



Holy Communion for LENT
Sunday 17th March
5th Sunday in Lent

Presiding: Canon Simon Stokes
Visiting Speaker: David Bulkley - Good News for everyone
(formerly *Gideons UK*)
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: 702 - Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us.

**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.**

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*)

Gracious Father,
you gave up your Son
out of love for the world:
lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion,
that we may know eternal peace
through the shedding of our Saviour's blood,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

READINGS

Jeremiah 31.31-34 Read by Helen

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt - a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, 'Know the Lord', for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Hebrews 5.5-10 Read by Val

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, 'You are my Son, today I have begotten you'; as he says also in another place, 'You are a priest for ever, according to the order of Melchizedek.' In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him

from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN: 451 - Just as I am.

**Just as I am, without one plea
But that thy blood was shed for me,
And that thou bidst me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come.**

**Just as I am, though tossed about
With many a conflict, many a doubt,
Fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come.**

**Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;
Sight, riches, healing of the mind,
Yea, all I need, in thee to find,
O Lamb of God, I come.**

**Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve:
Because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come.**

**Just as I am, thy love unknown
Has broken every barrier down,
Now to be thine, yea, thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come.**

**Just as I am, of that free love
The breadth, length, depth and height to prove,
Here for a season, then above,
O Lamb of God, I come.**

Words: Charlotte Elliott (1789-1871)

Please remain standing for the **GOSPEL READING**

Gospel: John 12.20-33

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, 'Sir, we wish to see Jesus.' Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour. 'Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say - "Father, save me from this hour"? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.' Then a voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.' The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, 'An angel has spoken to him.' Jesus answered, 'This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.' He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

David Bulkley

Good News for everyone (*formerly Gideons UK*)

*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)

Led by Rev. Jim

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.

Notices & time of sharing

THE PEACE (please stand)

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 142 - Glory be to Jesus.

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

**Glory be to Jesus,
who, in bitter pains,
poured for me the life-blood
from his sacred veins.**

**Grace and life eternal
in that blood I find;
blest be his compassion
infinitely kind.**

**Blest through endless ages
be the precious stream,
which from endless torments
did the world redeem.**

**Abel's blood for vengeance
pleaded to the skies;
but the blood of Jesus
for our pardon cries.**

**Oft as it is sprinkled
on our guilty hearts,
Satan in confusion
terror-struck departs.**

**Oft as earth exulting
wafts its praise on high,
angel-hosts rejoicing
make their glad reply.**

**Lift ye then your voices;
swell the mighty flood;
louder still and louder
praise the precious blood.**

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: Hide not thou thy face (Farrant)

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.

Lord Jesus Christ,
you have taught us
that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters
we do also for you:
give us the will to be the servant of others
as you were the servant of all,
and gave up your life and died for us,
but are alive and reign, now and for ever. Amen

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 707- Lift high the cross (the * verses are omitted).

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.

1 Come, let us follow where our Captain trod,
our King victorious, Christ the Son of God:

7 O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
as thou hast promised, draw us unto thee:

8 Let every race and every language tell
of him who saves our souls from death and hell:

9 From farthest regions let them homage bring,
and on his cross adore their Saviour King:

10 Set up thy throne, that earth's despair may cease
beneath the shadow of its healing peace:

11 For thy blest cross which doth for all atone
creation's praises rise before thy throne:

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.