



Welcome

The Second Sunday of Lent

16 March



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

**The God of Abraham praise
who reigns enthroned above,
ancient of everlasting days,
and God of love:
Jehovah, great I AM,
by earth and heaven confest;
we bow and bless the sacred name
for ever blest.**

**2 The goodly land we see,
with peace and plenty blest:
a land of sacred liberty
and endless rest;
there milk and honey flow,
and oil and wine abound,
and trees of life for ever grow,
with mercy crowned.**

**3 There dwells the Lord our King,
the Lord our righteousness,
triumphant o'er the world of sin,
the Prince of peace:
on Sion's sacred height
his kingdom he maintains,
and glorious with his saints in light
for ever reigns.**

**4 Before the great three-one
they all exulting stand,
and tell the wonders he hath done
through all their land:
the listening spheres attend,
and swell the growing fame,
and sing in songs which never end
the wondrous name.**

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, 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. **Amen.**

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

First Reading

Genesis 15.1-12, 17-18, read by Tony

The word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision:

“Do not be afraid, Abram.
I am your shield,
your very great reward.”

But Abram said, “O Sovereign LORD,
what can you give me since I remain
childless and the one who will inherit my
estate is Eliezer of Damascus?” And
Abram said, “You have given me no
children; so a servant in my household will
be my heir.”

Then the word of the LORD came to him:
“This man will not be your heir, but a son
coming from your own body will be your
heir.” He took him outside and said,
“Look up at the heavens and count the
stars – if indeed you can count them.”
Then he said to him, “So shall your
offspring be.”

Abram believed the LORD, and he
credited it to him as righteousness.

He also said to him, “I am the LORD, who
brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to
give you this land to take possession of it.”

But Abram said, “O Sovereign LORD,
how can I know that I shall gain possession
of it?”

So the LORD said to him, “Bring me a
heifer, a goat and a ram, each three years
old, along with a dove and a young
pigeon.”

Abram brought all these to him, cut them
in two and arranged the halves opposite
each other; the birds, however, he did not
cut in half. Then birds of prey came down
on the carcasses, but Abram drove them
away.

As the sun was setting, Abram fell into a
deep sleep, and a thick and dreadful
darkness came over him.

When the sun had set and darkness had
fallen, a smoking brazier with a blazing
torch appeared and passed between the
pieces. On that day the LORD made a
covenant with Abram and said, “To your
descendants I give this land, from the river
of Egypt to the great river, the Euphrates.”

At the end:

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

Second Reading

Philippians 3.17-4.1, read by Andrea

¹⁷Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me,
and observe those who live according to
the example you have in us. ¹⁸For many
live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I
have often told you of them, and now I tell
you even with tears. ¹⁹Their end is
destruction; their god is the belly; and
their glory is in their shame; their minds
are set on earthly things. ²⁰But our
citizenship is in heaven, and it is from
there that we are expecting a Saviour, the
Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹He will transform the
body of our humiliation that it may be
conformed to the body of his glory, by the
power that also enables him to make all
things subject to himself. ¹Therefore, my
brothers and sisters, whom I love and long
for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the
Lord in this way, my beloved.

At the end:

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

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

**Lord, be thy word my rule,
in it may I rejoice;
thy glory be my aim;
thy holy will my choice;**

**2 thy promises my hope,
thy providence my guard,
thine arm my strong support,
thyself my great reward.**

*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 (13, 31-35)

All Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, 'Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.' ³²He said to them, 'Go and tell that fox for me, "Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. ³³Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed away from Jerusalem." ³⁴Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, "Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord."'

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***

Priest Do you believe and trust in
God the Father,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?

**All We believe and trust in
him.**

Priest Do you believe and trust in
God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?

**All We believe and trust in
him.**

Priest Do you believe and trust in
God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of
God and makes Christ known
in the world?

**All We believe and trust in
him.**

Priest This is the faith of the Church.

**All This is our faith.
We believe and trust in
one God, Father, Son and
Holy Spirit.
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.*

**All ye who seek a comfort sure
in trouble or distress,
whatever trouble vex the mind,
or guilt the soul oppress,**

**2 Jesus, who gave himself for you
upon the cross to die,
opens to you his sacred heart;
O to that heart draw nigh.**

**3 Ye hear how kindly he invites;
ye hear his words so blest --
“All ye that labour come to me
and I will give you rest.”**

**4 O Jesus, joy of saints on high,
thou hope of sinners here,
attracted by those loving words
to thee I lift my prayer.**

**5 Wash thou my wounds in that dear
blood
which forth from thee doth flow;
new grace, new hope inspire, a new
and better heart bestow.**

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 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**

**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.

Post Communion Prayers:

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 from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; 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***

King of glory, King of peace,
I will love thee;
and, that love may never cease,
I will move thee.
Thou hast granted my request,
thou hast heard me;
thou didst note my working breast,
thou hast spared me.

2 Wherefore with my utmost art
I will sing thee,
and the cream of all my heart
I will bring thee.
Though my sins against me cried,
thou didst clear me,
and alone, when they replied,
thou didst hear me.

**3 Seven whole days, not one in
seven,
I will praise thee;
In my heart, though not in heaven,
I can raise thee.
Small it is, in this poor sort
to enrol thee:
e'en eternity's too short
to extol thee.**

Priest: Go in peace to love and serve
the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God**

‘What’s On’ this week

Today

7.30pm Magic at the Musicals, in aid of Guide Dogs**

Monday 17 March

1pm Lunchtime Concert

Tuesday 18 March

1.30pm Theatre Chaplaincy UK Trustees’ Meeting

3pm Wimbledon Arts College Showcase

Wednesday 19 March

1.10pm Holy Eucharist

3pm Wimbledon Arts College Showcase

Thursday 20 March

4pm **Memorial Service for the late Sammy Farnoudi RIP**

Friday 21 March

1pm Lunchtime Concert

6.30pm & 8.30pm Musicals by Candlelight**

Saturday 22 March

6.30pm & 8.30pm Musicals by Candlelight**

Sunday 23 March

11.00 Parish Sung Eucharist, for the Third Sunday of Lent

7.30pm Sing Space Choir Concert **

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