

**A very warm welcome to St Peter's Church!**

Our service today is led by Revd Mark Wallace, our Vicar. If you have any questions, please ask a member of the Welcoming Team or contact any of the people in the 'Contact Details' section in the *Church Diary, Notices & Prayer Calendar* leaflet. Please note that we do not take a collection during the service: if you would like to give, please use the box towards the back of church.

**Thank you for joining us this morning.**

# Family Communion Service

**Sunday 1st March 2020**

*The 1st Sunday of Lent*

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## PSALM 95

- 1 Oh come, let us sing to the Lord;  
**let us make a joyful noise  
to the rock of our salvation!**
- 2 Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;  
**let us make a joyful noise to him  
with songs of praise!**
- 3 For the Lord is a great God,  
**and a great King above all gods.**
- 4 In his hand are the depths of the earth;  
**the heights of the mountains are his also.**
- 5 The sea is his, for he made it,  
**and his hands formed the dry land.**
- 6 Oh come, let us worship and bow down;  
**let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!**
- 7 For he is our God,  
**and we are the people of his pasture,  
and the sheep of his hand.**

Today, if you hear his voice,

- 8 **do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah,  
as on the day at Massah in the wilderness,**
- 9 when your fathers put me to the test  
**and put me to the proof,  
though they had seen my work.**
- 10 For forty years I loathed that generation  
**and said, "They are a people  
who go astray in their heart,  
and they have not known my ways."**
- 11 Therefore I swore in my wrath,  
**"They shall not enter my rest."**

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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## "DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS"

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## "PREPARE OUR HEARTS"

Prepare our hearts, O God,  
help us to receive;  
break the hard and stony ground,  
help our unbelief.  
Plant Your Word down deep in us,  
cause it to bear fruit;  
open up our ears to hear,  
lead us in Your truth.

*Show us Christ, show us Christ,  
O God, reveal Your glory  
through the preaching of Your Word,  
until every heart confesses Christ is Lord.*

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## WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

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### "COME, PEOPLE OF THE RISEN KING"

Come, people of the risen king,  
who delight to bring Him praise.  
Come, all and tune your hearts to sing  
to the Morning Star of grace.  
From the shifting shadows of the earth  
we will lift our eyes to Him,  
where steady arms of mercy reach  
to gather children in.

*Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Let every tongue rejoice!  
One heart, one voice,  
O Church of Christ, rejoice!*

Come, those whose joy is morning sun  
and those weeping through the night.  
Come, those who tell of battles won,  
and those struggling in the fight.  
For His perfect love will never change,  
and His mercies never cease,  
but follow us through all our days  
with the certain hope of peace.

*Rejoice! Rejoice...*

Come, young and old from every land,  
men and women of the faith.  
Come, those with full or empty hands,  
find the riches of His grace.  
Over all the world, His people sing,  
shore to shore we hear them call  
the Truth that cries through every age;  
'Our God is all in all!'

*Rejoice! Rejoice...*

Your Word is living light  
upon our darkened eyes:  
guards us through temptations,  
makes the simple wise.  
Your Word is food for famished ones,  
freedom for the slave,  
riches for the needy soul -  
come speak to us today!

*Show us Christ, show us Christ...*

*Doug Plank & Bob Kauflin, © 2011, Sovereign Grace Worship*

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### **BIBLE READING: Hebrews 3.7-19**

*page 1002; read by Clare Reid*

*At the end of the reading...*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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### **HOW TO AVOID HAVING A HARDENED HEART:**

1. **BEWARE ...**
2. **BEWARE ...**
3. **BEWARE ...**

### **INSTEAD, REMEMBER:**

1. **THE PROMISE OF ...**
  2. **THE POWER OF ...**
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### **"FROM THE BREAKING OF THE DAWN"**

From the breaking of the dawn  
to the setting of the sun,  
I will stand on ev'ry promise of Your word.  
Words of power, strong to save,  
that will never pass away,  
I will stand on ev'ry promise of Your word.  
For Your covenant is sure,  
and on this I am secure,  
I can stand on ev'ry promise of Your word.

When I stumble and I sin,  
condemnation pressing in,  
I will stand on ev'ry promise of Your word.  
You are faithful to forgive,  
that in freedom I might live,  
so I stand on ev'ry promise of Your word.  
Guilt to innocence restored:  
you remember sins no more!  
So I'll stand on ev'ry promise of Your word.

When I'm faced with anguished choice,  
I will listen for Your voice,  
and I'll stand on ev'ry promise of Your word.  
Through this dark and troubled land  
You will guide me with your hand  
as I stand on ev'ry promise of Your word.  
And you've promised to complete  
every work begun in me,  
so I'll stand on ev'ry promise of Your word.

Hope that lifts me from despair,  
love that casts out every fear,  
as I stand on ev'ry promise of Your word.  
Not forsaken, not alone,  
for the Comforter has come,  
and I stand on ev'ry promise of Your word.  
Grace sufficient, grace for me,  
grace for all who will believe,  
we will stand on ev'ry promise of Your word.

*Keith Getty & Stuart Townend, © 2005 Thankyou Music*

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### **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.**

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#### **THE PRAYERS**

*led by Duncan Breckels*

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#### **PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

Brothers and sisters in Christ,  
as we gather at the Lord's table  
we must recall the promises and warnings  
given to us in the Scriptures.

Let us therefore examine ourselves  
and repent of our sins.

Let us give thanks to God for his redemption  
of the world through his Son Jesus Christ,  
and as we remember Christ's death for us,  
and receive this pledge of his love,  
let us resolve to serve him  
in holiness and righteousness  
all the days of our life.

**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 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.**

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#### **THE COMFORTABLE WORDS**

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened,  
and I will give you rest. *Matthew 11.28*

For God so loved the world  
that he gave his one and only Son,  
that whoever believes in him shall not perish  
but have eternal life. *John 3.16*

Here is a trustworthy saying  
that deserves full acceptance:  
Christ Jesus came into the world  
to save sinners. *1 Timothy 1.15*

If anybody sins,  
we have an advocate with the Father,  
Jesus Christ the righteous;  
he is the propitiation for our sins. *1 John 2.1-2*

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#### **"THE KINGDOM OF GOD"**

The kingdom of God is justice and joy;  
for Jesus restores what sin would destroy.  
God's power and glory in Jesus we know;  
and here and hereafter the kingdom shall grow.

The kingdom of God is mercy and grace;  
the captives are freed, the sinners find place,  
the outcast are welcomed God's banquet to share;  
and hope is awakened in place of despair.

The kingdom of God is challenge and choice:  
believe the good news, repent and rejoice!  
His love for us sinners brought Christ to his cross:  
our crisis of judgement for gain or for loss.

God's kingdom is come, the gift and the goal;  
in Jesus begun, in heaven made whole.  
The heirs of the kingdom shall answer his call;  
and all things cry 'Glory!' to God all in all.

*Bryn Rees, © 1973, Mrs Olwen Scott*

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#### **PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS**

**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.**

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## COMMUNION PRAYERS

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we thank you that in your tender mercy  
you gave your only Son Jesus Christ  
to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption;  
he made there a full atonement  
for the sins of the whole world,  
offering once for all his one sacrifice of himself.

He instituted,  
and in his holy gospel commanded us to continue,  
a perpetual memory of his precious death  
until he comes again.

In the same night that he was betrayed,  
he 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.” Amen.**

*When ushered,  
please come forwards to receive bread and wine  
(or for a prayer of blessing, if preferred),  
returning to your pew via the side-aisles.*

*Meanwhile, please join in with the singing  
(the words are on the back page of this service-sheet).*

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## THE LORD’S PRAYER

As our Saviour 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 for ever. Amen.**

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## THE NOTICES

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### “TO GOD BE THE GLORY”

To God be the glory! great things he has done;  
so loved he the world that he gave us his Son,  
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,  
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord!*

*let the earth hear His voice;*

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord!*

*let the people rejoice;*

*O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,*

*and give him the glory; great things he has done.*

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood!  
To every believer the promise of God:  
the vilest offender who truly believes,  
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord...*

Great things he has taught us,  
great things he has done,  
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;  
but purer and higher and greater will be  
our wonder, our worship, when Jesus we see!

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord...*

*Fanny J Crosby (1820-1915)*

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**THE CONCLUSION**

May the peace of God,  
which passes all understanding,  
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge  
and love of God,  
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;  
and may the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

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

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*Please be seated.*

*Refreshments will be brought to you in the pews.  
Do please stay for a while.*

**There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God's own Son,**  
precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.  
*Thank you, O my Father, for giving us Your Son,  
and leaving Your Spirit, till the work on earth is done.*

Jesus, my Redeemer, name above all names,  
precious Lamb of God, Messiah, O for sinners slain.  
*Thank you, O my Father...*

When I stand in glory, I will see his face,  
and there I'll serve my King forever, in that Holy Place.  
*Thank you, O my Father...*

*Melody Green, © 1982, EMI Christian Music*

**The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want;**  
he makes me lie in pastures green.  
He leads me by the still, still waters,  
his goodness restores my soul.  
*And I will trust in You alone,  
and I will trust in You alone,  
for your endless mercy follows me,  
your goodness will lead me home.*

He guides my ways in righteousness,  
and He anoints my head with oil;  
and my cup, it overflows with joy -  
I feast on His pure delights.  
*And I will trust in You alone...*

And though I walk the darkest path,  
I will not fear the evil one;  
for you are with me, and your rod and staff  
are the comfort I need to know.  
*And I will trust in You alone...*

*Stuart Townend, © 1996, Thankyou Music*

**Bless the Lord, O my soul,**  
*O my soul, worship His Holy name.  
Sing like never before, O my soul,  
I'll worship Your Holy name.*

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning —  
it's time to sing Your song again;  
whatever may pass and whatever lies before me,  
let me be singing when the evening comes  
*Bless the Lord, O my soul...*

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger,  
Your name is great and Your heart is kind;  
for all Your goodness I will keep on singing  
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find  
*Bless the Lord, O my soul...*

And on that day when my strength is failing,  
the end draws near and my time has come;  
still my soul will sing Your praise unending,  
ten thousand years and then forevermore  
*Bless the Lord, O my soul...*

*Jonas Myrin & Matt Redman, 2011 Thankyou Music*

