



Welcome

1 March

The Second 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.

info@actorschurch.org 020 7836 5221 www.actorschurch.org

We stand as the Altar Party enters and sing the hymn

**Immortal Love for ever full,
for ever flowing free,
for ever shared, for ever whole,
a never-ebbing sea!**

**2 Our outward lips confess the name
all other names above;
love only knoweth whence it came
and comprehendeth love.**

**3 We may not climb the heavenly
steeps
to bring the Lord Christ down;
in vain we search the lowest deeps,
for him no depths can drown:**

**4 But warm, sweet, tender, even yet
a present help is he;
and faith has still its Olivet,
and love its Galilee.**

**5 Alone, O Love ineffable,
thy saving name is given;
to turn aside from thee is hell,
to walk with thee is heaven.**

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, 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 12.1-4a, read by James

¹The LORD said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ²I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.'
⁴So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.

At the end:

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

Second Reading

Romans 4.1-5, 13-17, read by Mark

¹What are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? ²For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³For what does the scripture say? 'Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.'
⁴Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due.
⁵But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.
¹³For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. ¹⁶For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of

the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations'). Abraham believed in the presence of the God who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

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*

**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 God of Abraham praise,
at whose supreme command
from earth we rise, and seek the joys
at his right hand:
we all on earth forsake,
its wisdom, fame, and power;
and him our only portion make,
our shield and tower.**

**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.**

*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 John
(3, 1-17)

All Glory to you, O Lord.

¹There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.'

³Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.'

⁴Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?' ⁵Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above."

⁸The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.' ⁹Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these things be?' ¹⁰Jesus answered him, 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

¹¹'Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have

seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. ¹⁷Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through 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**

To God be the glory! great things he
hath done!

So loved he the world that he gave
us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for
sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may
go in.

Refrain:

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

Let the earth hear his voice!

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

Let the people rejoice!

*O come to the Father through Jesus the
Son;*

*and give him the glory, great things he
hath done!*

2 O perfect redemption, the
purchase of blood!

To every believer the promise of
God;

the vilest offender who truly
believes,

that moment from Jesus a pardon
receives.

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! etc.

3 Great things he hath taught us,
great things he hath done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus
the Son:

but purer and higher and greater will
be

our wonder, our worship, when Jesus
we see!

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! etc.

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
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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 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.

Post Communion Prayers

Priest: 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***

O praise ye the Lord! Praise him in the height;
rejoice in his word, ye angels of light;
ye heavens adore him by whom ye were made,
and worship before him, in brightness arrayed.

2 O praise ye the Lord! Praise him upon earth,
in tuneful accord, ye sons of new birth;
praise him who hath brought you his grace from above,
praise him who hath taught you to sing of his love.

3 O praise ye the Lord, all things that give sound,
each jubilant chord re-echo around;
loud organs, his glory forth tell in deep tone,
and, sweet harp, the story of what he hath done.

4 O praise ye the Lord! Thanksgiving and song
to him be outpoured all ages along:
for love in creation, for heaven restored,
for grace of salvation, O praise ye the Lord!

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

‘What’s On’ this week

Today

1pm – 5pm Art Show – *all welcome*

Monday 2 March

10.00 Art Club – *all welcome*

4pm Play reading group – *all welcome*

Wednesday 4 March

9.30am School Eucharist – *all welcome*

1.10pm Holy Eucharist

7pm PCC meeting

Thursday 5 March

Church and office closed for training today

Sunday 8 March

The Third Sunday of Lent

11.00 Sung Eucharist

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

7.30pm Joe and Sadia Showcase **

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

www.actorschurch.org