



**THE SECOND
SUNDAY
OF LENT**

CHORAL EUCHARIST

5TH MARCH 2023, 11^{AM}

**ST BRIDE'S
CHURCH**

Opening Sentence

*God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.*

Hymn

**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.**

Tune: Mannheim. Melody by F Filitz 1847
Harmony: L Mason 1792–1872
Words: J Edmeston 1791–1867

The minister greets the people

Minister The Lord be with you,
All and also with you.

Welcome

Prayer of Preparation

All **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.

Prayer of Penitence

Minister *The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit;*
 a broken and contrite heart God will not despise.
 Let us come to the Lord, who is full of compassion,
 and acknowledge our transgressions
 in penitence and faith.

All **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

Communion Service in A minor – Harold Darke

Choir

*Kyrie eleison
Christe eleison
Kyrie eleison*

Lord have mercy upon us,
Christ have mercy upon us,
Lord have mercy upon us.

Absolution

Minister 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.

All Amen.

Collect

Minister *Almighty God,
 you show to those who are in error
 the light of your truth,
 that they may return to the way of righteousness:
 grant to all those who are admitted
 into the fellowship of Christ's religion,
 that they may reject those things
 that are contrary to their profession,
 and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same;
 through our Lord Jesus Christ,
 who is alive and reigns with you,
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 one God, now and for ever.*

All Amen.

First Reading

Genesis 12: 1-4a

read by Yvonne Eddy

Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who curses you I will curse; and by you all the families of the earth shall bless themselves.”

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

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

Psalm 121

Choir *1 I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills :
from whence cometh my help.*

*2 My help cometh even from the Lord :
who hath made heaven and earth.*

*3 He will not suffer thy foot to be moved :
and he that keepeth thee will not sleep.*

*4 Behold, he that keepeth Israel :
shall neither slumber nor sleep.*

*5 The Lord himself is thy keeper :
the Lord is thy defence upon thy right hand;*

*6 So that the sun shall not burn thee by day :
neither the moon by night.*

*7 The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil :
yea, it is even he that shall keep thy soul.*

*8 The Lord shall preserve thy going out,
and thy coming in :
from this time forth for evermore.*

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son :
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be :
world without end. Amen.*

Chant: Henry Walford Davies, 1869-1941

Second Reading

Romans 4: 1-5, 13-17

read by Bob Bryan

What then shall we say about Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now to one who works, his wages are not reckoned as a gift but as his due. And to one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is reckoned as righteousness.

The promise to Abraham and his descendants, that they should inherit the world, did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression.

That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants - not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham, for he is the father of us all, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations" - in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Hymn

**Come down, O Love divine,
seek thou this soul of mine,
and visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.**

**O let it freely burn,
till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
and let thy glorious light
shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.**

**Let holy charity
mine outward vesture be,
and lowliness become mine inner clothing:
true lowliness of heart,
which takes the humbler part,
and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.**

**And so the yearning strong,
with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the power of human telling;
for none can guess its grace,
till he become the place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.**

Tune: Down Ampney by R Vaughan Williams 1872-1958

Words: Italian, Bianco da Siena d 1434

Translation: R F Littledale 1833-90

Gospel Reading

read by The Revd Steve Morris, *Associate Priest of St Bride's*

Reader Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ,
 according to John.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

John 3: 1-17

Now there was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do, unless God is with him." Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born anew, he cannot see the kingdom of God." Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born anew.' The wind blows where it wills, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know whence it comes or whither it goes; so it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can this be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand this? Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen; but you do not receive our testimony.

If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven, the Son of man. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.”

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

The Revd Steve Morris, *Associate Priest of St Bride's*

Creed

**All 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

led by Jenny Kingsley

These responses may be used

All Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

All Merciful Father,
**accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

The Peace

Minister *Since we are justified by faith,
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has given us access to his grace.*

All The peace of the Lord be always with you,
and also with you.

Preparation of the Table

Hymn

**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.**

Tune: Saffron Walden by A H Brown 1830–1926
Words: C Elliott 1789–1871

Minister Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have this bread to offer,
which earth has given and human hands have made.
It will become for us the bread of life.

All Blessed be God for ever.

Minister Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have this wine to offer,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become our spiritual drink.

All Blessed be God for ever.

Eucharistic Prayer

Minister The Lord be with you,
All and also with you.

Minister Lift up your hearts.
All We lift them to the Lord.

Minister Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All It is right to give thanks and praise.

Minister Let us pray.

Minister 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,
for ever praising you and singing:

Sanctus and Benedictus

Communion Service in A minor – Harold Darke

Choir *Holy, holy, holy,
 Lord God of hosts,
 heav'n and earth are full of your glory:
 Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.*

*Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.*

Prayer of Consecration

Minister 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 his kingdom,
 and with this bread and this cup
 we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Minister Great is the mystery of faith:
All Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.

Minister 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.

**All Blessing and honour and glory and power
 be yours for ever and ever.
 Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Minister Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has
 taught us:

**All 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

Minister We break this bread to share in the body of Christ:
**All Though we are many, we are one body,
 because we all share in one bread.**

Giving of Communion

The minister says this invitation to communion

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.

This prayer is said before the distribution

**All We do not presume
 to come to this your table, merciful Lord,
 trusting in our own righteousness,
 but in your manifold and great mercies.
 We are not worthy so much as to
 gather up the crumbs under your table.
 But you are the same Lord
 whose nature is always to have mercy.
 Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,
 so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ
 and to drink his blood,
 that our sinful bodies
 may be made clean by his body
 and our souls washed
 through his most precious blood,
 and that we may evermore dwell in him,
 and he in us.
 Amen.**

The minister and people receive communion.

Anthem

Versa est in luctum – Alonso Lobo

Choir

*Versa est in luctum cithara mea
et organum meum in vocem
flentium.*

*Parce mihi Domine,
nihil enim sunt dies mei.*

My harp is turned to grieving
and my flute to the voice of
those who weep.

Spare me, O Lord,
for my days are as nothing.

Text: Job 30: 31, 7: 16

Prayers after Communion

The minister leads the post communion prayer for the day

Minister Let us pray.

Silence is kept

Minister *Almighty God,
you see that we have no power of ourselves
to help ourselves:
keep us both outwardly in our bodies
and inwardly in our souls
that we may be defended for all adversities
which may happen to the body,
and from all evil thoughts
that may assault and hurt the soul;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

All Amen.

All

**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

**O Jesus, I have promised
to serve thee to the end;
be thou forever near me,
my Master and my Friend:
I shall not fear the battle
if thou art by my side,
nor wander from the pathway
if thou wilt be my guide.**

**O let me hear thee speaking
in accents clear and still
above the storms of passion,
the murmurs of self-will;
O speak to reassure me,
to hasten, or control;
O speak, and make me listen,
thou guardian of my soul.**

**O Jesus, thou hast promised
to all who follow thee,
that where thou art in glory
there shall thy servant be;
and, Jesus, I have promised
to serve thee to the end:
O give me grace to follow,
my Master and my Friend.**

**O let me see thy foot-marks,
and in them plant mine own;
my hope to follow duly
is in thy strength alone:
O guide me, call me, draw me,
uphold me to the end;
and then in heaven receive me,
my Saviour and my Friend.**

Tune: Wolvercote by WH Ferguson 1874–1950
Words: J Bode 1816–74

Blessing

Minister *Christ give you grace to grow in holiness,
to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him.
And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you now and always.*

All **Amen.**

Dismissal

Minister Go in the peace of Christ.
Choir *Thanks be to God.*

Organ Voluntary

Chorale Prelude 'Kyrie Gott heilige Geist' BWV 671
– Johann Sebastian Bach

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