**Morning Prayer on the Sunday Next before Lent**

**Sunday 11th February. Service at 9.30. Call in from 9.15.**

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85649430168?pwd=QzFzNytXM01TQTc5cTROaHc2aElvZz09

Meeting ID: 856 4943 0168

Passcode: 336782

**Telephone instructions:**

\* Dial: 0131 460 1196  
  
\* You are then welcomed to Zoom and asked to type in the meeting ID ie. 856 4943 0168  
  
\* If the next instruction is to add your personal ID just press # to ignore  
  
\* When passcode requested type numbers i.e. 336782 plus #.  
  
\* At this point you should be admitted to the call.

**Preparation**

Praise the name of the Lord;

*All* **ascribe greatness to our God.**

Lord, open our lips

*All* **and we shall praise your name.**

People of God, look up!   
Believe that you will encounter God this morning.  
Be open to God revealing something of himself,  
and changing the way we see the world.

*All* **Almighty God,**

**we ask you to show us something more of who you are  
and how awesome your presence is.  
Overcome our fear of the unknown,  
and lead us into a new experience of you.  
May our worship today be as on a mountain-top,  
a transforming encounter**

**that empowers our love and understanding of you.  
Amen.**

The Lord, the mighty one, summons his faithful people to approach. Come, let us see his radiance, allowing the light of his glory to shine upon and within us, as we offer our worship and praise.

God of glory,  
open our eyes and open our hearts.  
**Help us to see Jesus.**

God of glory,  
change us and renew us by your Spirit.  
**Make us more like Jesus. Amen.**

*Collect for the Sunday Next before Lent*

Almighty Father,

whose Son was revealed in majesty

before he suffered death upon the cross:

give us grace to perceive his glory,

that we may be strengthened to suffer with him

and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory;

who is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

*All* **Amen.**

*The Song of the Three 35-37, 60-65*

Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord:

*All* **sing his praise and exalt him forever.**

Bless the Lord, you heavens:

*All* **sing his praise and exalt him forever.**

Bless the Lord, you angels of the Lord:

*All* **sing his praise and exalt him forever.**

Bless the Lord, all people on earth:

*All* **sing his praise and exalt him forever.**

O people of God, bless the Lord:

*All* **sing his praise and exalt him forever.**

Bless the Lord, you priests of the Lord:

*All* **sing his praise and exalt him forever.**

Bless the Lord, you servants of the Lord:

*All* **sing his praise and exalt him forever.**

Bless the Lord, all you of upright spirit:

*All* **bless the Lord, you that are holy and humble in heart.**

**Bless the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit:**

**sing his praise and exalt him forever.**



**The Word of God**

*First reading:* 2 Corithians 4: 3-6

And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. 4The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. 5For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus’ sake. 6For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God’s glory displayed in the face of Christ.

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God**

Psalmody: Psalm 50: 1-6

#### A psalm of Asaph.

1The Mighty One, God, the Lord,  
    speaks and summons the earth  
    from the rising of the sun to where it sets.  
2**From Zion, perfect in beauty,  
    God shines forth.**3Our God comes  
    and will not be silent;  
a fire devours before him,  
    and around him a tempest rages.  
4**He summons the heavens above,  
    and the earth, that he may judge his people:**5“Gather to me this consecrated people,  
    who made a covenant with me by sacrifice.”  
6**And the heavens proclaim his righteousness,  
    for he is a God of justice.**

*All* **Glory to the Father and to the Son**

**and to the Holy Spirit;**

**as it was in the beginning is now**

**and shall be forever.**

**Amen.**

*Second reading:* Mark 9: 2-9

### The Transfiguration

2After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them. 3His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them. 4And there appeared before them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus.

5Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.” 6(He did not know what to say, they were so frightened.)

7Then a cloud appeared and covered them, and a voice came from the cloud: “This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!”

8Suddenly, when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus.

9As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus gave them orders not to tell anyone what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God**

*We pause to reflect on the readings before turning to prayer.*

**Intercessions**

God of glory,

**Surround us with the light of your presence.**

Thank you, Lord, for being with us even when we didn’t know you were there. For the times when we caught a glimpse of you. For moments when we might have had an amazing encounter. We rejoice that you are a God who comes to us. Raise our eyes towards you today that we might go into the week ahead energised and inspired to meet you in every person and every situation.

God of glory,

**Surround us with the light of your presence.**

Lord, we lift to you our world. We pray for the places that are in such need of your presence and your glory. We pray for Ukraine and the Middle East. For Ethiopia and other parts of Africa, once again facing famine. Lord, we pray that, in every place where there is need, pain, hunger and despair, there may be a new revelation of you. Give us the eyes of faith to see where you are at work in the darkness of our world. Help us to see your light and seek ways to spread that light further and further until all the world sees a glimpse of your glory.

God of glory,

**Surround us with the light of your presence.**

Lord, we pray for all who have hit the headlines this week… whether for good, painful or unpleasant reasons…

We also remember those who were prominent in the news just a few days or weeks ago who have now faded from the front pages, yet whose stories are still known to you…

Thank you, Lord, that you never forget anyone. You know our stories and love us throughout our lives.

God of glory,

**Surround us with the light of your presence.**

Lord, we bring to you those who need a special touch from you right now. We pray for those who are sick, remembering King Charles among them. We also pray for….

Lord, may they know the revelation of your healing power.

We pray for those who are sad and sorrowful, particularly naming….

Come close, Lord, with your tender touch.

Help us to be bringers of peace and kindness this week to anyone we know who needs to feel your presence in their lives…

God of glory,

**Surround us with the light of your presence.**

Lord, thank you that the disciples and Gospel writers had the courage to tell their stories. We pause for a moment to think of those who directly, or indirectly, led us to this faith moment in our lives...

Lord Jesus, the great storyteller, help us never to be ashamed of our story of faith, even if it doesn’t seem as dramatic or exciting as those of other people. Give us the courage and desire to tell our story to others, that our witness may in some way help to bring others to trust and follow you. Lead us this week into moments of opportunity where we can share your love with those who need you so deeply.

God of glory,

**Surround us with the light of your presence.**

**Amen.**

​*The Lord’s Prayer*

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.**

*Blessing*

May Christ, who makes saints of sinners,

who has transformed those we remember today,

raise and strengthen you

that you may transform the world;

And the blessing of God Almighty,

the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit

remain with you and those you love

and pray for today and always.

*All* **Amen.**

Glory to God,

**whose power, at work among us,**

**can do infinitely more**

**than all we can ask or conceive;**

**to him be glory in the Church and in Christ Jesus,**

**for ever and ever. Amen.**

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**Lent begins this week**

Wednesday 14th February is Ash Wednesday . You can join us at: 6.30pm 14 February for an Ash Wednesday Service of Ashes at Loxbeare with Steph. Everyone Welcome.

There will be a Service of Compline Prayer at 6.30pm on all the Wednesdays in Lent on Zoom,( with the exception of Wednesday 28 February). Everyone is welcome to join with Steph in this service.

**Bible Study Group:** Next Bible Study February 26th at 2.30pm at The Cottage Washfield.

**28 March - Agape Meal - Withleigh - 6.30pm.** Please let the church office know if you are coming to help with catering, thank you. [office@exevalleymissioncommunity.org](mailto:office@exevalleymissioncommunity.org) Tel:01884 250417

**Giving**

To give to the Exe Valley Mission Community by BACS, please use account number 54731690 and sort code 60-21-27. Please use the reference *EVMC services*. Cheques should be made payable to: ‘Exe Valley Group of Churches’

To give to St Peter’s Church, please go to [www.stpeterstiverton.org.uk](http://www.stpeterstiverton.org.uk) and follow the donations link on the front page of the website.

Thank you for your support. It is much appreciated.