

A very warm welcome to St Peter's Church!

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 yellow "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.

Communion Service

Sunday 15th March 2020

The Third Sunday of Lent

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

"FILL YOUR HEARTS"

Fill your hearts with joy and gladness,
sing and praise your God and mine!
Great the Lord in love and wisdom,
might and majesty divine!
He who framed the starry heavens
knows and names them as they shine.

Praise the Lord, his people, praise him!
wounded souls his comfort know;
those who fear him find his mercies,
peace for pain and joy for woe;
humble hearts are high exalted,
human pride and power laid low.

Praise the Lord for times and seasons,
cloud and sunshine, wind and rain;
spring to melt the snows of winter
till the waters flow again;
grass upon the mountain pastures,
golden valleys thick with grain.

Fill your hearts with joy and gladness,
peace and plenty crown your days;
love his laws, declare his judgments,
walk in all his words and ways;
he the Lord and we his children -
praise the Lord, all people, praise!

Timothy Dudley-Smith, © 1970, Oxford University Press

PRAYERS OF PREPARATION & PENITENCE

**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."

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.

God so loved the world
that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ
to save us from our sins,
to be our advocate in heaven,
and to bring us to eternal life.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith,
firmly resolved to keep God's commandments
and to live in love and peace with 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 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

Almighty God, whose most dear Son
went not up to joy but first he suffered pain,
and entered not into glory before he was crucified:
mercifully grant that we,
walking in the way of the cross,
may find it none other than the way of life and peace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

BIBLE READING: John 19.1-16a

page 905; read by Pat Huke

At the end of the reading...

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

“COME AND SEE, COME AND SEE”

Come and see, come and see,
come and see the King of love —
see the purple robe and crown of thorns he wears.
Soldiers mock, rulers sneer,
as he lifts the cruel cross:
lone and friendless now he climbs towards the hill

*We worship at your feet
where wrath and mercy meet,
and a guilty world is washed
by love's pure stream.*

*For us he was made sin —
O, help me take it in —
deep wounds of love cry out 'Father, forgive!'
I worship, I worship,
the Lamb who was slain.*

[SPK leave for their groups]

Come and weep, come and mourn,
for your sin that pierced him there —
so much deeper than the wounds of thorn and nail.
All our pride, all our greed,
all our fallenness and shame:
and the Lord has laid the punishment on him.

We worship at your feet...

Man of heaven, born to earth,
to restore us to your heaven —
here we bow in awe beneath your searching eyes.
From your tears comes our joy.
from your death our life shall spring:
by your resurrection power we shall rise
We worship at your feet...

Graham Kendrick, © 1989 Make Way Music

THE SERMON

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.**

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

led by Richard Lawn

These responses may be used:

Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer.

And at the end:

Merciful Father,

accept these prayers

for the sake of your Son,

our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

“CREATOR GOD”

Creator God, who shaped the earth and heavens,
your glory shines in all that you have made;
you spoke the Word, who broke into the darkness —
all earth replies: “majestic is your name!”
And who am I, though made below the angels,
that you, my King, are mindful of my ways?
As moon and stars sing out their joyful chorus,
I lift my voice to join with them in praise.

Redeeming God, creation’s song fell silent
as on the cross, the Light was pierced with dark.
The Word of life to death now hangs surrendered,
the one who spoke out stars now breathes his last.
And who am I, the lowliest of sinners
that you would pay the price my sin deserves?
My Maker scarred for those who marred his likeness,
and from his wounds flows mercy unreserved.

O living God! You broke the tomb in glory,
death could not hold the one who authored life!
His radiant light has shattered through our darkness
and in our hearts, his risen life now shines.
And who are we, that you would call us children
and raise us up from death to life with you,
where we will sing the New Creation anthem:
“O praise the one who’s making all things new!”?

And so we wait in eager expectation,
and join the song as all creation groans:
“Lord, haste the Day decay is slain by glory,
the Day you call your sons and daughters home.”

Words/Music: © Ben Slee 2017

THE LORD’S SUPPER

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

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 our Lord.

For he is our great high priest,
who has loosed us from our sins
and has made us to be a royal priesthood to you,
our God and Father.

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

**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.**

All glory be to you, our heavenly Father,
who, in your tender mercy,
gave your only Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption;
who made there by his one oblation of himself
once offered
a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice, oblation
and satisfaction for the sins of the whole world;
he instituted,
and in his holy gospel commanded us to continue,
a perpetual memory of his precious death
until he comes again.

Hear us, merciful Father, we humbly pray,
and grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
we receiving these gifts of your creation,
this bread and this wine,
according to your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ’s
holy institution,
in remembrance of his death and passion,
may be partakers of his most blessed body
and blood;

who, on 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.

Christ is the bread of life:
**When we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,
until you come in glory.**

Therefore, Lord and heavenly Father,
in remembrance of the precious death and passion,
the mighty resurrection and glorious ascension
of your dear Son Jesus Christ,
we offer you through him this sacrifice of praise
and thanksgiving.

Grant that by his merits and death,
and through faith in his blood,
we and all your Church may receive forgiveness of
our sins and all other benefits of his passion.
Although we are unworthy,
through our manifold sins, to offer you any sacrifice,
yet we pray that you will accept this the duty
and service that we owe.
Do not weigh our merits, but pardon our offences,
and fill us all who share in this holy communion
with your grace and heavenly blessing;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

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.**

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.**

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.

**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.**

*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).*

**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.**

THE NOTICES

“AND CAN IT BE”

And can it be that I should gain
an interest in the Saviour's blood?
Died He for me, who caused His pain;
for me, who him to death pursued?
Amazing love! how can it be
that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

He left His Father's throne above -
so free, so infinite His grace -
emptied himself of all but love,
and bled for Adam's helpless race:
'Tis mercy all, immense and free;
for, O my God, it found out me.

Long my imprisoned spirit lay
fast bound in sin and nature's night;
thine eye diffused a quickening ray,
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light.
My chains fell off, my heart was free;
I rose, went forth, and followed thee.

No condemnation now I dread;
Jesus, and all in him, is mine!
Alive in him, my living head,
and clothed in righteousness divine,
bold I approach the eternal throne
and claim the crown, through Christ my own.

Charles Wesley (1707-88)

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.

Please be seated.

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

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All my days I will sing this song of gladness,
give my praise to the Fountain of delights;
for in my helplessness You heard my cry,
and waves of mercy poured down on my life.

I will trust in the cross of my Redeemer,
I will sing of the blood that never fails:
of sins forgiven, of conscience cleansed,
of death defeated, and life without end.

*Beautiful Saviour, Wonderful Counsellor,
clothed in majesty, Lord of history,
You're the Way, the Truth, the Life;
Star of the Morning, glorious in holiness,
You're the Risen One, heaven's Champion,
And You reign, You reign over all.*

I long to be where the praise is never-ending,
yearn to dwell where the glory never fades;
where countless worshippers will share one song
and cries of 'worthy' will honour the Lamb!

Beautiful Saviour...

Stuart Townend, © 1998, Thankyou Music

O great God of highest heaven,
occupy my lowly heart;
own it all and reign supreme,
conquer every rebel power.
Let no vice or sin remain
that resists Your holy war —
you have loved and purchased me
make me Yours forevermore.

I was blinded by my sin,
had no ears to hear Your voice;
did not know Your love within,
had no taste for heaven's joys.
Then Your Spirit gave me life
opened up Your Word to me —
through the gospel of Your Son
gave me endless hope and peace.

Help me now to live a life
that's dependent on Your grace;
keep my heart and guard my soul
from the evils that I face.
You are worthy to be praised
with my every thought and deed —
O great God of highest heaven,
glorify Your Name through me.

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