



Holy Communion All Hallows Church

Third Sunday before Lent
5 February 2023

A warm welcome to our worship this morning. Whether a regular or a visitor, it is good to have you here.

*We ask that you do **not publish photographs** you take in our church, with children other than your own in them, on social media sites (Instagram, Facebook etc.)*

***We stand as the bell sounds** to mark the beginning of our worship. As we sing our first hymn the altar party and choir process into church.*

HYMN

- 1 God is here! As we his people
meet to offer praise and prayer,
may we find in fuller measure
what it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us,
all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of his Spirit
into open minds and hearts.
- 2 Here are symbols to remind us
of our lifelong need of grace;
here are table, font and pulpit;
here the cross has central place.
Here in honesty of preaching,
here in silence, as in speech,
here, in newness and renewal,
God the Spirit comes to each.
- 3 Here our children find a welcome
in the Shepherd's flock and fold,
here, as bread and wine are taken,
Christ sustains us as of old.
Here the servants of the Servant
seek in worship to explore
what it means in daily living
to believe and to adore.

4 Lord of all, of Church and Kingdom,
in an age of change and doubt,
keep us faithful to the gospel,
help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's dedication,
all we have to give, receive:
we, who cannot live without you,
we adore you! We believe!

Fred Pratt Green (1903–2000) Words: © 1979, Stainer & Bell Ltd

GREETING

Minister In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

Minister The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Words of welcome may be said.

CONFESSION

Deacon God so loved the world that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ
to save us from our sins, to be our advocate in heaven,
and to bring us to eternal life.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith,
firmly resolved to keep God's commandments
and to live in love and peace with all.

**All Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

ABSOLUTION

Minister The almighty and merciful Lord
grant you pardon and forgiveness of all your sins,

time for amendment of life,
and the grace and strength of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

GLORIA

Choir/All Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest.

Glory to God in the highest and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father, receive our prayer.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest.

COLLECT

The president introduces a period of silent prayer with the words 'Let us pray' or a more specific bidding.

The Collect is said:

Eternal God,
whose Son went among the crowds
and brought healing with his touch:
help us to show his love,
in your Church as we gather together,
and by our lives as they are transformed
into the image of Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

FIRST READING Isaiah 58.1-9a

Thus says the Lord:

Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins.

Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practised righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgements, they delight to draw near to God. 'Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?'

Look, you serve your own interest on your fast-day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD?

Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rearguard. Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Silence may be kept.

SECOND READING 1Corinthians 2.1-12

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, 'What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him' – these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's

except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Silence may be kept.

HYMN

- 1 Sometimes a light surprises
the Christian while he sings:
it is the Lord who rises
with healing in his wings;
when comforts are declining,
he grants the soul again
a season of clear shining
to cheer it after rain.
- 2 In holy contemplation
we sweetly then pursue
the theme of God's salvation,
and find it ever new:
set free from present sorrow,
we cheerfully can say,
'E'en let the unknown morrow
bring with it what it may:
- 3 It can bring with it nothing
but he will bear us through;
who gives the lilies clothing
will clothe his people too:
beneath the spreading heavens
no creature but is fed;
and he who feeds the ravens
will give his children bread.
- 4 Though vine nor fig-tree neither
their wonted fruit should bear,
though all the fields should wither,
nor flocks nor herds be there;
yet, God the same abiding,
his praise shall tune my voice;

for, while in him confiding,
I cannot but rejoice.

William Cowper (1731–1800)

GOSPEL READING Matthew 5.13-20

All/choir Alleluia!

Cantor I am the light of the world, says the Lord.
Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness
but will have the light of life.

All/choir Alleluia!

Minister Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

All/choir Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus went up the mountain and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to teach them: 'You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfil. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All/choir Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

After the Sermon silence may be kept.

CREED

Minister Let us declare our faith in God:
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Minister Let us worship the Saviour with joy,
and make our prayer to our heavenly Father.

This response may be included:

All Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

And at the end:

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

Silence is kept.

PEACE

Minister God has called us to live in peace.

cf 1 Corinthians 7.17

The peace of the Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Deacon Let us share with one another a sign of peace.

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

HYMN

- 1 Alleluia, sing to Jesus!
His the sceptre, his the throne;
alleluia, his the triumph,
his the victory alone:
hark, the songs of peaceful Sion
thunder like a mighty flood;
Jesus out of every nation
hath redeemed us by his blood.
- 2 Alleluia, not as orphans
are we left in sorrow now;
alleluia, he is near us,
faith believes, nor questions how:
though the cloud from sight received him,
when the forty days were o'er,
shall our hearts forget his promise,
'I am with you evermore'?
- 3 Alleluia, bread of angels,
thou on earth our food, our stay;
alleluia, here the sinful
flee to thee from day to day:
Intercessor, Friend of sinners,
earth's Redeemer, plead for me,
where the songs of all the sinless
sweep across the crystal sea.
- 4 Alleluia, King eternal,
thee the Lord of lords we own;
alleluia, born of Mary,
earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne:
thou within the veil hast entered,

robed in flesh, our great High Priest;
thou on earth both Priest and Victim
in the eucharistic feast.

William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898)

TABLE PRAYER

Minister Wise and gracious God,
you spread a table before us;
nourish your people with the word of life
and the bread of heaven.

All **Amen.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Minister The Lord is here.

All **His spirit is with us.**

Minister Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Minister Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Minister It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

From sunrise to sunset this day is holy,
for Christ has risen from the tomb
and scattered the darkness of death
with light that will not fade.

This day the risen Lord
walks with your gathered people,
unfolds for us your word,
and makes himself known in the breaking of the bread.

And though the night will overtake this day
you summon us to live in endless light,
the never-ceasing sabbath of the Lord.

And so, with choirs of angels and with all the heavenly host,
we proclaim your glory and join their unending song of praise:

All/choir **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

Minister We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died
he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:

Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

Deacon Great is the mystery of faith.

All/choir Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Minister Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with [*N and*] all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever.

All Amen.

Silence may be kept.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Minister 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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

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

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

All/choir Lamb of God,
 you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

 Lamb of God,
 you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

 Lamb of God,
 you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

GIVING OF COMMUNION

Minister Draw near with faith.
 Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ
 which he gave for you,

and his blood which he shed for you.
Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts
by faith with thanksgiving.

All **Amen.**

Please wait to be directed forward to receive communion.

COMMUNION MOTET Thomas Atwood: Teach me, O Lord

HYMN

1 Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.

*Chorus Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.*

2 Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has power to save us.
Make us your living voice.

3 Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed.

4 Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone.

5 Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
making your kingdom come.

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Minister Merciful Father,
 who gave Jesus Christ to be for us the bread of life,

that those who come to him should never hunger:
draw us to the Lord in faith and love,
that we may eat and drink with him at his table in the kingdom,
where he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

All **Father of all, we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.
Dying and living, he declared your love,
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.**

**May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
we who drink his cup bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

NOTICES

HYMN

- 1 Thou, whose almighty word
chaos and darkness heard,
and took their flight;
hear us, we humbly pray,
and where the gospel-day
sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light.
- 2 Thou, who didst come to bring
on thy redeeming wing
healing and sight,
health to the sick in mind,
sight to the inly blind,
O now to all humankind
let there be light.
- 3 Spirit of truth and love,
life-giving, holy Dove,
speed forth thy flight;
move on the water's face,
bearing the lamp of grace,

and in earth's darkest place
let there be light.

4 Holy and blessed Three,
glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might;
boundless as ocean's tide
rolling in fullest pride,
through the earth far and wide
let there be light.

John Marriott (1780-1825)

BLESSING

Minister The peace of God, which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

DISMISSAL

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ. Amen.

The people and ministers depart.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY J. S. Bach: Fugue in G minor

OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR

Those who suffer in body, mind or spirit, among them Richard H, Kay G, Jonathan, Kath T, June M, Jenny A, Hilly S, Diana B.

The housebound and those in residential homes: Shirley C.

If you would like to add a name to our prayer list, please obtain the consent of the person you wish us to pray for. Then tell Pat Thomas whom to pray for and the reason why.

REMEMBER THE DEPARTED

Those whose anniversaries fell on this past week: Sidney Benford, Rosie Pateman, Joan Anne Hole, Alan Fitch, Angela Farnell, George Falkner, Jane Collins, Trudy White, Gladys Dew, Vi Earth, Mavis Jenkin, Derek Hooton, Ivy Lilian Wooding, Doris Packwood, George Slate, Malcolm Partridge, Sydney Waples.

NOTICES

Choral Evensong Sunday 12 February 18:00, All Hallows. No Compline that day.

A new group for pre-school children and their carers will be starting after the Easter school holidays. We need storytellers, crafters, music makers, refreshment providers. Could you help? Please come along to the Vicarage on 7 February at 7pm to find out more.

APPOINTING A NEW DIOCESAN BISHOP

The process for appointing our next Diocesan Bishop has begun. Details of what this involves can be found on the Diocesan website:

<https://www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk/aboutus/news/vacancy-in-see.php>

It is important that everyone in the Diocese is able to have input to the process of shaping a Diocesan Vision for the new Bishop and suggesting names of suitable candidates. This can be done in the following ways:

Submit your thoughts in writing

Please email your submission to vacancy@peterborough-diocese.org.uk to help shape the Diocesan vision for the new Bishop.

Pray

Please pray for the process, for the people directly involved and for the person who God is calling to be our new Bishop, whoever they may be.

God our Father, you have welcomed each one of us in Jesus and called us to be His Body in this place;
send us your Holy Spirit, at this time of uncertainty and change,
to fill us with vision, energy, and faithfulness in prayer,
that we may be true to our calling to bring new life to our communities;
guide us with your heavenly wisdom as we seek to find our new Bishop,
that the one who we receive may be a wise and gentle shepherd of your people:
ready to serve us with joy, to build us up in faith, and to lead us by example
in loving obedience to your son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

DIARY

Mon 6 Feb

Tues 7 Feb

9:00-9:30	Zoom	Morning Prayer
9:30-12:00	All Hallows' Hall	coffee shop

Wed 8 Feb

9:30-12:00	All Hallows' Hall	coffee shop
10:30-12:30	All Hallows	open to the public
12:15-13:00	All Hallows	Midweek Eucharist

Thurs 9 Feb

9:00-9:30	Zoom	Morning Prayer
10:00-10:30	All Saints	Holy Communion

Fri 10 Feb

9:30-12:00	All Hallows' Hall	coffee shop
18:15-19:15	All Saints	AS choir practice
19:30-20:30	All Hallows	AH choir practice

Sat 11 Feb

9:30-12:00	All Hallows' Hall	coffee shop
10:30-12:30	All Hallows	open to the public

Sun 12 Feb 2nd Sunday before Lent

9:15-10:15	All Saints	Eucharist
11:15-12:15	All Hallows	Eucharist
18:00-19:00	All Hallows	Choral Evensong

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