



Welcome

The Second Sunday before Lent (Sexagesima)

23 February



actorschurch



St. Paul's Covent Garden

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 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!**

**2 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 God's feet pass.**

**3 Mine is the sunlight!
Mine is the morning
born of the one light
Eden saw play!
Praise with elation,
praise every morning,
God's recreation
of the new day!**

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

Genesis 2.4b-9, 15-25, read by Andrea

⁴In the day that the LORD God made the
earth and the heavens, ⁵when no plant of
the field was yet in the earth and no herb
of the field had yet sprung up for the
LORD God had not caused it to rain upon
the earth, and there was no one to till the
ground; ⁶but a stream would rise from the
earth, and water the whole face of the
ground ⁷then the LORD God formed man
from the dust of the ground, and breathed

into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being. ⁸And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed. ⁹Out of the ground the LORD God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

¹⁵The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. ¹⁶And the LORD God commanded the man, 'You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; ¹⁷but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.'

¹⁸The LORD God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.' ¹⁹So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. ²⁰The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. ²¹So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. ²²And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. ²³Then the man said, 'This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken.' ²⁴Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh. ²⁵And the man and his wife were both naked, and were not ashamed.

At the end:

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

Second Reading

Revelation 4

¹I looked, and there in heaven a door stood open! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, 'Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this.' ²At once I was in the spirit, and there in heaven stood a throne, with one seated on the throne! ³And the one seated there looks like jasper and cornelian, and around the throne is a rainbow that looks like an emerald. ⁴Around the throne are twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones are twenty-four elders, dressed in white robes, with golden crowns on their heads. ⁵Coming from the throne are flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and in front of the throne burn seven flaming torches, which are the seven spirits of God; ⁶and in front of the throne there is something like a sea of glass, like crystal. Around the throne, and on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind: ⁷the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with a face like a human face, and the fourth living creature like a flying eagle. ⁸And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and inside. Day and night without ceasing they sing, 'Holy, holy, holy, the Lord God the Almighty, who was and is and is to come.' ⁹And whenever the living creatures give glory and honour and thanks to the one who is seated on the throne, who lives for ever and ever, ¹⁰the twenty-four elders fall before the one who is seated on the throne and worship the one who lives for ever and ever; they cast their crowns

before the throne, singing,

¹¹'You are worthy, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honour and power,
for you created all things,
and by your will they existed and were
created.'

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*

**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.**

**2 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.**

**3 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.**

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
Luke (8, 22-25)
All Glory to you, O Lord.

²²One day Jesus got into a boat with his
disciples, and he said to them, 'Let us go
across to the other side of the lake.' So
they put out, ²³and while they were sailing
he fell asleep. A gale swept down on the
lake, and the boat was filling with water,
and they were in danger. ²⁴They went to
him and woke him up, shouting, 'Master,
Master, we are perishing!' And he woke
up and rebuked the wind and the raging
waves; they ceased, and there was a calm.
²⁵He said to them, 'Where is your faith?'
They were afraid and amazed, and said to
one another, 'Who then is this, that he
commands even the winds and the water,
and they obey him?'

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

**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 And thou, most kind and gentle
death,
waiting to hush our latest breath,
O praise him, alleluia!
Thou leadest home the child of God,
and Christ our Lord the way hath
trod;
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 KEEP ABSOLUTE
SILENCE DURING COMMUNION**

We remain seated to sing the hymn

**1 Let us break bread together on our
knees.**

**Let us break bread together on our
knees.**

Refrain:

**When I fall on my knees with my face to
the rising sun,
O Lord have mercy on me.**

**2 Let us drink wine together on our
knees.**

**Let us drink wine together on our
knees. Refrain**

3 Let us praise God together on our knees.

Let us praise God together on our knees. 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***

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!

His the sceptre, his the throne;

alleluia! His the triumph,

his the victory alone:

hark! The songs of peaceful Sion

thunder like a mighty flood;

Jesus out of every nation

hath redeemed us by his blood.

2 Alleluia! Not as orphans

are we left in sorrow now;

alleluia! He is near us,

faith believes, nor questions how:

**though the cloud from sight received
him,**

when the forty days were o'er,

shall our hearts forget his promise,

"I am with you evermore"?

3 Alleluia! Bread of angels,

thou on earth our food, our stay;

alleluia! Here the sinful

flee to thee from day to day:

intercessor, friend of sinners,

earth's Redeemer, plead for me,

where the songs of all the sinless

sweep across the crystal sea.

4 Alleluia! King eternal,

thee the Lord of Lords we own;

alleluia! Born of Mary,

earth thy footstool, heaven thy

throne:

thou within the veil hast entered,

robed in flesh, our great high priest;

thou on earth both priest and victim

in the Eucharistic feast.

Priest. Go in peace to love and serve
the Lord

All Thanks be to God

‘What’s On’ this week

Today

Church and grounds close after Eucharist

Tuesday 25 February

10.30am Sing Space Choir

Wednesday 26 February

1.10pm Holy Eucharist

1.45 Tea and cake – *all welcome*

Friday 28 February

6.30 & 8.30pm Musicals by Candlelight **

Saturday 1 March

6.30 & 8.30pm Musicals by Candlelight **

Sunday 2 March

The Sunday next before Lent (Quinquagesima)

11.00 Sung Eucharist

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