

# Sunday @ 9

## First Sunday in Lent

### Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2024

We join together, both those at St Luke's, and those at home using the internet or telephone

If you are at home, find somewhere comfortable, light a candle, and connect to our service via Zoom on the internet (<https://zoom.us/j/7210725462>) or by telephone (07 3185 3730, meeting ID 721 072 5462). Contact the Parish Office for the password. Follow the order of service below.

### *Gathering as God's people*

The Lord be with you.  
And also with you

The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.

*Mark 1.15*

### *Hymn: What a friend we have in Jesus*

What a friend we have in Jesus,  
all our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry  
everything to God in prayer!  
**O what peace we often forfeit,**  
O what needless pain we bear –  
all because we do not carry  
everything to God in prayer!

### **Have we trials and temptations?**

Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged:  
take it to the Lord in prayer!  
Can we find a friend so faithful,  
who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our every weakness –  
take it to the Lord in prayer!"!

Are we weak and heavy-laden,  
cumbered with a load of care?

### **Precious Saviour, still our refuge!**

Take it to the Lord in prayer!  
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?  
Take it to the Lord in prayer!  
In His arms He'll take and shield thee,  
thou wilt find a solace there.

*Joseph Scriven*

### *The Ministry of the Word*

#### *Prayer for the day*

God of the new and eternal covenant, as the forty days of the great flood swept away the world's

corruption and watered new beginnings of righteousness and life: grant to us, who are washed clean and born again in the saving flood of baptism, the wellspring of your grace, that your gift of new life may flourish once again; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

### *Children's ministry*

#### *Prayer before the reading of scripture*

Thank you, Father, for making yourself known to us and showing the way of salvation through faith in your Son.  
We ask you now to teach and encourage us through your word,  
so that we may be ready to serve you;  
for the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

*First Reading: 1 Peter 3:18-22*

### *Hymn: Morning has broken*

Morning has broken like the first morning;  
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!  
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,  
like the first dewfall on the first grass.  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,  
sprung in completeness where His feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning  
born of the one light Eden saw play!

**Praise with elation, praise every morning,  
God's re-creation of the new day!**

*Eleanor Farjeon; © David Higham Associates Ltd*

*Gospel reading: Mark 1:9-15*

*Music for reflection:*

## *The Ministry of Prayer*

*We pray for the church and the world.*

Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who taught us to pray,

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.

**Save us from the time of trial**

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.

## *Confession of sin*

Compassion and forgiveness belong to the Lord our  
God, though we have rebelled and wandered far off.

*A pause for reflection*

Let us then ask for mercy, confessing our sins in  
penitence and faith.

Wherever human sin brings harm to your creation,  
Lord, have mercy.

Where growing profits make consciences dull  
Christ, have mercy.

For every habitat that is lost and all the species that  
are gone,  
Lord, have mercy.

When your church has condoned destruction in  
your name,  
Lord, have mercy.

Where we have failed to show loving leadership in  
creation,  
Christ, have mercy.

Whenever your people have served ourselves  
instead of others,  
Lord, have mercy.

When your church has condoned destruction in  
your name,  
Lord, have mercy.

Where we have failed to show loving leadership in  
creation,  
Christ, have mercy.

Whenever your people have served ourselves  
instead of others,  
Lord, have mercy.

Almighty God,  
who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to  
him in faith:  
pardon you and set you free from all your sins,  
strengthen you in all goodness  
and keep you in eternal life,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

In your mercy, turn us from the path of  
**destruction,**  
And return us to the path of life. Amen.

## *The Greeting of peace*

We are the body of Christ.  
His Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
And also with you.

*Please say hello to everyone!*

## *The Offertory*

*Hymn: Feed us now*

Feed us now, Bread of life,  
in this holy meal;  
let us know your love anew;  
we hunger for you.  
Feed us now, Bread of life,  
come and live within;  
let your peace be ours today,  
Lord Jesus, we pray.

Piece of bread, cup of wine:  
Lord, this food is good:  
love and mercy come to us –  
your promise we trust.  
Piece of bread, cup of wine:  
who can understand  
how this mercy works in these?  
Yet, Lord, we believe.

God is here, O so near,  
nearer than our thoughts.  
stay with us where'er we go;  
Lord, help us to grow.  
God is here, O so near,  
in this heaven's meal.  
May we always feed on you –  
on the bread that is true.

### *Thanksgiving for offered gifts*

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.  
Through your goodness we have these gifts to share. Accept and use our offerings for your glory and for the service of your kingdom.  
Blessed be God for ever

### *The Great Thanksgiving*

The Lord be with you.  
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

...for ever praising you and saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.

...Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.

...in songs of never-ending praise:

Blessing and honour and glory and power  
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.

### *The Breaking of bread and the Communion*

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.  
We who are many are one body,  
for we all share in the one bread.

The gifts of God for the people of God...

*Communion is shared*

Jesus, Lamb of God  
have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins,  
have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world,  
grant us your peace.

### *Post Communion Prayer*

God of mercy,  
may we who have shared in this holy meal

know your forgiveness in our lives,  
bring your reconciliation to others,  
and be a sign of your wholeness in this broken world.

Most loving God,  
you send us into the world you love.  
Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage  
in the power of your Spirit.

### *The sending out of God's people*

#### **Notices**

*Hymn: Who put the colours in the rainbow?*

Who put the colours in the rainbow?  
Who put the salt into the sea?  
Who put the cold into the snowflake?  
Who made you and me?  
Who put the hump upon the camel?  
Who put the neck on the giraffe?  
Who put the tail upon the monkey?  
Who made hyenas laugh?  
Who made whales and snails and quails?  
Who made hogs and dogs and frogs?  
Who made bats and rats and cats?  
Who made everything?

Who put the gold into the sunshine?  
Who put the sparkle in the stars?  
Who put the silver in the moonlight?  
Who made Earth and Mars?  
Who put the scent into the roses?  
Who taught the honey bee to dance?  
Who put the tree inside the acorn?  
It surely can't be chance!  
Who made seas and leaves and trees?  
Who made snow and winds that blow?  
Who made streams and rivers flow?  
God made all of these!

*Joseph Arthur Paul Booth  
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#### **Blessing**

Christ our Saviour draw you to himself, that you may find in him crucified a sure ground for faith, a firm support for hope, and the assurance of sin forgiven; and the blessing ... Amen.

#### **Dismissal**

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