

THE SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT 27 FEBRUARY 2022

ORGAN PRELUDE

HYMN 545

- Morning has broken
 Like the first morning,
 Blackbird has spoken
 Like the first bird.
 Praise for the singing!
 Praise for the morning!
 Praise for them, springing
 Fresh from the Word!
- Sweet the rain's new fall Sunlit from heaven, Like the first dewfall On the first grass.
 Praise for the sweetness Of the wet garden, Sprung in completeness Where his feet pass.
- Mine is the sunlight, Mine is the morning, Born of the one light Eden saw play.
 Praise with elation, Praise every morning, God's re-creation Of the new day!

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 celebrant uses an invitation to confession.

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.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

COLLECT

The celebrant prays the collect set for the day.

Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

LESSON

2 Corinthians 3:12 – 4:2

A reading from Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians:

¹² Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, ¹³ not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. ¹⁴ But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. ¹⁵ Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; ¹⁶ but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. ¹⁷ Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸ And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit. ¹ Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. ² We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practise cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

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

PSALM

Psalm 99

- 1 The Lord is king: let the peoples tremble; he is enthroned above the cherubim: let the earth shake.
- 2 The Lord is great in Zion and high above all peoples.
- ³ Let them praise your name, which is great and awesome; the Lord our God is holy.
- Mighty king, who loves justice, you have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.
- 5 Exalt the Lord our God; bow down before his footstool, for he is holy.
- 6 Moses and Aaron among his priests and Samuel among those who call upon his name; they called upon the Lord and he answered them.
- 7 He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; they kept his testimonies and the law that he gave them.
- 8 You answered them, O Lord our God; you were a God who forgave them and pardoned them for their offences.
- 9 Exalt the Lord our God and worship him upon his holy hill, for the Lord our God is holy.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; As it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be forever. Amen.

HYMN 281

- 'Tis good, Lord, to be here, thy glory fills the night; thy face and garments, like the sun, shine with unborrowed light.
- 2 'Tis good, Lord, to be here, thy beauty to behold, where Moses and Elijah stand, thy messengers of old.
- ³ Fulfiller of the past, promise of things to be, we hail thy body glorified, and our redemption see.
- 4 Before we taste of death, we see thy kingdom come; we fain would hold the vision bright, and make this hill our home.
- ⁵ 'Tis good, Lord, to be here, yet we may not remain; but since thou bidst us leave the mount, come with us to the plain.

GOSPEL

Luke 9:28-36

Har the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke: Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁸ Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. ²⁹ And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. ³⁰ Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. ³¹ They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. ³² Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. ³³ Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah'—not knowing what he said. ³⁴ While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. ³⁵ Then from the cloud came a voice that said, 'This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!' ³⁶ When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

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

SERMON

CREED

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.

INTERCESSIONS

A member of the congregation offers prayers.

PEACE

The celebrant introduces the Peace with a suitable sentence:

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

All exchange an appropriate sign of peace.

HYMN 496

- Long ago you taught your people: 'Part of what you reap is mine from your cattle, bring the firstborn; tithe the crops of field and vine.' Though beneath the Law's restrictions we are not compelled to live, as we reap our monthly harvest, make us eager, Lord to give.
- 2 What a way of life you showed us through the Son you gladly gave: never snared by earthly treasure, buried in a borrowed grave—

yet to all he freely offered riches of the deepest kind: let us live with his example firmly fixed in heart and mind.

 In the life-style of the Spirit giving has a central part; teach us, Lord, this grace of sharing with a cheerful, loving heart not a tiresome obligation, not a barren legal due, but an overflow of worship: all we have belongs to you!

EUCHARIST

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.

You are worthy of our thanks and praise, Lord God of truth, for by the breath of your mouth you have spoken your word, and all things have come into being. You fashioned us in your image and placed us in the garden of your delight. Though we chose the path of rebellion you would not abandon your own. Again and again you drew us into your covenant of grace. You gave your people the law and taught us by your prophets to look for your reign of justice, mercy and peace. As we watch for the signs of your kingdom on earth, we echo the song of the angels in heaven, evermore 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.]

Lord God, you are the most holy one, enthroned in splendour and light, yet in the coming of your Son Jesus Christ you reveal the power of your love made perfect in our human weakness. **Amen. Lord, we believe.**

Eucharistic Prayer F

Embracing our humanity, Jesus showed us the way of salvation; loving us to the end, he gave himself to death for us; dying for his own, he set us free from the bonds of sin, that we might rise and reign with him in glory. **Amen. Lord, we believe.**

On the night he gave up himself for us all 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. **Amen. Lord, we believe.**

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. Lord, we believe.** Therefore we proclaim the death that he suffered on the cross, we celebrate his resurrection, his bursting from the tomb, we rejoice that he reigns at your right hand on high and we long for his coming in glory. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

As we recall the one, perfect sacrifice of our redemption, Father, by your Holy Spirit let these gifts of your creation be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ; form us into the likeness of Christ and make us a perfect offering in your sight. **Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Look with favour on your people and in your mercy hear the cry of our hearts. Bless the earth, heal the sick, let the oppressed go free and fill your Church with power from on high. **Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Gather your people from the ends of the earth to feast with [*N* and] all your saints at the table in your kingdom, where the new creation is brought to perfection in 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.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Let 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.

MUSIC

POST-COMMUNION PRAYERS

Holy God,

we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ: may we who are partakers at his table reflect his life in word and deed, that all the world may know his power to change and save. This we ask 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.

NOTICES

BLESSING *The celebrant gives a suitable blessing:*

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

HYMN 284

- For the fruits of all creation, thanks be to God; for the gifts to every nation, thanks be to God; for the ploughing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping, future needs in earth's safe-keeping, thanks be to God.
- In the just reward of labour, God's will is done; in the help we give our neighbour, God's will is done; in our world-wide task of caring for the hungry and despairing, in the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.
- ³ For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God; for the good we all inherit, thanks be to God; for the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us, most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

DISMISSAL

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

ORGAN POSTLUDE

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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

Since the beginning of the pandemic (first Austrian lockdown on 17 March 2020), we have not been taking a collection during the services in the church building. We ask those of you who would otherwise make your donations to Christ Church to consider setting up regular standing orders or some other electronic means of contributing. More information is available on our website.

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