

Bible Reading from the Old Testament

Malachi 3: verses 1 to 5 The Coming Messenger

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

Then I will draw near to you for judgement; I will be swift to bear witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired workers in their wages, the widow, and the orphan, against those who thrust aside the alien, and do not fear me, says the Lord of hosts.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.



First Reading at Service Bible Reading from the New Testament

Hebrews 2: verses 14 to 18 Exaltation through Abasement

Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading at Service Gospel Reading

Luke 2: verses 22 to 40 Jesus Is Presented in the Temple

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.' Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy

Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, 'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.' And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.' There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

The Return to Nazareth

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Notices

Refreshments – everyone is welcome to join us for a cuppa, biscuit and chat after the service. If you would like to help serving drinks, please do sign up on the rota to the end of March on the noticeboard at the back of church.

Altar Flowers – a new calendar for 2024 is on the noticeboard at back of church. Please do sign up if you would like to arrange the flowers or if you wish to make a donation, please see Margaret or Mary.

Open Church Wednesdays - the doors of our beautiful church are open to welcome you every Wednesday between 1pm and 4pm for refreshments, a chat or simply as a space for quiet reflection. We will be delighted to see you!

Don't forget your stamps!

Please continue to save your used stamps and help us find a cure for cancer. There is a box for them at the back of the church. Thank you to all who have contributed so far – I have just sent 1kg of stamps in aid of Cancer Research! – Peter.

Thank you!

Members of Kirk Langley WI wish to thank other members, church members and friends in supporting their Dinner Dance and other fund-raising activities to raise funds for MND. A total of £1,170 was forwarded to the Society. Betty Bond sends her sincere thanks to all those who supported this cause.

A huge thanks for everyone who has contributed to the Food 4 Thought Foodbank box. The project is very grateful indeed for the continuing support. Chris and David.

Dates for the Diary

4th February – 9.30am – Morning Prayer –
Second Sunday before Lent

11th February – 9.30am – Holy Communion –
Sunday before Lent

14th February – 11.30am – Holy Communion &
Ashing – Ash Wednesday

Contacts

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*For more information please visit our website:
www.klmm-parishes.org.uk or follow us on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/klmmparishes
If you would like to include a notice in the pew sheet,
please contact Emma Jones.*

**WELCOME TO
ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH
KIRK LANGLEY**

**Sunday 28th January 2024
Presentation of Christ in the
Temple
Candlemas**



The service today is Morning Prayer

*If you have a prayer request, please
pass to the Church Warden.*

Please take this leaflet home with you for reference.