



7th February 2021

Second Sunday before Lent

*Our Celebrant and Preacher is
Revd Simon Foster.*

¶ Welcome and Introduction

♪ Hymn ♪

All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing,
Alleluia! alleluia!

Thou burning sun with golden beam,
thou silver moon with softer gleam:
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
ye clouds that sail in heaven along,
O praise Him! Alleluia!

Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice;
ye lights of evening, find a voice:
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou flowing water, pure and clear,
make music for thy Lord to hear,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou fire so masterful and bright,
that givest us both warmth and light:

O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless,
and worship Him in humbleness;
O praise Him! Alleluia!

Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, Three in One:
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

W.H. Draper (1855-1933)

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you.

and also with you.

**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.**

The Confession and Absolution

Invitation to confession

God so loved the world
that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ
to save us from our sins,
to be our advocate in heaven,
and to bring us to eternal life.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and
faith, firmly resolved to keep God's
commandments and to live in love and
peace with all.

**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.**

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.
Amen.

Gloria in Excelsis

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you,
we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ,
only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand**

**of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.**

The Collect

A period of silent prayer

Almighty God,
give us reverence for all creation
and respect for every person,
that we may mirror your likeness
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

¶ The Liturgy of the Word

Let us prepare ourselves for the Word
of God as it comes to us in the reading
of Holy Scripture.

Our hearts and minds are open.

First Reading

Proverbs 8.1, 22-31

Does not wisdom call,
and does not understanding raise
her voice?

²²The LORD created me at the
beginning of his work,
the first of his acts of long ago.

²³Ages ago I was set up,
at the first, before the beginning
of the earth.

²⁴When there were no depths I was
brought forth,
when there were no springs abounding
with water.

²⁵Before the mountains had been
shaped,

before the hills, I was brought
forth –

²⁶when he had not yet made earth and
fields,
or the world's first bits of soil.

²⁷When he established the heavens, I
was there,
when he drew a circle on the face
of the deep,

²⁸when he made firm the skies above,
when he established the fountains
of the deep,

²⁹when he assigned to the sea its limit,
so that the waters might not
transgress his command,

when he marked out the
foundations of the earth,

³⁰then I was beside him, like a master
worker;

and I was daily his delight,
rejoicing before him always,

³¹rejoicing in his inhabited world
and delighting in the human race.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Colossians 1.15-20

Christ is the image of the invisible God,
the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶for in him
all things in heaven and on earth were
created, things visible and invisible,
whether thrones or dominions or
rulers or powers – all things have been
created through him and for him. ¹⁷He
himself is before all things, and in him all
things hold together. ¹⁸He is the head of
the body, the church; he is the beginning,
the firstborn from the dead, so that he
might come to have first place in
everything. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness
of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and
through him God was pleased to
reconcile to himself all things, whether

on earth or in heaven, by making peace
through the blood of his cross.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

♪ Hymn ♪

Morning has broken,
like the first morning;
blackbird has spoken,
like the first bird.

Praise for the singing!
Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing
fresh from the Word!

Sweet the rain's new fall
sunlit from heaven,
like the first dewfall
on the first grass.

Praise for the sweetness
of the wet garden,
sprung in completeness
where His feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight!
Mine is the morning
born of the one light
Eden saw play!

Praise with elation,
praise every morning,
God's re-creation
of the new day!

Morning has broken,
like the first morning;
blackbird has spoken,
like the first bird.

Praise for the singing!
Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing
fresh from the Word!

*Eleanor Farjeon (1881–1965) © Gervaise Farjeon,
from The Children's Bells (OUP) David Higham
Associates*

The Gospel

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

I am the Alpha and Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

John 1.1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. ⁴What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon

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

To the words

Lord, in your mercy,

We respond

hear our prayer.

After the final prayer we say:

Merciful Father,

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

Amen.

¶ The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

We are the body of Christ.

In the one Spirit we were all baptized
into one body.

Let us then pursue all that makes for
peace and builds up our common life.

cf 1 Corinthians 12.13; Romans 14.19

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

♪ Hymn ♪

Lord of beauty, Thine the splendour
shown in earth and sky and sea,
burning sun and moonlight tender,
hill and river, flower and tree:
lest we fail our praise to render
touch our eyes that they may see.

Lord of wisdom, whom obeying
mighty waters ebb and flow,
while unhasting, undelaying,
planets on their courses go:
in Thy laws Thyself displaying,
teach our minds Thyself to know.

Lord of life, alone sustaining
all below and all above,
Lord of love, by whose ordaining
sun and stars sublimely move;
in our earthly spirits reigning,
lift our hearts that we may love.

Lord of beauty, bid us own Thee,
Lord of truth, our footsteps guide,
till as love our hearts enthrone Thee,
and, with vision purified,
Lord of all, when all have known Thee,
Thou in all art glorified.

Cyril Argentine Alington (1872-1955)

The Eucharistic Prayer (F)

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.

You are worthy of our thanks and
praise, Lord God of truth,
for by the breath of your mouth
you have spoken your word,
and all things have come into being.

You fashioned us in your image
and placed us in the garden of
your delight.

Though we chose the path of rebellion
you would not abandon your own.

Again and again you drew us into your
covenant of grace.

You gave your people the law and
taught us by your prophets
to look for your reign of justice, mercy
and peace.

As we watch for the signs of your
kingdom on earth,
we echo the song of the angels in
heaven, evermore praising you
and singing:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of
your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest,
hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest,
hosanna in the highest.**

Lord God, you are the most holy one,
enthroned in splendour and light,
yet in the coming of your Son Jesus
Christ you reveal the power of your
love made perfect in our human
weakness.

Amen. Lord, we believe.

Embracing our humanity,
Jesus showed us the way of salvation;
loving us to the end,
he gave himself to death for us;
dying for his own,
he set us free from the bonds of sin,
that we might rise and reign with him
in glory.

Amen. Lord, we believe.

On the night he gave up himself for us
all he 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.

Amen. Lord, we believe.

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.

Amen. Lord, we believe.

Therefore we proclaim the death that
he suffered on the cross,
we celebrate his resurrection,
his bursting from the tomb,
we rejoice that he reigns at your
right hand on high
and we long for his coming in glory.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

As we recall the one, perfect sacrifice of
our redemption,
Father, by your Holy Spirit let these gifts
of your creation
be to us the body and blood of our
Lord Jesus Christ;
form us into the likeness of Christ
and make us a perfect offering in
your sight.

Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Look with favour on your people
and in your mercy hear the cry
of our hearts.
Bless the earth,
heal the sick,
let the oppressed go free

and fill your Church with power
from on high.

Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Gather your people from the ends of
the earth to feast with St Matthew
and all your saints at the table in your
kingdom, where the new creation is
brought to perfection
in Jesus Christ our Lord;

**by whom, and with whom, and in
whom, in the unity of the Holy
Spirit, all honour and glory be
yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.**

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Gathering our prayers and praises into
one, as our Saviour 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.**

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.**

Agnus Dei

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sins of the
world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sins of the
world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sins of the
world, grant us peace.**

Invitation to Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called
to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive
you, but only say the word, and I
shall be healed.**

♪ Hymn ♪

Soul of my Saviour,
sanctify my breast,
body of Christ, be
thou my saving guest,
blood of my Saviour,
bathe me in thy tide,
wash me with water
flowing from Thy side.

Strength and protection
may Thy Passion be,
O blessed Jesu,
hear and answer me;
deep in thy wounds, Lord,
hide and shelter me,
so shall I never,
never part from Thee.

Guard and defend me
from the foe malign,
in death's dread moments
make me only Thine;

call me and bid me
come to Thee on high
where I may praise Thee
with Thy saints for ay.

*Sometimes ascribed to Pope John XXII (1249-1334)
translator unknown*

Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept.

God our creator, by your gift the tree
of life was set at the heart of the
earthly paradise, and the bread of life at
the heart of your Church:
may we who have been nourished at
your table on earth be transformed by
the glory of the Saviour's cross
and enjoy the delights of eternity;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

**Father of all,
we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and
brought us home.
Dying and living,
he declared your love,
gave us grace,
and opened the gate of glory.
May we who share Christ's body
live his risen life;
we who drink his cup bring life to
others;
we whom the Spirit lights give
light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have
set before us,
so we and all your children shall be
free, and the whole earth live to
praise your name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

♪ Hymn ♪

I danced in the morning
when the world was begun,
and I danced in the moon
and the stars and the sun,
and I came down from heaven
and I danced on the earth,
at Bethlehem I had my birth.

*Dance, then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
and I'll lead you all wherever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.*

I danced for the Scribe
and the Pharisee,
but they would not dance
and they wouldn't follow me;
I danced for the fishermen,
for James and John;
they came with me
and the dance went on.

I danced on the Sabbath
and I cured the lame;
the holy people
said it was a shame;
They whipped and they stripped
and they hung me on high;
and they left me there on a cross to die.

I danced on a Friday
and the sky turned black;
it's hard to dance
with the devil on your back.
They buried my body,
and they thought I'd gone,
but I am the dance, and I still go on.

They cut me down
and I leapt up high;
I am the Life that'll never, never die;
I'll live in you if you'll live in me;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.

*Sydney Carter (1915-2004) © 1963 Stainer & Bell
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¶ The Dismissal

Blessing

The peace of God,
which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds
in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;
and the blessing of God almighty, the
Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be
upon you and remain with you, and all
those whom you love and all those for
whom you pray this day and
for evermore.

Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ.

Amen.



Through Christ God was pleased to
reconcile to himself all things, whether
on earth or in heaven, by making peace
through the blood of his cross.

Colossians 1.20

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