



**Common Worship  
A Service of the Word during Lent  
In penitence and faith  
Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2021**

**Greeting**

**All** The Lord our Redeemer be with you  
**and also with you.**

**Opening Prayer**

**All** God of our days and years,  
we set this time apart for you.  
Form us in the likeness of Christ,  
that our lives may glorify you.  
**Amen.**

**The Beatitudes**

Let us hear our Lord's blessing on those who follow him.

Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
**All** **for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

Blessed are those who mourn,  
**All** **for they shall be comforted.**

Blessed are the meek,  
**All** **for they shall inherit the earth.**

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,  
**All** **for they shall be satisfied.**

Blessed are the merciful,  
**All** **for they shall obtain mercy.**

Blessed are the pure in heart,  
**All** **for they shall see God.**

Blessed are the peacemakers,

**All for they shall be called children of God.**

Blessed are those who suffer persecution  
for righteousness' sake,

**All for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

**Sing 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 nor 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.**

*George Hunt Smyttan (1822-1870), Francis Pott (1832-1909)  
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## **The Collect**

Heavenly Father,  
your Son battled with the powers of darkness,  
and grew closer to you in the desert:  
help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer  
that we may witness to your saving love  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All Amen.**

Mark 1:9-15

At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptised by John in the Jordan. Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: 'You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.'

At once the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness, and he was in the wilderness for forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him.

After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. The time has come,' he said. 'The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!'

For the Word of the Lord.

**All**      **Thanks be to God.**

**Sing**      **Be thou my guardian and my guide,  
and hear me when I call;  
let not my slippery footsteps slide,  
and hold me lest I fall.**

**The world, the flesh, and Satan dwell  
around the path I tread;  
O save me from the snares of hell,  
thou quickener of the dead.**

**And if I tempted am to sin,  
and outward things are strong,  
do thou, O Lord, keep watch within,  
and save my soul from wrong.**

**Still let me ever watch and pray,  
and feel that I am frail;  
that if the tempter cross my way,  
yet he may not prevail.**

*Isaac Williams (1802-1865)  
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**Sing** Lord, I come to you,  
Let my heart be changed, renewed,  
Flowing from the grace  
That I found in You.  
And Lord, I've come to know  
The weaknesses I see in me  
Will be stripped away  
By the power of Your love.

*Hold me close,  
Let Your love surround me.  
Bring me near, draw me to Your side.  
And as I wait  
I'll rise up like the eagle,  
And I will soar with You,  
Your Spirit leads me on  
In the power of Your love.*

Lord, unveil my eyes,  
Let me see You face to face,  
The knowledge of Your love  
As You live in me.  
Lord, renew my mind  
As Your will unfolds in my life,  
In living every day  
By the power of Your love.

*Hold me close,  
Let Your love surround me.  
Bring me near, draw me to Your side.  
And as I wait  
I'll rise up like the eagle,  
And I will soar with You,  
Your Spirit leads me on  
In the power of Your love.*

*Geoff Bullock  
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## Confession

Compassion and forgiveness belong to the Lord our God,  
though we have rebelled against him.  
Let us renounce our wilfulness and ask his mercy  
by confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

**All Lord our God,  
in our sin we have avoided your call.  
Our love for you is like a morning cloud,  
like the dew that goes away early.  
Have mercy on us;  
deliver us from judgement;  
bind up our wounds and revive us;  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

May almighty God,  
who sent his Son into the world to save sinners,  
bring you his pardon and peace, now and for ever.

**All Amen.**

## Prayers of intercession

### The Lord's Prayer

Trusting in the compassion of God,  
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray;

**All 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.**

## The Creed

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

**All**    **Though he was divine,  
he did not cling to equality with God,  
but made himself nothing.**

**Taking the form of a slave,  
he was born in human likeness.  
He humbled himself  
and was obedient to death,  
even the death of the cross.**

**Therefore God has raised him on high,  
and given him the name above every name:  
that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,  
and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.**

**Sing**    **Father, hear the prayer we offer:  
not for ease that prayer shall be,  
but for strength that we may ever  
live our lives courageously.**

**Not for ever in green pastures  
do we ask our way to be;  
but the steep and rugged pathway  
may we tread rejoicingly.**

**Not for ever by still waters  
would we idly rest and stay;  
but would smite the living fountains  
from the rocks along our way.**

**Be our strength in hours of weakness,  
in our wanderings be our guide;  
through endeavour, failure, danger,  
Father, be thou at our side.**

*Love Maria Willis (nee Whitcomb) (1824-1908), Samuel Longfellow (1819-1892)  
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## Ending

Christ give us grace to grow in holiness,  
to deny ourselves, take up our cross, and follow him.

Let us bless the Lord.  
**All**    **Thanks be to God.**