



Welcome

Sexagesima

4 February



actorschurch



St. Paul's Covent Garden



@actorschurch

Please switch off all mobile phones.

BEWARE: *We do occasionally suffer from theft: take care of your belongings*

Accessibility

Large Print versions of the Order of Service are available.

Gluten free wafers are available.

Hearing loop installed; collect a receiver from the back of church.

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We stand as the Altar Party enters and sing the hymn

**I Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the
ancient of days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name
we praise.**

**2 Unresting, unhasting, and silent as
light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest
in might;
thy justice like mountains high
soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains of
goodness and love.**

**3 To all life thou givest, to both great
and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of
all;
we blossom and flourish as leaves on
the tree,
and wither and perish; but naught
changeth thee.**

**4 Great Father of glory, pure Father
of light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling
their sight;
all laud we would render: O help us
to see
'tis only the splendour of light hideth
thee.**

The Priest goes to the Lectern and says:

Priest In the name of the Father, and of
the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

Priest The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

*The Priest introduces the service and then leads
the congregation in prayer:*

**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 Priest invites the congregation to seek God's
mercy and grace. We say together:*

**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.**

*The Priest announces the **Absolution** to which
all reply: **Amen**. The **Gloria** is sung from the
separate music sheet.*

*The prayer of the day – the **Collect** – is sung.*

Almighty God, you have created the
heavens and the earth and made us in
your own image: teach us to discern your
hand in all your works and your likeness in
all your children; through Jesus Christ
your Son our Lord, who with you and the
Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things,
now and for ever.

Amen.

We sit for the **first** and **second readings**.

First Reading

Proverbs 8.1,22-31, read by Margaret

¹Does not wisdom call, and does not understanding raise her voice?

²The 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, ⁸when 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.

At the end:

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

Second Reading

Colossians 1.15-20, read by Arabella

¹⁵Christ 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.

At the end:

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

*We stand to sing the **hymn** and turn towards the Gospel book*

**I The spacious firmament on high,
with all the blue ethereal sky,
and spangled heavens, a shining
frame,
their great original proclaim.
The unwearied sun from day to day
does his creator's power display,
and publishes to every land
the works of an almighty hand.**

**2 Soon as the evening shades prevail
the moon takes up the wondrous
tale,
nightly to the listening earth
repeats the story of her birth;
whilst all the stars that round her
burn
and all the planets in their turn,
confirm the tidings, as they roll,
and spread the truth from pole to
pole.**

**3 What though in solemn silence all
move round the dark terrestrial ball;
what though nor real voice nor
sound
amid their radiant orbs be found;
in reason's ear they all rejoice,
and utter forth a glorious voice,
for ever singing as they shine,
'The hand that made us is divine.'**

All remain standing as the Gospel is read

Priest The Lord be with you
All And also with you

Priest Hear the Gospel of our Lord
Jesus Christ according to John
(1, 1-14)

All Glory to you, O Lord.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning.

Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.

There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all men might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognise him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God – children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

At the end:

Priest This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

*We sit for the **Sermon***

*We stand to say the **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 of 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.**

The **Prayers of Intercession** follow

At the end:

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

The Priest introduces the **Peace**:

Priest: The peace of the Lord be with
 you always
All **And also with you**
Priest Let us offer one another a
 sign of peace.

We sing a **hymn** as the Altar is prepared for
the **Eucharistic Prayer**. A **collection** is taken
during the **hymn**

1 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!

2 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...

3 Thou flowing water, pure and clear,
make music for thy Lord to hear,
alleluia, alleluia!
Thou fire so masterful and bright,
that givest man both warmth and
light,
O praise him...

4 Dear mother earth, who day by
day
unfoldest blessings on our way,
O praise him, alleluia!
The flowers and fruits that in thee
grow,
Let them his glory also show;
O praise him...

5 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...

Priest 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**
Priest 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**
Priest Pray my friends that our
 sacrifice may be acceptable to
 God the Almighty Father

All **May the Lord accept the**
 sacrifice at your hand, for
 the praise and glory of his
 name, for our good and
 the good of all his Church.

The Priest adds the prayer over the gifts to which
we reply **Amen**

Priest The Lord be with you
All And also with you.
 Priest Lift up your hearts.
All We lift them to the Lord.
 Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord
 our God.
All It is right to give thanks
 and praise...

*The Eucharistic Prayer continues until we sing
Sanctus and **Benedictus** from the music sheet
 The **Eucharistic Prayer** continues until...*

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

The Eucharistic Prayer continues until

Priest ...for ever and ever
All: Amen

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

Priest 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

*The **Agnus Dei** is sung from the music sheet*

Priest Jesus is the Lamb of God who
 takes away the sin of the
 world, blessed are those who
 are called to his supper.
All Lord, I am not worthy to
 receive you,
 but only say the word,
 and I shall be healed.

*The congregation approaches the altar to receive
Communion.*

*All those who are in good standing with their
 own Church are invited to receive
 Communion.*

*Those who prefer to ask for a Blessing are
 invited to bow their heads at the Altar rail or
 bring this booklet as a sign to the Priest.*

**Please come forward to receive
 Communion. If you wish to
 receive in one kind only, please
 return to your seat after receiving
 the Host.**

**Please keep absolute silence
 during Communion**

*We remain seated to sing the **hymn***

I Lord, the light of your love is
shining,
in the midst of the darkness, shining:
Jesus, light of the world, shine upon
us;
set us free by the truth you now
bring us-
shine on me, shine on me:
Refrain
Shine, Jesus, shine,
fill this land with the Father's glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze,
set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow,
flood the nations with grace and
mercy;
send forth your word, Lord,
and let there be light.

**2. Lord, I come to your awesome presence,
from the shadows into your radiance;
by your blood I may enter the brightness:
search me, try me, consume all my darkness-
shine on me, shine on me:
Refrain**

**3. As we gaze on your kingly brightness
so our faces display your likeness,
ever changing from glory to glory:
mirrored here, may our lives tell your story-
shine on me, shine on me:
Refrain**

Post Communion Prayers:

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

We say together:

**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.**

*Any Banns of marriage and notices are given.
and then the Priest says:*

Priest The Lord be with you
All And also with you

*The **Blessing** is given to which all reply: **Amen***

*We sing the **hymn** and turn to face the West
End for the **dismissal***

**I Hail, thou once despised Jesus,
hail, thou Galilean King!
Hail Redeemer! Dear Lord hear us,
as our lifted voices ring.
Great the Love that thou, our Saviour,
by thy Passion did proclaim.
And for us, through thy great Labour,
grace, our souls, does now inflame.**

**2 Paschal Lamb, by God appointed,
at whose feet our sins are laid,
With almighty love anointed,
pardon us, that love relayed.
Let thy people be forgiven,
Following on where thou hast trod.
May our souls, freed from sin's prison,
rise with thee to see our God.**

**3 Jesus, hail! enthroned in glory,
there for ever to abide;
all the heavenly hosts adore thee,
seated at thy Father's side:
there for sinners thou art pleading,
there thou dost our place prepare,
ever for us interceding,
till in glory we appear.**

**4 Worship, honour, power and blessing
thou art worthy to receive:
loudest praises, without ceasing,
right it is for us to give:
come, O mighty Holy Spirit,
as our hearts and hands we raise,
help us sing our Saviour's merits,
help us sing Immanuel's praise.**

Priest. Go in peace to love and serve
the Lord
All Thanks be to God

‘What’s On’ this week

Tuesday 6 February

7.30pm Survivors’ UK Concert**

Wednesday 7 February

12.00 Parish Sandwich Lunch, *cancelled*

1.10pm Holy Eucharist

2pm Community Tea, *all welcome*

Thursday 8 February

6.30 & 8.30pm Musicals by Candlelight **

Friday 9 February

11.30am Unveiling of the plaque to Audrey Leybourne RIP

6.30 & 8.30pm Musicals by Candlelight **

Saturday 10 February

6.30 & 8.30pm Musicals by Candlelight **

Sunday 11 February

Quinquagesima

11.00 Sung Eucharist

4pm Choral Evensong, *with the choir of St. Paul’s*

**Tickets for all paid events at St. Paul’s can be obtained via our website
www.actorschurch.org