



All Saints Church, Hertford

Family Eucharist for First Sunday of Lent 21st Feb. 2021

Introit Almighty and everlasting God – *Gibbons*
Choir of King's College, Cambridge

Almighty and everlasting God,
mercifully look upon our infirmities,
and in all our dangers and necessities
stretch forth thy right hand to help and defend us,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Welcome and Greeting Rev Jo Loveridge

Welcome in the name of Christ.
God's grace, mercy and peace be with you
and also with you.

Preparing for the Word

We worship with Christians near and far,
living and departed, old and young.
God's word is for all of us.
May it be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path.

Opening Prayer

Lord, speak to us
that we may hear your word.
Move among us
that we may behold your glory.
Receive our prayers
that we may learn to trust you.
Amen.

Praying for Ourselves

Jesus said, Before you offer your gift, go and be reconciled. As brothers and sisters in God's family, we come together to ask our Father for forgiveness.
Let us return to the Lord our God and say to him

**Father,
we have sinned against heaven and against you.
We are not worthy to be called your children.
We turn to you again.
Have mercy on us,
bring us back to yourself
as those who once were lost
but now are found through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Kyrie Eleison

Lord, have mercy
Lord, have mercy

Christ, have mercy
Christ, have mercy

Lord, have mercy
Lord, have mercy

The priest declares God's forgiveness

May God, who loved the world so much that he sent his Son to be our Saviour, forgive you all your sins and make you holy to serve him in the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Collect, the prayer for the day, is said

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; 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

We sit for the **Reading 1 Peter 3.18-end** Graham Jones

For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight people, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading **Mark 1.9-15** Janet Bird

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Reflection Rev Jo Loveridge

We stand for *The Creed*

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.
We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

Amen. *Ephesians 3*

Praying for others Kay Povey-Richards

As we begin this season of Lent, let us move off into the desert to communicate with our God.

Lord God, we come with all our muddled priorities, and conflicting agendas, to be made whole as the Body of Christ; to renounce evil so as to be equipped to announce the kingdom of peace.

Lord God, we come with the world's clamour ringing in our ears, with comfort zones beckoning us, but the pain of injustice refusing to be shut out. We come for the world's healing, and for an end to all lying and deceit.

Lord God, we come with the demands of home, family, work and expectations warring in us for space and attention. We come on behalf of those too busy or too exhausted to pray; that our daily lives may be washed in your peace, ordered in holiness and lit up with your joy.

Lord God, we come with the needs and sorrows, pain and suffering of our brothers and sisters all over the world, who are aching – physically, emotionally or spiritually; we come to ask your comfort and healing love.

Lord God, we come to realign our lives in the context of your eternity, and to commend to your love our own loved ones who have passed through earthly death to the life which has no ending.

Lord God, we come with thankfulness for the gift of life, and for the call to holiness. Give us the grace to respond to your calling.

At the end:

Lord of the Church,

hear our prayer and make us one in heart and mind to serve you with joy forever.

Amen.

Sharing Communion

*We stand for **The Peace***

After the introductory words

The peace of the Lord be always with you

and also with you.

We wave to one another

Offertory Hymn Forty days and forty nights

Bradford Cathedral

- 1 Forty days and forty nights
 thou wast fasting in the wild;
 forty days and forty nights
 tempted still, yet undefiled.
- 2 Let us thine endurance share,
 and awhile from joys abstain,
 with thee watching unto prayer,
 strong with thee to suffer pain?
- 3 And if Satan, vexing sore,
 flesh or spirit should assail,
 thou, his vanquisher before
 grant we may not faint nor fail.
- 4 Keep, O keep us, Saviour dear,
 ever constant by thy side;
 that with thee we may appear
 at the eternal Eastertide.

The Eucharistic Prayer (Prayer H)

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 thanks and praise.

It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation;
in your love you made us for yourself.

We sit or kneel

When we turned away

you did not reject us,

but came to meet us in your Son.

**You embraced us as your children
and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.**

In Christ you shared our life
that we might live in him and he in us.

**He opened his arms of love upon the cross
and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

On the night he was betrayed,
at supper with his friends
he took bread, and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to them, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:
his body is the bread of life.**

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,
he gave you thanks, and said:
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins;
do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:
his blood is shed for all.**

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory,
send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine
may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.

**As we eat and drink these holy gifts
make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.**

With your whole Church throughout the world
we offer you this sacrifice of praise
and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven:

*We say the **Sanctus***

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

There may be a short period of silence

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we 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.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours now and for ever.
Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many,
we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

*We say the **Agnus Dei***

**Jesus, Lamb of God:
have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins:
have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world:
grant us peace.**

Giving of Communion

Anthem Purge me, O Lord – *Tallis* *Alamire*

Purge me, O Lord, from all my sin,
and save thou me by faith from ill,
that I may rest and dwell with thee,
upon thy holy blessed hill.

And that done, grant that with true heart
I may without hypocrisy
affirm the truth, detract no man,
but do all things with equity.

After Communion

Lord God, you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven; by it you nourish our faith, increase our hope, and strengthen our love: teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread, and enable us to live by every word that proceeds from out of your mouth; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

**Lord,
we have broken your bread
and received your life.
By the power of your Spirit
keep us always in your love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Final Hymn 523 Lead us heavenly Father, lead us Chet Valley Churches, Norfolk

- 1 Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us
o'er the world's tempestuous sea;
guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us
for we have no help but thee;
yet possessing every blessing,
if our God our Father be.
- 2 Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us;
all our weakness thou dost know;
thou didst tread this earth before us,
thou didst feel its keenest woe;
lone and dreary, faint and weary,
through the desert thou didst go.

- 3 Spirit of our God, descending,
fill our hearts with heavenly joy,
love with every passion blending,
pleasure that can never cloy:
thus provided, pardoned, guided,
nothing can our peace destroy.

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.

***All* In the name of Christ. Amen.**