



Welcome

The First Sunday of Lent



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

**Forty days and forty nights
thou wast fasting in the wild;
forty days and forty nights
tempted, and yet undefiled:**

**2. Sunbeams scorching all the day;
chilly dew-drops nightly shed;
prowling beasts about thy way;
stones thy pillow, earth thy bed.**

**3. Shall not we thy sorrows share,
and from earthly joys abstain,
fasting with unceasing prayer,
glad with thee to suffer pain?**

**4. And if Satan, vexing sore,
flesh or spirit should assail,
thou, his vanquisher before,
grant we may not faint nor fail.**

**5. So shall we have peace divine;
holier gladness ours shall be;
round us too shall angels shine,
such as ministered to thee.**

**6. Keep, O keep us, Saviour dear,
ever constant by thy side;
that with thee we may appear
at the eternal Eastertide.**

The Priest goes to his place 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 Son Jesus Christ
fasted forty days in the wilderness, and
was tempted as we are, yet without sin:
give us grace to discipline ourselves in
obedience to your Spirit; and, as you
know our weakness, so may we know
your power to save; 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

Genesis 2.15-17; 3.1-7, read by Andrea

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.'

¹Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, 'Did God say, "You shall not eat from any tree in the garden"?' ²The woman said to the serpent, 'We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; ³but God said, "You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die."' ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, 'You will not die; ⁵for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.' ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

At the end:

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

Second Reading

Romans 5.12-19, read by Noel

¹²Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned – ¹³sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. ¹⁴Yet death

exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

¹⁵But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. ¹⁶And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgement following one trespass brought condemnation but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. ¹⁷If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

¹⁸Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so the act of righteousness of one leads to justification and life for all. ¹⁹For just as by the one person's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

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*

**Father of heaven, whose love
profound
a ransom for our souls hath found,
before thy throne we sinners bend,
to us thy pardoning love extend.**

**2 Almighty Son, incarnate Word,
our prophet, priest, Redeemer, Lord,
before thy throne we sinners bend,
to us thy saving grace extend.**

**3 Eternal Spirit, by whose breath
the soul is raised from sin and death,
before thy throne we sinners bend,
to us thy quickening power extend.**

**4 Thrice Holy! Father, Spirit, Son;
mysterious Godhead, three in one,
before thy throne we sinners bend,
grace, pardon, life to us extend.**

*All remain standing (if able) 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
Matthew (4, 1-11)

All Glory to you, O Lord.

1 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into
the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

2 He fasted for forty days and forty nights,
and afterwards he was famished. 3 The
tempter came and said to him, 'If you are
the Son of God, command these stones to
become loaves of bread.' 4 But he
answered, 'It is written,

"One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the
mouth of God."

5 Then the devil took him to the holy city
and placed him on the pinnacle of the
temple, 6 saying to him, 'If you are the Son
of God, throw yourself down; for it is
written,

"He will command his angels concerning
you", and "On their hands they will bear
you up, so that you will not dash your foot
against a stone."

7 Jesus said to him, 'Again it is written, "Do
not put the Lord your God to the test."

8 Again, the devil took him to a very high
mountain and showed him all the
kingdoms of the world and their
splendour; 9 and he said to him, 'All these I

will give you, if you will fall down and
worship me.' 10 Jesus said to him, 'Away
with you, Satan! for it is written,
"Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him."

11 Then the devil left him, and suddenly
angels came and waited on 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
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All	And also with you
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Priest	Let us offer one another a sign of peace.
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*We sing a **hymn** as the Altar is prepared for
the **Eucharistic Prayer**. A **collection** is taken
during the **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.**

Refrain:

**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.**

**2. 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. *Refrain***

**3. 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. *Refrain***

**4. I danced on a Friday
when 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. *Refrain***

**5. 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. *Refrain***

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
Priest **Blessed be God for ever**
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
Priest **Blessed be God for ever**
Pray my brothers and sisters 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.

During Communion, Anthony Knight will play the violin.



Post Communion Prayers

Priest: Lord God, you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven; by it you nourish our faith, increase our hope, and strengthen our love: teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread, and enable us to live by every word that proceeds from out of your mouth; 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**

**It is a thing most wonderful,
almost too wonderful to be,
that God's own Son should come
from heaven,
and die to save a child like me.**

**2. And yet I know that it is true:
he chose a poor and humble lot,
and wept, and toiled, and mourned,
and died,
for love of those who loved him not.**

**3. But even could I see him die,
I could but see a little part
of that great love, which, like a fire,
is always burning in his heart.**

**4. It is most wonderful to know
his love for me so free and sure;
but 'tis more wonderful to see
my love for him so faint and poor.**

**5. And yet I want to love thee, Lord;
O light the flame within my heart,
and I will love thee more and more,
until I see thee as thou art.**

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

‘What’s On’ this week

Tonight

7.30pm A night at the musicals **

Monday 23 February

10.00 Art Club – *all welcome*

4pm Play reading group – *all welcome*

Tuesday 24 February

3pm TCUK Trustees’ meeting

5.30pm Tuesdays@actorschurch – *all welcome*

Wednesday 25 February

1.10pm Holy Eucharist

7.30pm Bluebells grow in Whitechapel **

Thursday 26 February

7.30pm Wounded Veterans concert **

Friday 27 February

5.30pm Art Show – *all welcome*

Saturday 28 February

8.30am – 5.30pm Art Show – *all welcome*

Sunday 1 March

The Second Sunday of Lent

11.00 Sung Eucharist

1pm – 5pm Art Show – *all welcome*

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

www.actorschurch.org