Christ Church Worthing

ORDER OF SERVICE

10th March 2024
The Fourth Sunday of Lent
[*Mothering Sunday*]

10.30am

MORNING PRAYER with Derek Hansen

First Reading: Colossians 3: 12 – 17

read by Janet A

Second Reading: John 19: 25b - 27

read by Sally T

Intercessions led by Ken H

There is prayer in the organ vestry every Sunday at 10am for 15 minutes before the service, which you are welcome to join at any time

The Organ Voluntary after the service this morning is: Salve Regina – 5 verses, by John Bull ca. 1563-1628, Chapel Royal London, and Antwerp

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A Service of Morning Prayer

Preparation Please stand

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

O God, you summon the day to dawn, you teach the morning to waken the earth. For you the valleys shall sing for joy, the trees of the field shall clap their hands. For you the monarchs of the earth shall bow, the poor and persecuted shall shout for joy. Your love and mercy shall last for ever, fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise.

All Great is your name. Great is your love.

HYMN [175]

Come down O Love divine, seek thou this soul of mine, and visit it with thine own ardour glowing; O Comforter draw near, within my heart appear, and kindle it, thy hold flame bestowing.

O let is freely burn, till earthly passions turn to dust and ashes in its heat consuming; and let thy glorious light shine ever on my sight, and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

Let holy charity
mine outward vesture be,
and lowliness become mine inner clothing;
true lowliness of heart,
which takes the humbler part,
and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.

And so the yearning strong, with which the soul will long, shall far outpass the power of human telling; for none can guess its grace, till he become the place wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.

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The Family of God

We have come together as the family of God in our Father's presence, to offer him praise and thanksgiving, to hear and receive his holy word, to bring before him the needs of the world, to ask his forgiveness of our sins, and to seek his grace, that through his Son Jesus Christ we may give ourselves to his service.

O Lord, open our lips.

All: and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

O God, make speed to save us.

All: O Lord, make haste to help us.

Praise the name of the Lord.

All: the Lord's Name be praised.



CONFESSION [Please sit or kneel]

The word of God is living and active.
It judges the thoughts and intentions of the heart.
All is open and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we give account.

We confess our sins in penitence and faith.

All God our Father,

long-suffering, full of grace and truth, you create us from nothing and give us life. You give your faithful people new life in the water of baptism.
You do not turn your face from us, nor cast us aside.
We confess that we have sinned against you and our neighbour.
We have wounded your love and marred your image in us.
Restore us for the sake of your Son,

May the Father of all mercies cleanse us from our sins, and restore us in his image to the praise and glory of his name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *All* **Amen**.

The love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

All We dwell in him and he in us.

and bring us to heavenly joy,

in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name, *All* make known his deeds among the peoples.

Sing to him, sing praises to him,

All and speak of all his marvellous works.

Holy, holy, is the Lord God almighty,

All who was and is and is to come.

BLESS THE LORD (Tune 493) [Please stand to sing]

- 1. Bless now your fathers' God
 And praise his glorious name:
 Within heaven's holiest place
 His wondrous works proclaim.
 With angel hosts eternally
 Lift up your hearts to him on high.
- 2. Between the cherubim
 From heavenly realms above
 He scans the depths of space,
 The God of power and love:
 With angel hosts eternally
 Lift up your hearts to him on high.
- 3.Upon his royal throne
 He reigns as Lord and King:
 To heaven's eternal heights
 Your loyal homage bring:
 To God the Holy Trinity
 Lift up your hearts eternally.

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The First Reading – Colossians 3: 12 – 17

[Please sit]

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom; and as you sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

At the end the reader says: Here ends the First Lesson All Thanks be to God.

WORSHIP SONG [Stand to sing]

Purify my heart,
let me be as gold and precious silver.
Purify my heart,
let me be as gold, pure gold.
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.

Purify my heart, cleanse me from within and make me holy. Purify my heart, cleanse me from my sin, deep within. *Refrain*

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The Second Reading – John 19: 25b - 27 [Please sit]

Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "Dear woman, here is your son," and to the disciple, "Here is your mother." From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

Here ends the Second Lesson All Thanks be to God.

Sermon [Sit]

There follows a short time of quiet reflection before..

Apostles' Creed [Please stand]

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn [453] Please stand to sing

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father, there is no shadow of turning with thee; thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not; as thou hast been thou for ever wilt be: Great is thy faithfulness, Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see, all I have needed thy hand has provided, great is they faithfulness, Lord unto me.

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest sun, moon and stars in their courses above, join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love: *Refrain*

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide; strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! *Refrain*

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A prayer for Peace

O God, it is your will to hold both heaven and earth in a single peace. Let the design of your great love shine on the waste of our wraths and sorrows, and give peace among nations, and peace in our hearts, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **All Amen.**

God of mercy and compassion, of grace and reconciliation, pour your power upon all your children in the Middle East: Jews, Muslims and Christians, Palestinians and Israelis. Let hatred be turned into love, fear to trust, despair to hope, oppression to freedom, occupation to liberation, that violent encounters may be replaced by loving embraces, and peace and justice could be experienced by all. Spirit of the living God, Come afresh on your holy land. Help your people to restore broken relationships. Give them patience to break down barriers of suspicion and mistrust; ability to discern personal prejudices and the courage to overcome fear. Teach them to respect each other's integrity and rights so that your kingdom may be established on earth. For Jesus' sake. *All* Amen

Collect

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; 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. *All* **Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

at the end, a short period of silence is kept, and then:

Merciful Father,

All Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

All: 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.

Offertory Hymn [362] [Please stand to sing]

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord! Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice; tender to me the promise of his word; in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his name! Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done; his mercy sure, from age to age the same; his holy name, the Lord, the mighty one.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might! Powers and dominions lay their glory by; Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word! Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure. Tell out my soul, the greatness of the Lord to children's children and for evermore!

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Conclusion

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour, and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

All All things come from you, and of your own do we give you.

God of love, passionate and strong, tender and careful: watch over us and hold us all the days of our life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

BLESSING

The Lord bless us, and preserve us from all evil, and keep us in eternal life.

All Amen.

All: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.

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

Our thanks to Derek Hansen for leading our service of Morning Prayer today

Please stay for coffee or tea and a chat after the service in Waters' Hall

Val Grubb's funeral will take place at 2pm on Monday 11th March, in Christ Church. All are welcome, and the service will be followed by light refreshments in Waters' Hall. Val will then be laid to rest with Alex the following day with a private family service.

CHRIST CHURCH SERVICES IN MARCH