

An anthem is usually sung by the Choir and then a **HYMN** is also sung during Communion. (Please remain seated)

ANTHEM A Prayer of St. Richard OF Chichester (Archer)

HYMN 247 - Holy Spirit, gift bestower

***Holy Spirit, gift bestower,
breathe into our hearts today.
Flowing water, dove that hovers,
Holy Spirit, guide our way.
Love inspirer, joy releaser,
Spirit, take our fears away.
Reconciler, peace restorer,
move among us while we pray.***

***Holy Spirit, Christ proclaimer,
wisdom bringer, light our way.
Fire that dances, wind that whispers,
Holy Spirit, come today.
Ease disturber, comfort bearer,
move among us while we pray.
Truth revealer, faith confirmer,
rest within our hearts today.***

Author unknown

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Said by a minister and found on the weekly pew sheet.

Almighty God,
you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves:
keep us both outwardly in our bodies,
and inwardly in our souls;
that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the
body,
and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

THANKSGIVING PRAYER

**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.**

HYMN 612 - Christ triumphant

***Christ triumphant, ever reigning,
Saviour, Master, King!
Lord of heaven, our lives sustaining,
hear us as we sing:
Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name.***

***Word incarnate, truth revealing,
Son of Man on earth!
power and majesty concealing
by your humble birth:
Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name.***

***Suffering servant, scorned, ill-treated,
victim crucified!
death is through the cross defeated,
sinners justified:
Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name.***

***Priestly king, enthroned for ever
high in heaven above!
sin and death and hell shall never
stifle hymns of love:
Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name.***

***So, our hearts and voices raising
through the ages long,
ceaselessly upon you gazing,
this shall be our song:
Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name.***

Michael Saward (1932–2015)

CLOSING PRAYER & BLESSING

Lord, you so loved the world
That you gave us your son.
Friends, if God so loved us
We ought to love one another

The cross
We shall take it

The bread
We shall break it

The pain
We shall bear it

The joy
We shall share it

The Gospel
We shall live it

The love,
We shall give it

The light
We shall cherish it

The dark
God shall perish it

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you, be upon those you love, pray for and care for now and for evermore. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.