

# FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT 26 FEBRUARY 2023

## **PRELUDE**

Ricercar in F Minor Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

#### **HYMN 121**

- 1 Forty days and forty nights thou wast fasting in the wild; forty days and forty nights tempted, and yet undefiled:
- 2 Sunbeams scorching all the day; chilly dewdrops nightly shed; prowling beasts about thy way; stones thy pillow, earth thy bed.
- 3 Shall not we thy sorrows share, and from earthly joys abstain, fasting with unceasing prayer, glad with thee to suffer pain?
- 4 And if Satan, vexing sore, flesh or spirit should assail, thou, his vanquisher before, grant we may not faint nor fail.
- 5 So shall we have peace divine; holier gladness ours shall be; round us too shall angels shine, such as ministered to thee.

6 Keep, O keep us, Saviour dear, ever constant by thy side; that with thee we may appear at the eternal Eastertide.

## **LENTEN PROSE**

Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us: for we have sinned against thee.

To thee, Redeemer, on thy throne of glory: lift we our weeping eyes in holy pleadings: listen, O Jesu, to our supplications.

Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us: for we have sinned against thee.

O thou chief cornerstone, right hand of the Father: way of salvation, gate of life celestial: cleanse thou our sinful souls from all defilement.

Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us: for we have sinned against thee.

God, we implore thee, in thy glory seated: bow down and hearken to thy weeping children: pity and pardon all our grievous trespasses.

Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us: for we have sinned against thee.

Sins oft committed, now we lay before thee: with true contrition, now no more we veil them: grant us, Redeemer, loving absolution.

Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us: for we have sinned against thee.

Innocent captive, taken unresisting:

falsely accused, and for us sinners sentenced, save us, we pray thee, Jesu, our Redeemer.

Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us: for we have sinned against thee.

## **GREETING**

In the name of the living God: Father, Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** 

The Lord be with you and also with you.

The celebrant welcomes those in attendance.

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.

## **CONFESSION**

The officiant uses an invitation to confession.

The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart God will not despise. Let us come to the Lord, who is full of compassion, and acknowledge our transgressions in penitence and faith.

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.

## **KYRIE ELEISON**

Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

## **ABSOLUTION**

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

Amen.

### COLLECT

The celebrant prays the collect set for the day.

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.

## **OLD TESTAMENT READING**

Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7

A Reading from the Book of Genesis:

<sup>15</sup> The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. <sup>16</sup> And the LORD God commanded the man, 'You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; <sup>17</sup> but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.' ... <sup>1</sup> Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, 'Did God say, "You shall not eat from any tree in the garden"?' <sup>2</sup> The woman said to the serpent, 'We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; <sup>3</sup> but God said, "You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die." <sup>4</sup>But the serpent said to the woman, 'You will not die; <sup>5</sup> for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.' <sup>6</sup> So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. <sup>7</sup> Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 32 **PSALM** 

Blessèd is he whose /  $\sin \cdot$  is for-/-given: whose in-/-iquity  $\cdot$  is / put a-/-way.

I said 'I will confess my trans-/-gressions · to the / Lord':

Blessèd is the man to whom the Lord im-/-putes no / blame:

For whilst I / held my / tongue: my bones wasted a-/-way · with my /

and my moisture was dried / up · like a / drought in / summer.

and in whose / spirit · there / is no / guile.

Your hand was heavy upon me / day and / night:

Then I ack-/-nowledged · my / sin to you: and my in-/-iquity · I / did not / hide;

daily · com-/-plaining.

and so you forgave the / wicked ness / of my / sin.

For this cause shall everyone that is faithful make his prayer to you\* in the / day of / trouble:

and in the time of the great water-floods / they shall / not come / near him.

You are a place to hide me in \* you will pre-/-serve me · from / trouble: you will surround me with de-/-liverance · on / every / side.

'I will instruct you \* and direct you in the way that / you should / go: I will fasten my eye up-/-on you · and / give you / counsel.

'Be not like horse or mule that have no / under-/-standing: whose forward course must be / curbed with / bit and / bridle'.

Great tribulations remain / for the · un-/-godly: but whoever puts his trust in the Lord \* mercy em-/-braces him · on / every / side.

Rejoice in the Lord you righteous / and be / glad: and shout for joy all / you · that are / true of / heart.

Glory be to the Father, and / to the / Son: and / to the / Holy / Ghost;

# As it was in the beginning, is now, and / ever / shall be: world without / end./ A-/-men.

## **NEW TESTAMENT READING**

Romans 5:12-19

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans:

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned— 13 sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. 14 Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come. <sup>15</sup> But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. <sup>16</sup> And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgement following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. <sup>17</sup> If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup> Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. <sup>19</sup> For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** 

## **GRADUAL HYMN 123**

- From ashes to the living font your Church must journey, Lord. baptized in grace, in grace renewed by your most holy word.
- 2 Through fasting, prayer and charity, your voice speaks deep within,

- returning us to ways of truth and turning us from sin.
- From desert to the mountaintop in Christ our way we see, so, tempered by temptation's might, we might transfigured be.
- 4 For thirsting hearts let water flow, our fainting souls revive; and at the well your waters give our everlasting life.
- From ashes to the living font your Church must journey still; through cross and tomb to Easter joy, in Spirit-fire fulfilled.

GOSPEL Matthew 4:1-11

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew: **Glory to you, O Lord.** 

<sup>1</sup> Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. <sup>2</sup>He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. 3 The tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.' <sup>4</sup> But he answered, 'It is written, "One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God." <sup>5</sup> Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, <sup>6</sup> saying to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you", and "On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone." <sup>7</sup> Jesus said to him, 'Again it is written, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test." Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour; <sup>9</sup> and he said to him, 'All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.' 10 Jesus said to him, 'Away with you, Satan! for it is written, "Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him." 11 Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord: **Praise to you, O Christ.** 

We believe in one God.

### **SERMON**

**CREED** The Nicene Creed

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.

## **INTERCESSIONS**

A member of the congregation offers prayers.

### PEACE

The celebrant introduces the Peace with a suitable sentence:

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

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.** Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

## **HYMN 702**

- 1 Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us o'er the world's tempestuous sea; guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us, for we have no help but thee; yet possessing every blessing, if our God our Father be.
- Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us: all our weakness thou dost know; thou didst tread this earth before us, thou didst feel its keenest woe; lone and dreary, faint and weary, through the desert thou didst go.
- Spirit of our God, descending, fill our hearts with heavenly joy, love with every passion blending, pleasure that can never cloy:

# thus provided, pardoned, guided, nothing can our peace destroy.

## **EUCHARIST**

Eucharistic Prayer E

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 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 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.]

We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you.

He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.

Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:

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.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth. Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with [N and] all the saints to feast at your table in heaven. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever.

Amen.

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

Le us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

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**

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.

## **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.

## INVITATION

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.

Amen.

The celebrant distributes communion.

## **ANTHEM**

## **HYMN 423 (OMIT \* VERSES)**

- 1 And now, O Father, mindful of the love that bought us, once for all, on Calvary's tree, and having with us him that pleads above, we here present, we here spread forth to thee that only offering perfect in thine eyes, the one true, pure, immortal sacrifice.
- 2 Look, Father, look on his anointed face, and only look on us as found in him; look not on our misusings of thy grace, our prayer so languid, and our faith so dim: for lo, between our sins and their reward we set the Passion of thy Son our Lord.
- 4 And so we come: O draw us to thy feet, most patient Saviour, who canst love us still; and by this food, so aweful and so sweet,

deliver us from every touch of ill: in thine own service make us glad and free, and grant us never more to part with thee.

## **POST-COMMUNION PRAYERS**

Lord God,
you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven;
by it you nourish our faith,
increase our hope,
and strengthen our love:
teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread,
and enable us to live by every word
that proceeds from out of your mouth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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.

# **BLESSING**

The celebrant may use a seasonal blessing, or another suitable blessing:

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him;

...and the blessing of God Almighty the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.** 

## **HYMN 610**

- 1 Christ is the world's true light, its Captain of salvation, the daystar clear and bright of every man and nation; new life, new hope awakes, where peoples own his sway: freedom her bondage breaks, and night is turned to day.
- In Christ all races meet, their ancient feuds forgetting, the whole round world complete, from sunrise to its setting: when Christ is throned as Lord, lands shall forsake their fear, to ploughshare bear the sword, to pruning-hook the spear.
- One Lord, in one great name unite us all who own thee; cast out our pride and shame that hinder to enthrone thee; the world has waited long, has travailed long in pain; to heal its ancient wrong, come, Prince of Peace, and reign!

### DISMISSAL

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

## **POSTLUDE**

Ciacona in E Minor, BuxWV 160 Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

## **NOTICE OF COPYRIGHT**

This liturgy is taken from The Archbishop's Council 2000, *Common Worship* (London: Church House Publishing, 2000). The hymns are taken from *Ancient & Modern* (Norwich: Canterbury Press, 2013). Scripture reference, unless otherwise noted, are from the NRSV translation of *The Holy Bible*.

## **TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

We are taking a collection during all of the services in the church building through the offering plate and through a tap and pay card reading system at the back of the church. PayPal and standing orders are also possible through our website or by contacting the church Treasurer. More information is available on our website.

Your contributions make a difference, and we are thankful for them.