

# WORSHIP - 3rd SUNDAY OF LENT - 20 MARCH 2022

Today we have services in our churches at 10 am, and meet on Zoom at 11.30 - the link is on the website. This is the Order of Service that is based on the Zoom service.

Hymn - Just as I am, without one plea - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=enJ8JzW\\_A48](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=enJ8JzW_A48)

Grace, mercy and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, be with you. **And also with you.**

**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 Summary of the Law

Our Lord Jesus Christ said: The first commandment is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.'

The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

**Amen. Lord, have mercy.**

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.

**Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
we confess that we have sinned  
in thought and word and deed.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart.**

**We have not loved our neighbour as ourselves.**

**In your mercy forgive what we have been,**

**help us to amend what we are,**

**and direct what we shall be;**

**that we may do justly, love mercy,**

**and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

The Kyrie – Mass of St Thomas, David Thorne - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ns-1y2agLOs>

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

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. **Amen.**

## The Collect

**Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain,  
and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we,**

**walking in the way of the cross,**

**may find it none other than the way of life and peace;**

**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.**

Old Testament reading - Isaiah 55.1-9 - is printed on the blue noticessheet

Hymn - God be in my head, and in my understanding [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UCik9Us\\_K2A](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UCik9Us_K2A)

God be in my head, and in my understanding;  
God be in my eyes, and in my looking;  
God be in my mouth, and in my speaking;  
God be in my heart, and in my thinking;  
God be at my end, and at my departing.

Gospel - Luke 13.1-9 - is printed on the blue noticessheet

Address - my sermon is on the website

### The Nicene 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 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.

Anthem - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e6OxrZCyp8>

Lord, for thy tender mercy's sake, lay not our sins to our charge, but forgive that is past, and give us grace to amend our sinful lives: to decline from sin and incline to virtue, that we may walk in a perfect heart before thee now and evermore. Amen.

*Words from 'Lydley's Prayers', in Christian Prayers and Holy Meditations (1568) - Henry Bull (c.1530-1577)*

*Music: Richard Farrant, circa 1525 - 1580*

**Prayers of Intercession**, written by Louise Whittaker

Lord we are continuously being shocked by the horrors of the war between Russia and the Ukraine and the violence that appears on our phones, in our newspapers and on our television screens. We are saddened and perplexed as we witness daily acts of aggression and an immoral lack of concern for other human beings. The overriding greed and desire for power displayed by the few, as they ride rough shod over the many, is horrific to us and yet we struggle to see how to bring an end to such evil ways. We ask that in these deeply troubled times, we and all who call upon you in prayer may feel your supportive presence in our lives. Bring the innocent, we pray, to a life beyond turmoil and pain and help those in flight find a way to safety and support. Father, we pray for your help in bringing about a cease fire and for the withdrawal of Russian forces from independent lands. We pray for our leaders and the leaders of other Nations. Give them tact, diplomacy and wisdom when making decisions and when needing their messages to be heard. We pray for a world in which peace and justice and love for one another can prevail. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those struggling in our country. For those who are still coping with Covid - for those still working long hours in our hospitals, for those struggling to cope in care homes. For those who are frightened

by their economic situation – those struggling to feed their children, going without themselves; those whose energy bills are rising again and again. For those who work for P&O, in a country where rights and decency seem to stand for nothing. On a positive note, we give thanks for the release of Nazanin Zagari-Ratcliffe and Anoosheh Ashoori – we pray for their families and friends. We pray for those who continue to held – not forgetting those in detention in asylum centres in our country. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord we pray that in this time of Lent we may set aside time to seek you and to meditate on your word, help us pray to you more often and listen out for your wisdom. We ask that through our faith in you, our hearts are willing to be led and guided by your truth and your holy spirit within us. Help us to abandon past things that do not honour you. Life is full of so many temptations but we ask that by allowing you, rather than the world to set our values and our lifestyles we can turn our living around. We give thanks that You dear Lord are the God of mercy and forgiveness, you will never abandon us and are always near to those who call out to you. As we live and work and look to life in our local communities, help us to be thankful for your blessings and aware of your love and the effect it has on us. May our service and the sacrifices we make in our lives make us the beacon of faith and light that enables your face to shine out from within us. May our actions and our deeds inspire others to call upon your name too. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord we thank you for all the blessings you have given us – blessings of life, of love, of family and of you. Help us to hold on to all that is good and strengthen us Lord in our trials. Comfort us with your grace and presence and help us see your loving and caring ways in those who are looking after and supporting us in times of need. We hold in our prayers especially today all those who are suffering in body, mind and spirit, praying especially for our family members and friends in need of prayer. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We give our grateful thanks too Lord for the lives of the departed. Thank you for everything that they brought and gave to us during their lifetime. We pray that they are now at rest and peace with you in your heavenly kingdom. Bless all those who grieve their loss and need to feel your tender and loving grace supporting them in this time of deep sorrow. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Finally, Lord, as Spring is upon us help us to remember that this is a season for optimism and hope as we move away from cold and dark days. We pray that this can be true in so many ways. Thank you, Lord, for the coming of growth and life and birth, for signs that are real. We praise you and raise our smiling, grateful faces to you as we start to see new buds appearing from what seemed to be dead, old growth. Thank you for the beauty of nature around us, for catkins or blossom on trees, bulbs poking through the earth, tiny lambs appearing in the fields and the birds and wildlife in our gardens. Touch ALL human beings we pray by the natural beauty of your world and bring a desire to each and every one of us to walk in the way of life and peace and love. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the sick and suffering, those who have contracted Covid-19, those who are living with its long-term effects, those with other ailments, and those whose treatment has been delayed. We pray for those made ill with worry, those in financial need, those who are afraid for their future. We pray for those who feel isolated and alone, those separated from loved ones and those who feel deserted by their families and cannot understand why. We pray for those at the point of death, those who have died and those who mourn. In a moment's silence we recall those who are on our hearts. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for our local communities and for all the signs of care, concern and love that have been made manifest in them over the past difficult year. We give thanks for the heartening effects of brighter, longer days, for the burgeoning of nature in the spring days, and we pledge ourselves afresh to play our part in the building up of God's Kingdom. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

And we pray, as Jesus taught us:

**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.**

Hymn - God is working his purpose out - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Iiuxet4pJ-c>

### The Blessing

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. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

**Final music** - Chorale prelude for organ, based on the Lutheran tune 'Schmücke dich, o Liebe Seele' (Adorn yourself, O my soul, with gladness) *Johannes Brahms*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U6WU43BKp7M>

Peter Barham, 18 March 2022 - revpeterbarham@btinternet.co.uk

Is anyone still using these printed Orders of Service? If so, please email me and let me know. I had no response last week. Unless I get a positive response, next week's will be the final order produced.