

**SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
FEBRUARY 25TH 2024
THE GATHERING**

Harriet welcomes people to worship

INTROIT HYMN

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

All **Amen.**

The Greeting

The president greets the people.

All The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Words of welcome are said and the theme introduced.

Prayer of Preparation

**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 perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Prayers of Penitence

Harriet – let's confess our sins to God

Minister The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit;
of a broken and contrite heart
the Word God will not despise.
Let us come to the Lord,
who is full of compassion,
and acknowledge our transgressions

in penitence and faith.

We confess to you our selfishness
and lack of love: fill us with your Spirit.
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Minister We confess to you our fear and failure
of in sharing our faith: fill us with your
the Word Spirit.
Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

Minister We confess to you our stubbornness and
of lack of trust: fill us with your Spirit.
the Word Lord, have mercy.
All **Lord, have mercy.**

We keep a period of silence.

President Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon *you*,
pardon and deliver *you* from all *your* sins,
confirm and strengthen *you* in all
goodness, and keep *you* in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

There is no Gloria in Lent.

The Collect

*The president introduces a period of silent prayer with the words 'Let us pray' or a more specific bidding. The Collect is said, and all respond **Amen***

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Old Testament Reading – read by Harriet

A reading from the Book of Genesis.

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, 'I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.' Then Abram fell on his face; and God

said to him, 'As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.

God said to Abraham, 'As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.'

at the end of the reading ...

Reader This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

New Testament Reading

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith.

If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations')—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become 'the father of many nations', according to what was said, 'So numerous shall your descendants be.' He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith 'was reckoned to him as righteousness.' Now the words, 'it was reckoned to him', were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

at the end of the reading ...

Reader This is the word of the Lord.
All **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL HYMN

Gospel Reading – read by Bennett

Gospel reader Praise to you, O Christ,
King of eternal glory.
The Lord is a great God:
O that today you would listen to his voice.
Harden not your hearts.

All Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark
Glory to you, O Lord.

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

at the end of the reading ...

Reader This is the Gospel of the Lord.
All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon – Revd Bennett

After the sermon, there is a period of silence.

Affirmation of Faith

Please stand.

President Do you believe and trust in God the
Father,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?

All **We believe and trust in him.**

President Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?

All **We believe and trust in him.**

President Do you believe and trust in God
the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?

All **We believe and trust in him.**

President This is the faith of the Church.

All **This is our faith.**

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

Intercessions – led by Arek

President *Let us pray for the church and for the
world
and let us be thankful for God's goodness*

*Prayers are offered for the Church of Christ, Creation, human society, the Sovereign and
those in authority, the local community, those who suffer, and the communion of saints.*

After each prayer ...

Intercessor Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

(or) Lord, hear us.
Lord, graciously hear us.

After the final prayer ...

Intercessor God of mercy,
**hear our prayer.
and make us one in heart and mind
to serve you with joy forever.**

Amen.

LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

The Peace

Please stand.

President Since we are justified by faith,
we have peace with God
through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has given us access to his grace.

All The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

President Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

OFFERTORY HYMN

Preparation of the Table

President God of our journey, as we walk with you
on your path of obedience, sustain us
on our way and lead us to your glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

President The Lord is here.

All **His Spirit is with us.**

President Lift up your hearts.

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

President Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

President Almighty God, good Father to us all,
your face is turned towards your world.
In love you gave us Jesus your Son
to rescue us from sin and death.
Your Word goes out to call us home
to the city where angels sing your praise.

All We join with them in heaven's song:
**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

President Father of all, we give you thanks
for every gift that comes from heaven.
To the darkness Jesus came as your light.
With signs of faith and words of hope
he touched untouchables with love and
washed the guilty clean.
This is his story.

All **This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.**

President The crowds came out to see your Son,
yet at the end they turned on him.
On the night he was betrayed
he came to table with his friends
to celebrate the freedom of your people.
This is his story.

All **This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.**

President Jesus blessed you, Father, for the food;
he took bread, gave thanks,
broke it and said:

This is my body, given for you all.

Jesus then gave thanks for the wine;
he took the cup, gave it and said:

This is my blood, shed for you all
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this in remembrance of me.

All This is our story.
**This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.**

Therefore, Father, with this bread
and this cup we celebrate the cross
on which he died to set us free.
Defying death he rose again, and is alive
with you to plead for us and all the world.
This is our story.

**This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.**

President Send your Spirit on us now
that by these gifts we may feed on Christ
with opened eyes and hearts on fire.
May we and all who share this food
offer ourselves to live for you
and be welcomed at your feast in heaven
where all creation worships you,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

All **Blessing and honour
and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever.
Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Please sit or kneel.

President As our Saviour taught us, so we pray.

All **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

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

President 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.**

Agnus Dei

All **Lamb of God, you take away the sin
of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin
of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin
of the world, grant us peace.**

(or)

**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.**

Invitation to Communion

President Jesus is the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those
who are called to his supper.

All **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word,
and I shall be healed.**

(or)

President God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

All **Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

Prayer before Distribution

All **Most merciful Lord,
your love compels us to come in.
Our hands were unclean,
our hearts were unprepared;
we were not fit even to eat the crumbs**

from under your table.
But you, Lord,
are the God of our salvation,
and share your bread with sinners.
So cleanse and feed us with the
precious body and blood of your Son,
that he may live in us and we in him;
and that we, with the whole company of
Christ, may sit and eat in your kingdom.
Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN

Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept. The Post Communion or other suitable prayer is said.

Notices

Final Prayer

Harriet **Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood
of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him
we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work
to your praise and glory.
Amen.**

THE BLESSING AND SENDING OUT

Please stand.

President **The Lord be with you
and also with you.**

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness,
to deny yourselves, take up your cross,
and follow him;
and the blessing of God almighty,

Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
come down upon you
and remain with you always.
Amen.

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

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Our worship is over: our service begins.