

The Parish Church of St. Mary, Shortlands



Order of Service for
Morning Worship
21st February 2021

Introduction

Hymn – Lord Jesus think on me

Lord Jesus, think on me,
and purge away my sin;
from earthborn passions set me free,
and make me pure within.

Lord Jesus, think on me,
with care and woe oppressed;
let me thy loving servant be,
and taste thy promised rest.

Lord Jesus, think on me,
amid the battle's strife;
in all my pain and misery
be thou my health and life.

Lord Jesus, think on me,
nor let me go astray;
through darkness and perplexity
point thou the heavenly way.

Lord Jesus, think on me,
when floods the tempest high;
when on doth rush the enemy,
O Saviour, be thou nigh.

Lord Jesus, think on me
that, when the flood is past,
I may the eternal brightness see
And share thy joy at last.

Synesius of Cyrene, c.365-c.414, tr. A. W. Chatfield, 1808-1896
(*The Choir, Collegiate Church of St. Mary, Warwick, from 'The Complete New English Hymnal' Vol. 6,*
2001)

Preparation

Greeting

Let us come and worship God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Round about us, here among us

God of promise and love.

Good and faithful, strong in mercy

God of promise and love.

Calling our names, bidding us welcome

God of promise and love.

God of our days and years,

We set this time apart for you.

Form us in the likeness of Christ

So that our lives may glorify you.

Amen.

Prayers of Penitence

Compassion and forgiveness belong to the Lord our God,

Though we have rebelled against him.

Let us then renounce our wilfulness and ask his mercy

By confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

Wash away all my iniquity

and cleanse me from my sin.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Against you, you only have I sinned

and done what is evil in your sight.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Create in us a pure heart, O God,
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Amen.

May almighty God,
Who sent his Son into the world to save sinners,
Bring us his pardon and peace, now and for ever.
Amen.

Praise

Blessed is the Lord
For he has heard the voice of our prayer;
Therefore shall our hearts dance for joy,
And in our song we will praise our God.

Psalm 25: 1 - 9

1 To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

O my God, in you I trust;

let me not be put to shame;

let not my enemies triumph over me.

2 Let none who look to you be put to shame;

but let the treacherous be shamed and frustrated.

3 Make me to know your ways, O LORD;
teach me your paths.

4 Lead me in your truth, and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
for you have I hoped all the day long.

5 Remember, Lord, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.

6 Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
but think on me, in your goodness, O LORD!

7 Gracious and upright is the LORD;
therefore shall he teach sinners in the way.

8 He will guide the humble in doing right,
and teach his way to the lowly.

9 All the paths of the LORD are mercy and truth,
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

**Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen**

The Liturgy of the Word

New Testament Reading – 1 Peter 3: 18 - end

¹⁸ For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹ in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰ who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were

saved through water. ²¹ And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him. This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Reflective Anthem – O for a Closer Walk with God

O, for a closer walk with God!
A calm and heavenly frame!
A light to shine upon the road
That leads me to the Lamb!

Return, O holy dove, return,
Sweet messenger of rest!
I hate the sins that made thee mourn,
And drove thee from my breast.

So shall my walk be close with God,
Calm and serene my frame;
So purer light shall mark the road
That leads me to the Lamb.

William Cowper, 1731-1800 and Charles Villiers Stanford, 1852-1924
(*Choir of St John's College, Cambridge, from 'Ave Verum Sacred Choral Favourites', 2009*)

Gospel Reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Mark 1: 9-15

⁹ In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰ And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹ And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased".

¹² And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³ He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

¹⁴ Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵ and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

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

Address

The Creed

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.
We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.
We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.
We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

Reflective Poem for Lent

'Lead us on our journey' by Ruth Harvey

Intercessory Prayers

This response may be used
Lord, meet us in the silence:
and hear our prayer.

The Collect

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.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour has 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.**

Notices

Hymn – Forty Days and Forty Nights

Forty days and forty nights
thou wast fasting in the wild;
forty days and forty nights
tempted, and yet undefiled.

Sunbeams scorching all the day;
chilly dew-drops nightly shed;
prowling beasts about Thy way;
stones Thy pillow; earth Thy bed.

Let us thine endurance share
and awhile from joys abstain,
with thee watching unto prayer,
strong with Thee to suffer pain?

And if Satan, vexing sore
flesh or spirit should assail,
thou, his vanquisher before,
grant we may not faint or fail.

So shall we have peace divine:
holier gladness ours shall be;
round us, too, shall angels shine,
such as ministered to Thee.

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

G. H. Smyttan, 1822-1870 and Francis Pott, 1832-1909
(The Choir of Gloucester Cathedral, from 'The Complete New English Hymnal' Vol. 4, 2002)

Conclusion

God of compassion,
through your Son Jesus Christ
you have reconciled your people to yourself.
As we follow his example of prayer and fasting,
may we obey you with willing hearts
and serve one another in holy love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Let us bless the Lord

Thanks be to God

Let us end our time of worship this morning by saying The Grace together:

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all evermore.
Amen.**