

Crosslacon Sunday Worship on 7th March 2021
Third Sunday of Lent



Welcome

Call to Worship

The heavens are telling of the glory of God;
We come together to proclaim it.

In the wilderness, in the desert we cry out;
Our voice goes out through all the earth.

We have been redeemed, we have been liberated,
we have been brought into a new life;
For we are God's own beloved.
We gather together to worship.

Opening Prayer

Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may love you completely,
and rightly magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn: Guide me O Thou Great Redeemer

1 **Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,**
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty,

hold me with thy powerful hand:
bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore.

2 **Open now the crystal fountain**
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fiery, cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through:
strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield.

3 **When I tread the verge of Jordan**
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side:
songs of praises
I will ever give to thee.

Arglwydd arwain drwy'r anialwch
William Williams (1717-1791)
Translated by Peter Williams (1727-1796)

Invitation to Confession

Let us draw near to the living God who invites us into a
new covenant, who is patient when we turn away and
forgiving when we return in penitence.

Prayer of Confession

Loving God,
you have brought us from darkness to light, through
the love of your Son, Jesus Christ. We gather in hope
and adoration,
be with us as we strive
to live by your instruction.
In an age of individualism, fear, greed and anger,
we seek to live in peace
with our neighbour locally and globally,
give us the boldness to love
you and all your people
more freely and more generously.
In the promise of freely given grace and forgiveness
let us, in silence,
bring our own prayers to God:

Silence

May the silence be broken,
may we be forgiven and renewed,

**and may we grow in love,
today and every day. Amen.**

Absolution

May our merciful God enrich you with grace,
And nourish you with blessing;
defend you in trouble
and keep you from all evil;
May the God of compassion accept your prayers,
And absolve you from your offences,
For the sake of Jesus Christ, our Saviour,
Amen.

Collect.

**Eternal God,
Give us insight
To discern your will for us,
To give up what harms us,
And to seek the perfection we are promised in Jesus
Christ our Lord. Amen**

Old Testament Reading: Exodus 20:1-17

Then God spoke all these words:
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of Egypt,
out of the house of slavery.
You must have no other gods before me.
Do not make an idol for yourself—no form
whatsoever—of anything in the sky above or on the
earth below or in the waters under the earth. Do not
bow down to them or worship them, because I, the Lord
your God, am a passionate God. I punish children for
their parents' sins even to the third and fourth
generations of those who hate me. But I am loyal and
gracious to the thousandth generation of those who
love me and keep my commandments.

Do not use the Lord your God's name as if it were of no
significance; the Lord won't forgive anyone who uses his
name that way.

Remember the Sabbath day and treat it as holy. Six days
you may work and do all your tasks, but the seventh day
is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. Do not do any work
on it—not you, your sons or daughters, your male or
female servants, your animals, or the immigrant who is
living with you. Because the Lord made the heavens
and the earth, the sea, and everything that is in them in

six days, but rested on the seventh day. That is why the
Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

Honour your father and your mother so that your life
will be long on the fertile land that the Lord your God is
giving you.

Do not kill.
Do not commit adultery.
Do not steal.
Do not testify falsely against your neighbour.
Do not desire and try to take your neighbour's house.
Do not desire and try to take your neighbour's wife,
male or female servant, ox, donkey, or anything else
that belongs to your neighbour.

**For the word of God in Jesus,
For God's wisdom all around us,
For God's word and wisdom in us,
Thanks be to God.**

**Reflection: Living as God's beloved and redeemed
people**

Affirmation of Faith

**Though he was divine,
he did not cling to equality with God,
but made himself nothing.
Taking the form of a slave,
he was born in human likeness.
He humbled himself
and was obedient to death,
even the death of the cross.
Therefore God has raised him on high,
and given him the name above every name:
that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bow,
and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.
Amen.**

Philippians 2.6-11

Prayers of Intercession.

**Our prayers today have been prepared by Joan
Johnston.**

Response:

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Merciful Father,

Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,

Our saviour Jesus Christ, Amen

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Sharing the Peace

We proclaim Christ crucified, who, by his weakness, is
the power of God and the wisdom of God.

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

And also with you.

*We listen to a piece of music whilst we take the
opportunity, if watching live, to record a peace greeting
on the comments box in Facebook Live.*

Hymn: Just As I Am

as I am, without one plea
sung by St Martin's Voices

1 Just as I am, without one plea
but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou bidst me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come.

2 Just as I am, though tossed about

with many a conflict, many a doubt,
fightings within and fears without,
O Lamb of God, I come.

3 Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;
sight, riches, healing of the mind,
Yea, all I need, in thee to find,
O Lamb of God, I come.

4 Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve:
because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come.

5 Just as I am (thy love unknown
has broken every barrier down),
now to be thine, yea, thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come.

6 Just as I am, of that free love
the breadth, length, depth, and height to prove,
here for a season, then above,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Blessing

May God shine upon you,
Christ fill you with true wisdom and strength
And the Holy Spirit guide you into all faithfulness.
And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
Be among you and remain with you always.
Amen

Closing Responses

From where we are to where you need us,
Jesus, now lead on.

From the familiarity of what we know
to the wonder of what you will reveal,
Jesus, now lead on.

To transform the fabric of this world
until it resembles the shape of your kingdom,
Jesus, now lead on.

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