



**AVON VALLEY
CHURCHES**
LOVING • CONNECTING • SERVING

*The Benefice of Fordingbridge (with Godshill and Sandleheath) and Hyde
and Breamore and Hale with Woodgreen*

Morning Service

For the 1st Sunday of Lent (Year B)

February 21st, 2021, 10.00 AVC On-Line, 10.00a.m.



(Based on An Order for Morning Prayer on Sunday, in Common Worship.)

Gathering

As we Gather: Lord, for thy Tender mercy's Sake – Farrant

(Sung by the Choir of St Martin-in-the-Fields, London)

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

For thus said the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel:
In returning and rest you shall be saved;
in quietness and trust shall be your strength.

Round about us,
here among us:
God of promise and love.

Good and faithful,
strong in mercy:
God of promise and love.

Calling our names,
Bidding us welcome:
God of promise and love.

(Eggs & Ashes, p. 74)

HYMN: FORTY DAYS AND FORTY NIGHTS

1. 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.

PENITENCE

Compassion and forgiveness belong to the Lord our God,
though we have rebelled against him.
Let us then renounce our wilfulness and ask his mercy
by confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

(D. Silk: In Penitence and Faith, T&S Lent)

Silence

We confess to you our selfishness and lack of love;
fill us with your Spirit.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

We confess to you our fear and failure in sharing our faith;
fill us with your Spirit.
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

We confess to you our stubbornness and lack of trust;
fill us with your Spirit.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

(New Patterns B60, T&S Lent)

May almighty God,
who sent his Son into the world to save sinners,
bring you his pardon and peace, now and for ever.
AMEN.

Love
Has its source in you,
Creator God,
Flows from you like an ocean
into a world as unyielding
as any shoreline cliff;
And like the ocean,
which batters,
erodes,
and wears away
even the hardest stone,
your love persists,
finds cracks and inlets
in hardened hearts,
flows inside and works a miracle.
Who would think that water
was more powerful than granite;
love mightier
than the hardest heart?
Thank you, Creator God
for the power of your love

https://www.faithandworship.com/liturgy_Lent_1.htm#gsc.tab=0

The Word of God

First Reading: Genesis 9:8-17

For the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM 25:1-9

1. To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; O my God, in you I trust;
Let me not be put to shame; let not my enemies triumph over me.
2. Let none who look to you be put to shame,
But let the treacherous be shamed and frustrated.

3. Make me to know your ways, O Lord,
And teach me your paths.
4. Lead me in your truth and teach me,
For you are the God of my salvation; for you have I hoped all the day
long.
5. Remember, Lord, your compassion and love,
For they are from everlasting.
6. Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions,
But think on me in your goodness, O Lord, according to your
steadfast love.
7. Gracious and upright is the Lord;
Therefore shall he teach sinners in the way.
8. He will guide the humble in doing right
And teach his way to the lowly.
9. All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth
To those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

At the end:

**Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. AMEN.**

GOSPEL READING: *Mark 1:9-15*

An acclamation heralds the Gospel:

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

Blessed are those who have endured temptation;
they have stood the test and will receive the crown of life.

James 1:12 (T&S: G2)

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

When the Gospel is announced, the Reader says:
Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.
Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end, the Reader says:
This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMN: PURIFY MY HEART

1. Purify my heart,
Let me be as gold and precious silver;
Purify my heart,
Let me be as gold, pure gold.

Chorus: Refiner's fire,
My heart's one desire
Is to be holy,
Set apart for you, Lord;
I choose to be holy,
Set apart for you, my Master,
Ready to do your will.

2. Purify my heart,
Cleanse me from within and make me holy;
Purify my heart,
Cleanse me from my sin, deep within.

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SERMON

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in God,
who made the sun and the sky, the stars and the sea,
who calls us to live responsibly.

We believe in Jesus Christ,
who became human,
who healed the sick;
who talked to children,
who made friends with sinners.
He burned brightly and offended many.
His journey was one of life and death and resurrection.
His light continues to shine in darkness.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
who inspires the Scriptures
and whose breath we breathe.

We believe that God calls us to be a community,
committed to one another,
offering a welcome to everyone;
old and young,
rich and poor,
strong and weak.

We believe that God calls us to be peacemakers,
workers for justice,
brothers and sisters,
a light for our world.

AMEN.

Written by two fourteen-year-old boys at a worship workshop on Iona (Eggs & Ashes, p. 103)

HYMN: SEEK YE FIRST

1. Seek ye first the Kingdom of God,
And his righteousness,
And all these things shall be added unto you;
Allelu, Alleluia.

Chorus: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia,
Allelu, Alleluia.

2. Ask and it shall be given unto you;
Seek and ye shall find;
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you;
Allelu, Alleluia.

3. We cannot live by bread alone,
But by every word
That proceeds from the mouth of the Lord;
Allelu, Alleluia.

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INTERCESSIONS

Circle us, Lord.
Circle us with the light of your presence within this dark world.
Enable us to be overcomers of fear and temptation.
Enable us to be victors over sin and despair.
Enable us to become that which you would desire.

Silent prayer

Lord of Creation, Lord of Salvation,
Circle us with the light of your presence.

Circle us, Lord.
Circle our family, friends, loved ones, within the shelter of your
outstretched arms.
Protect them in each moment of their daily lives.
Protect them in the decisions that they face.
Protect their homes and relationships.

Silent prayer

Lord of Creation, Lord of Salvation,
Circle us with the light of your presence.

Circle us, Lord.
Circle this world with the joy of your Salvation.
Where there is sickness and disease bring healing.
Where there is hunger and despair bring hope.
Where there is torture and oppression bring release.

Silent prayer

Lord of Creation, Lord of Salvation,
Circle us with the light of your presence.

Silent prayer

We say together the Collect for Lent I

Heavenly Father,
**your Son battled with the powers of darkness,
and grew closer to you in the desert:
help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer
that we may witness to your saving love
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
AMEN.**

Trusting in the compassion of God,
as our Saviour has taught us, so we pray

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.**

For each step that we might take,
Be our guide, O Lord of life.

For each load that we might bear,
Be our strength, O Lord of life.

For each mountain we might face,
Be our power, O Lord of life.

For each river that might impede,
Be our safety, O Lord of life.

For each place where we might rest,
Be our peace, O Lord of life.

For each sunrise and sunset
Be our joy, O Lord of life.

(https://www.faithandworship.com/liturgy_Lent_1.htm#gsc.tab=0)

The Conclusion

NOTICES

HYMN: *FREED IN CHRIST FROM DEATH AND SIN*

I. Freed in Christ from death and sin,
Slaves no more to self within,
Let abundant life begin
At the call of Christ.

2. Out of darkness into light,
Given grace to walk aright,
Strength and courage for the fight,
Turned to follow Christ.

3. In the Spirit's life to grow,
Day by day his fullness know,
And in fruitful lives to show
We belong to Christ.

4. Bearers of his Name and sign,
Sharers in his bread and wine,
One with him in life divine,
Keeping faith with Christ.

5. Praise him for his love outpoured,
Lives renewed and hopes restored;
Praise the everlasting Lord,
Glory be to Christ!

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Final Prayer

Lord, our minds seek to know you,
our hearts long to find you,
our souls desire to serve you.
Send us out, aware of your presence,
that our hearts may be renewed,
our minds refreshed, our souls restored,
that we may reveal you to others,
and know you ourselves,
as Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

The Blessing:

God is among us:
Shout the Good News.

God is ahead of us:
Trust the Good News.

God is within us:
Live the Good News.

(Eggs & Ashes, p. 75)

Go now, as light-bearers to a world in darkness,
Go now, as hope-carriers to a world in despair;
We go in the name of Christ,
in the love of God
and in the power of the Spirit.
AMEN.

As we end our Worship:
Drop, drop, slow tears - Gibbons

(Sung by the Choir of St Martin-in-the-Fields, London)

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**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN OTHERS FOR REFRESHMENTS
AFTER THIS MORNING'S SERVICE:**

*Search for Zoom, click 'Join Meeting' and use Meeting ID: 646 331 066 &
Password: 123654*

*(Or, if you prefer to telephone in, dial: 0131 460 1196,
and follow the instructions, using ID and Password above)*

*There is also a link in the e-mail that came out with Partners this week,
which will take you straight there.*