



Welcome

The Third Sunday of Lent

3 March



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

**Angel-voices ever singing
round thy throne of light,
angel-harps for ever ringing,
rest not day nor night;
thousands only live to bless thee
and confess thee
Lord of might.**

**2 Thou who art beyond the farthest
mortal eye can scan,
can it be that thou regardest
songs of sinful man?
Can we know that thou art near us,
and wilt hear us
Yea, we can.**

**3 Yea, we know that thou rejoicest
o'er each work of thine;
thou didst ears and hands and voices
for thy praise design;
craftsman's art and music's measure
for thy pleasure
all combine.**

**4 In thy house, great God, we offer
of thine own to thee;
and for thine acceptance proffer
all unworthily
hearts and minds and hands and
voices
in our choicest
psalmody.**

**5 Honour, glory, might and merit
thine shall ever be,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
blessed Trinity!
Of the best that thou hast given
earth and heaven
render 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:*

**Lord God,
we have sinned against you;
we have done evil in your sight.
We are sorry and repent.
Have mercy on us according to your
love.
Wash away our wrongdoing and
cleanse us from our sin.
Renew a right spirit within us
and restore to us the joy of your
salvation,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

*We sing the Kyrie, which you will find on
the separate music sheet.*

*The Priest announces the **Absolution** to which
all reply: **Amen**.*

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

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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

First Reading

Exodus 20.1-17, read by Andrea

¹Then God spoke all these words: ²I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labour and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work – you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day;

therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹²Honour your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³You shall not murder.

¹⁴You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵You shall not steal.

¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbour's house; you shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour.

At the end:

Reader This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1.18-25, read by Charles

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written, 'I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.'

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe.

²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling-block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

At the end:

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

*We stand to sing the **hymn***

**We sing the praise of him who died,
of him who died upon the cross;
the sinner's hope let men deride,
for this we count the world but loss.**

**2 Inscribed upon the cross we see
in shining letters, 'God is love';
and with God's love, he from the
tree,
doth bring us mercy from above.**

**3 The cross! It takes our guilt away;
it holds the fainting spirit up;
it cheers with hope the gloomy day,
and sweetens every bitter cup.**

**4 It makes the coward spirit brave,
and nerves the feeble arm for fight;
it takes its terror from the grave,
and gilds the bed of death with light;**

**5 the balm of life, the cure of woe,
the measure and the pledge of love,
the sinner's refuge here below,
the angels' theme in heaven above.**

*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
(2, 13-22)

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money-changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money-

changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, 'Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a market-place!'

¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, 'Zeal for your house will consume me.' ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, 'What sign can you show us for doing this?'

¹⁹Jesus answered them, 'Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.'

²⁰They then said, 'This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?' ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body.

²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

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

We sing a *hymn* as the Altar is prepared for
the *Eucharistic Prayer*. A *collection* is taken
during the *hymn*, but you may prefer to make a
contactless payment, at the back of church.

**Take up thy cross, the Saviour said,
if thou wouldst my disciple be;
deny thyself, the world forsake,
and humbly follow after me.**

**2 Take up thy cross! Let not its
weight
fill thy weak spirit with alarm:
his strength shall bear thy spirit up,
and brace thy heart, and nerve thine
arm.**

**3 Take up thy cross, nor heed the
shame,
nor let thy foolish pride rebel:
thy Lord for thee the cross endured,
to save thy soul from death and hell.**

**4 Take up thy cross then in his
strength,
and calmly every danger brave;
'twill guide thee to a better home,
and lead to victory o'er the grave.**

**5 Take up thy cross, and follow
Christ,
nor think till death to lay it down;
for only he who bears the cross
may hope to wear the glorious
crown.**

**6 To thee, great Lord, the one in
three,
all praise for evermore ascend:
O grant us in our home to see
the heavenly life that knows no end.**

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.
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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 sisters and brothers
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
the **Sanctus** and **Benedictus** from the
music sheet. The **Eucharistic Prayer**
continues until...*

Priest: Great is the mystery of faith
All: **Dying you destroyed our
death
Rising you restored our
life
Lord Jesus come in glory.**

The Eucharistic Prayer continues until

Priest ...for ever and ever
All: **Amen**

The Priest introduces the Lord's Prayer

**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**

We sing the **Agnus Dei 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.*

**If you do not wish to receive the
Sacrament in wine, please return to
your seat after receiving the Host.**

**Please receive Communion (in one
kind) in your hand ONLY.**

**Please keep absolute silence during
Communion**

Post Communion Prayers:

Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to
withstand the temptations of the world,
the flesh and the devil, and with pure
hearts and minds to follow you, the only
God; 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.

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***

**In the cross of Christ I glory,
towering o'er the wrecks of time,
all the light of sacred story
gathers round its head sublime.**

**2 When the woes of life o'ertake me,
hopes deceive and fears annoy,
never shall the cross forsake me:
Lo! It glows with peace and joy.**

**3 When the sun of bliss is beaming
light and love upon my way:
from the cross the radiance
streaming
adds more lustre to the day.**

**4 Bane and blessing, pain and
pleasure,
by the cross are sanctified:
Peace is there that knows no
measure,
joys that through all time abide.**

**5 In the cross of Christ I glory;
towering o'er the wrecks of time,
all the light of sacred story
gathers round its head sublime.**

Priest: Go in peace to love and serve
the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

‘What’s On’ this week

Tuesday 5 March

7.30pm One Endless Road Concert **

Wednesday 6 March

12.00 Sandwich Lunch in Church, *all welcome*

1.10pm Holy Eucharist

Thursday 7 March

6.30pm & 8.30pm Musicals by Candlelight **

Friday 8 March

1pm Everybody Can!

6.30pm & 8.30pm Musicals by Candlelight **

Saturday 9 March

1pm Hedingham School Choir Concert

6.30pm & 8.30pm Musicals by Candlelight **

Sunday 10 March

11.00 Parish Sung Eucharist, *for Mothering Sunday, with flowers and cake for all!*

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

***Tickets for all paid events may be booked at www.actorschurch.org*