

# Sunday @ 9

## Second Sunday in Lent

### Sunday 25<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*

#### *Hymn: Be thou my vision*

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
naught be all else to me, save that Thou art –  
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my wisdom, Be Thou my true word;  
I ever with Thee, and Thou with me, Lord;  
Thou my great Father, thy child let me be;  
Thou in me dwelling, and I one with Thee.

Be Thou my armour, my sword for the **fight**,  
be Thou my dignity, Thou my delight;  
Thou my soul's shelter, and Thou my high tower:  
raise Thou me heavenward, O power of my power.

Riches I scorn and the world's empty praise,  
thou my inheritance, now and always:  
thou and thou only the **first** in my heart;  
high King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

**High King of heaven, after victory won,**  
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
**still be my vision, I ruler of all.**

*Gaelic c.8th cent. tr. Mary Elizabeth Byrne  
Words from 'The Poem Book of the Gael',  
by permission Chatto & Windus, London*

The Lord be with you.  
And also with you

If you want to become a disciple of Jesus, deny  
yourself, take up your cross, and follow him.

*Mark 8.34*

### *The Ministry of the Word*

#### *Prayer for the day*

God of all times and places, in Jesus Christ, who was  
lifted up on the cross, you opened for us the path to  
eternal life: grant that we, being born again of  
water and the Spirit, may joyfully serve you in

newness of life and faithfully walk in your holy ways;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns  
with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God,  
now and for 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: Romans 4:13-25*

#### *Hymn: On eagles' wings*

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,  
who bide in this shadow for life,  
say to the Lord; 'My refuge,  
my rock in whom I trust!'

*'And I will raise you up on eagle's wings  
bear you on the breath of dawn,  
make you to shine like the sun,  
and hold you in the palm of my hand.'*

Snares of the fowler will never capture you,  
and famine will bring you no fear,  
under God's wings your refuge  
with faithfulness your shield.

*'And I will raise you up ...*

For to the angels God's given a command  
to guard you in all of your ways;  
upon their hands they will bear you up,  
lest you dash your foot against a stone.

*'And I will raise you up ...*

*Michael Joncas*

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*Gospel reading: Mark 8:31-38*

**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*

For all opposition to truth and compassion,  
Lord, have mercy.

For violence toward the prophets, Jesus and all  
martyrs,  
Christ, have mercy.

For every exercise of human power that has brought  
death instead of life,

Lord, have mercy.

When your church has grasped at power instead of  
your love,

Lord, have mercy.

When your church has turned from the difficult path  
of discipleship,

Christ, have mercy.

Where we have failed to bring blessing to the world,  
Lord, have mercy.

When we have worshipped power and success  
instead of you,

Lord, have mercy.

When we have followed the values and visions of  
the world instead of following you,

Christ, have mercy.

When we have strived to save ourselves instead of  
giving our lives for others,

Lord, have mercy.

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

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.

*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: Immortal, invisible*

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
almighty, victorious, your great name we praise.

**Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,  
nor wanting, nor wasting, but ruling in might;  
your justice like mountains high soaring above**  
your clouds, which are fountains  
of goodness and love.

You give life to all, Lord, to both great and small;  
in all life now living, the true life of all;  
we blossom and flourish as leaves on a tree,  
then wither: but ever unchanged you will be.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,  
your angels adore you, all veiling their sight;  
of all your rich graces this grace, Lord, impart -  
take the veil from our faces,  
the veil from our heart.

All praise we would render: reveal to our sight  
what hides you is only the splendour of light;  
and so let your glory, Almighty, impart,  
through Christ in the story,  
your Christ to the heart.

*Walter Chalmers Smith*

### **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: Give thanks**

Give thanks with a grateful heart,  
give thanks to the Holy One;  
give thanks because He's given  
Jesus Christ, His Son.

And now let the weak say, 'I am strong',  
let the poor say, 'I am rich',  
because of what the Lord has done for us;  
and now let the weak say, 'I am strong',  
let the poor say, 'I am rich',  
because of what the Lord has done for us.

*Henry Smith*

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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