



St Mary
the Virgin



Second Sunday in Lent
The Eucharist
Sunday March 16th 2025
10.45am

**We warmly welcome everyone
to Saint Mary's Church
in the Parish of Witney.**

We are an inclusive church embracing a hospitable Christianity.

Everyone is welcome at this service. If you usually receive communion please join us – or please come forward to receive a blessing.

If you are interested in becoming a part of what is happening through the church please speak to one of the welcomers afterwards.

This service is live-streamed. If you do not want to appear on the stream please speak to the Welcomers or Duty Wardens.

Upcoming Events

- **Wednesday 12th and 19th March: *Lenten Bible Study***
6.15pm at Holy Trinity Church
- **Wednesday 26th March and 2nd April: *“Calling a Wounded Earth Home” – Lent Study on Environmental Themes***
6.15pm at St. Mary's Church
- **Wednesday 2nd to Friday 4th April: *Benefice Retreat*** at St Mary's Convent Wantage

As the sacristy bell sounds all stand for the Lent Prose.



Hear us O Lord, have mer-cy up - on us: for we have sin-ned a- gainst_ thee.

Processional Hymn

Church of God, elect and glorious,
holy nation, chosen race;
called as God's own special people,
royal priests and heirs of grace:
know the purpose of your calling
show to all his mighty deeds;
tell of love which knows no limits,
grace which meets all human needs.

God has called you out of darkness
into his most marvellous light,
brought his truth to life within you,
turned your blindness into sight.
Let your light so shine around you
that God's name is glorified;
and all find fresh hope and purpose
in Christ Jesus crucified.

Once you were an alien people,
strangers to God's heart of love;
but he brought you home in mercy,
citizens of heaven above.
Let his love flow out to others,
let them feel a Father's care;
that they too may know his welcome
and his countless blessings share.

Church of God, elect and holy,
be the people he intends;
strong in faith and swift to answer
each command your master sends:
royal priests, fulfil your calling
through your sacrifice and prayer;
give your lives in joyful service –
sing his praise, his love declare.

Words: M Seddon © Laudate! 825
Music: HYFRYDOL

The Greeting

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

The service is introduced.

Prayer of Preparation

**All 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.**

Prayers of Penitence

The priest invites us to confession in these or similar words.

The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart God will not despise.
Let us come to the Lord, who is full of compassion,
and acknowledge our transgressions in penitence and faith.

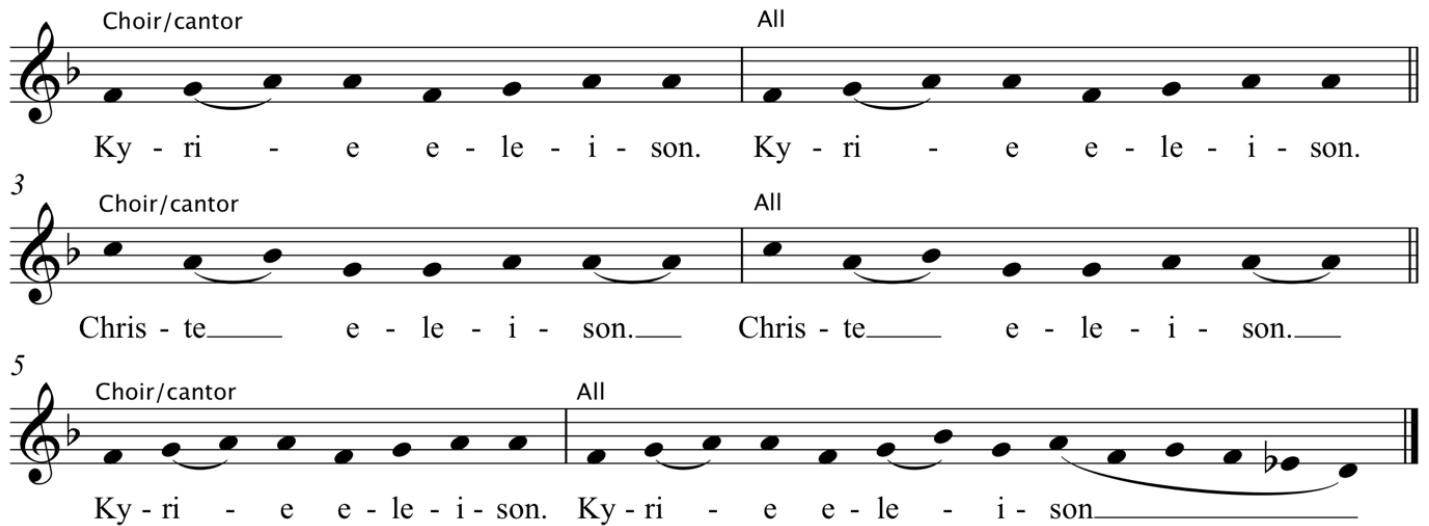
All **Almighty God, our heavenly Father,**
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen.

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Kyrie Eleison

The choir intones the Kyrie, and we respond:



The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first staff is divided into two parts: 'Choir/cantor' and 'All'. The lyrics are 'Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.' The second staff is also divided into 'Choir/cantor' and 'All'. The lyrics are 'Chris - te e - le - i - son. Chris - te e - le - i - son.' The third staff is divided into 'Choir/cantor' and 'All'. The lyrics are 'Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.' The music consists of a simple melody of quarter and eighth notes with some rests and slurs.

The Collect

Let us pray:

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.

All Amen

The Liturgy of the Word

We sit for the First Reading, Genesis 15.1-12, 17-18.

At the end:

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

The Gradual Psalm

The choir sings this response and the congregation repeats, also between verses

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 27: 1, 4, 13-14



The Lord is my light and my sal-va-tion.

Music: © 2015 Royce Nickel. Licensed in the Creative Commons by-nc-nd 3.0

We sit for the Second Reading, Philippians 3.17-4.1.

At the end:

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

We stand for the Gospel acclamation:



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The Lord be with you
All and also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
All Glory to you, O Lord.

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, ‘Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.’ He 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. Yet 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.

“Jerusalem, 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! See, 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.””

Luke 13.31-end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
All Praise to you, O Christ.

We sit

The Sermon

The Creed

We stand

Let us declare before God the faith of the Church,
in which we pray we may all find grace to grow:

**All 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 from 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.

Intercessions

The Intercessor may use the response

Lord in your mercy
All Hear our prayer.

And at the end:

Most Merciful God
**All Accept these prayers
For the sake of your Son
Our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen**

All stand

The Peace

Since we are justified by faith,
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has given us access to his grace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
All and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

The Offertory Hymn

We stand as the Offertory Hymn is sung and the gifts of bread and wine are placed upon the Altar.

You can give to the work of the Church by signing up to the Parish Giving Scheme, or by using these bank details - Witney PCC, Sort Code 20-97-48, Account Number 00971626.

There is also a card reader by the North Door,

All that we bring to the altar is a gift from God, and our offering back to God is a sign of the offering of our lives in the Lord's service.

Jerusalem the golden,
With milk and honey blest,
Beneath your contemplation
Sink heart and voice oppressed.
I know not, oh, I know not
What joys await us there,
What radiancy of glory,
What bliss beyond compare.

They stand, those halls of Zion,
Conjubilant with song
And bright with many an angel
And all the martyr throng.
The prince is ever in them;
The daylight is serene;
The pastures of the blessed
Are decked in glorious sheen.

There is the throne of David,
And there, from care released,
The shout of those who triumph,
The song of those who feast.

And they, who with their leader
Have conquered in the fight,
Forever and forever
Are clad in robes of white.

Oh, sweet and blessed country,
The home of God's elect!
Oh, sweet and blessed country
That eager hearts expect!
In mercy, Jesus, bring us
To that dear land of rest!
You are, with God the Father
And Spirit, ever blest.

Words: Bernard of Cluny, 12th century
Music: EWING, Alexander Ewing, 1830-1895

Prayer over the Gifts

God of mercy and compassion,
your Word calls us home to faith and love.
accept all we offer you this day;
in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

All Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and good
to give you thanks and praise,
almighty God and everlasting Father,
through Jesus Christ your Son.
For in these forty days
you lead us into the desert of repentance
that through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline
we may grow in grace
and learn to be your people once again.
Through fasting, prayer and acts of service
you bring us back to your generous heart.
Through study of your holy word
you open our eyes to your presence in the world
and free our hands to welcome others
into the radiant splendour of your love.
As we prepare to celebrate the Easter feast
with joyful hearts and minds
we bless you for your mercy
and join with saints and angels
for ever praising you and singing:

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
4 Hea-ven and earth are full of your glo - ry, Ho - san - na in the high-est.
6 Bles-sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith
All Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of Mary the Mother of God,
and all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.

All Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence in the words our Saviour gave us:

**All Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The Priest breaks the consecrated host

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.

Agnus Dei



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world, grant us peace.

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world;
happy 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.

*All who are used to receiving Communion are welcome to do so here
– please make your way to the altar as directed by the Sidesperson.*

*If you do not wish to receive Communion, you are warmly invited to
come forward for a blessing – please approach the president carrying
this booklet. Gluten free wafers are available on request.*

The Communion Hymn

Jesu, grant me this, I pray,
ever in thy heart to stay;
let me evermore abide
hidden in thy wounded side.

If the world or Satan lay
tempting snares about my way,
I am safe when I abide
in thy heart and wounded side.

If the flesh, more dangerous still,
tempt my soul to deeds of ill,
naught I fear when I abide
in thy heart and wounded side.

Death will come one day to me;
Jesu, cast me not from thee:
dying let me still abide
in thy heart and wounded side.

Words: Latin, 17th C, tr. HW Baker (1821–1877)
Music: SONG 13, Orlando Gibbons (1583–1625)

Post Communion Prayer

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.

All Amen

All **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.

We sit for the notices

The Notices

The Blessing

Please stand for the Blessing

The Lord be with you
All **and also with you**

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness,
to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

The Dismissal

Go in the peace of Christ.
All **Thanks be to God.**

The Recessional Hymn

Light of the minds that know him,
may Christ be light to mine!
My sun in risen splendour,
my light of truth divine;
my guide in doubt and darkness,
my true and living way,
my clear light ever shining,
my dawn of heaven's day.

Life of the souls that love him,
may Christ be ours indeed!
The living Bread from heaven
on whom our spirits feed;
who died for love of sinners
to bear our guilty load,
and make of life's journey
a new Emmaus road.

Strength of the wills that serve him,
may Christ be strength to me,
who stilled the storm and tempest,
who calmed the tossing sea;
his Spirit's power to move me,
his will to master mine,
his cross to carry daily
and conquer in his sign.

May it be ours to know him
that we may truly love,
and loving, fully serve him
as serve the saints above;
till in that home of glory
with fadeless splendour bright,
we serve in perfect freedom
our strength, our life, our light.

Words: Timothy Dudley Smith (1926–2024),
based on a prayer of S Augustine
Music: KINGS LYNN

Let us bless the Lord
All Thanks be to God.

Everyone is welcome to stay for coffee after the Eucharist.

Join Us

Please support Saint Mary's Witney.

Your contributions make possible our ministry in liturgy and worship, community outreach, schools, learning, late night cafe, street pastors, visiting nursing homes and hospitals and other pastoral care. For more information please speak to one of the Ministry Team or Wardens.

Saint Mary's is profoundly grateful to the priests, lay leaders, volunteers, DCC members and friends whose unparalleled energy and determination make thousands of annual services, programmes and events possible. Please visit the parish website and twitter feed to stay in touch.



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