**Morning Prayer for the Second Sunday in Lent**

**Sunday 25th February 2024 at 9.30 (call in from 9.15**) This Sunday we are looking forward to worshipping with you on Zoom or Conference Call

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**

We come from scattered lives to meet with God.

*All* **Let us recognise his presence with us.**

*Silence is kept*

As God’s people we have gathered:

*All* **let us worship him together.**

*A Prayer of Adoration*

All-powerful God of past, present and future,  
keeper of promises:  
**How we love you.**

Son of Man, the way, the truth and the life,  
loving despite rejection:  
**How we love you.**

Holy Spirit, living Power within,  
helping, guiding, testing and transforming:  
**How we love you.**

Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
your unique relationship – open to us:  
**How we love you. Amen.**

*All* **Blessed be God for ever.**

We come to God as one from whom no secrets are hidden,

to ask for his forgiveness and peace.

*A Song of Penitence*

1    Have mercy on me, O God, in your great goodness;

according to the abundance of your compassion

blot out my offences.

2    **Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness**

**and cleanse me from my sin.**

3    For I acknowledge my faults

and my sin is ever before me.

4    **Against you only have I sinned**

**and done what is evil in your sight,**

5    So that you are justified in your sentence

and righteous in your judgement.

6    **Cast me not away from your presence**

**and take not your holy spirit from me.**

7    Give me again the joy of your salvation

and sustain me with your gracious spirit;

8    **Then shall I teach your ways to the wicked**

**and sinners shall return to you.**

9    Deliver me from my guilt, O God,

the God of my salvation,

and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness.

*Psalm 51.1–5,12–15*

*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 for ever. Amen.**

May almighty God,

who sent his Son into the world to save sinners,

bring you his pardon and peace, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

**The Word of God**

The Psalm Psalm 22: 23-31

**Be not far from me, O Lord.**

I will declare your name to my people;  
    in the assembly I will praise you.  
**23**You who fear the Lord, praise him!  
    All you descendants of Jacob, honour him!  
    Revere him, all you descendants of Israel!  
**24**For he has not despised or scorned  
    the suffering of the afflicted one;  
he has not hidden his face from him  
    but has listened to his cry for help.

**25**From you comes the theme of my praise in the great assembly;  
    before those who fear you I will fulfill my vows.  
**26**The poor will eat and be satisfied;  
    those who seek the Lord will praise him—  
    may your hearts live forever!

**Be not far from me, O Lord.**

**27**All the ends of the earth  
    will remember and turn to the Lord,  
and all the families of the nations  
    will bow down before him,  
**28**for dominion belongs to the Lord  
    and he rules over the nations.

**29**All the rich of the earth will feast and worship;  
    all who go down to the dust will kneel before him—  
    those who cannot keep themselves alive.  
**30**Posterity will serve him;  
    future generations will be told about the Lord.  
**31**They will proclaim his righteousness,  
    declaring to a people yet unborn:  
    He has done it!

**Be not far from me, O Lord.**

*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 for ever.**

**Amen.**

*First Reading* Genesis 17: 1-7, 15-16

### The Covenant of Circumcision

**17**When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to him and said, “I am God Almighty; walk before me faithfully and be blameless. **2**Then I will make my covenant between me and you and will greatly increase your numbers.”

**3**Abram fell facedown, and God said to him, **4**“As for me, this is my covenant with you: You will be the father of many nations. **5**No longer will you be called Abram; your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations. **6**I will make you very fruitful; I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you. **7**I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you.

**15**God also said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you are no longer to call her Sarai; her name will be Sarah. **16**I will bless her and will surely give you a son by her. I will bless her so that she will be the mother of nations; kings of peoples will come from her.”

This is the word of the Lord.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

*Canticle* The Song of Manasseh

*All* **Full of compassion and mercy and love**

**is God, the Most High, the Almighty.**

1    Lord almighty and God of our ancestors,

you who made heaven and earth in all their glory:

2    All things tremble with awe at your presence,

before your great and mighty power.

3    Immeasurable and unsearchable is your promised mercy,

for you are God, Most High.

4    You are full of compassion,

long-suffering and very merciful,

and you relent at human suffering.

*All* **Full of compassion and mercy and love**

**is God, the Most High, the Almighty.**

5    O God, according to your great goodness,

you have promised forgiveness for repentance

to those who have sinned against you.

6    The sins I have committed against you

are more in number than the sands of the sea.

7    I am not worthy to look up to the height of heaven,

because of the multitude of my iniquities.

*All* **Full of compassion and mercy and love**

**is God, the Most High, the Almighty.**

8    And now I bend the knee of my heart before you,

imploring your kindness upon me.

9    I have sinned, O God, I have sinned,

and I acknowledge my transgressions.

10  Unworthy as I am, you will save me,

according to your great mercy.

11  For all the host of heaven sings your praise,

and your glory is for ever and ever.

*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 for ever. Amen.**

***All* Full of compassion and mercy and love,**

**is God, the Most High, the Almighty.**

*Second Reading*Mark 8: 31-38

### Jesus Predicts His Death

**31**He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. **32**He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.

**33**But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. “Get behind me, Satan!” he said. “You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.”

### The Way of the Cross

**34**Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. **35**For whoever wants to save their life[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+8%3A+31-38%23&version=NIV#fen-NIV-24536a)] will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it. **36**What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? **37**Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? **38**If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father’s glory with the holy angels.”

This is the word of the Lord.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

*We pause to reflect on the readings*

**Prayers**

We pray for followers of Jesus Christ;  
for those who are imprisoned for their faith,  
for those who serve as missionaries,  
for teachers of the faith…

Lord, hear us.

**Lord graciously hear us.**

We pray for those who deny themselves to serve others;  
for those who work in hospitals and prisons,  
for those who are carers,  
for those who serve their communities as volunteers…

Lord, hear us.

**Lord graciously hear us.**

We pray for those who carry the weight of a cross;  
for the homeless and unemployed,  
for those who are ill or bereaved,  
for those who struggle with mental health…

Lord, hear us.

**Lord graciously hear us.**

We pray for ourselves, as we follow Christ;  
for strength to overcome our struggles and failures,  
for our fears and worries,  
for those we love, and those who love us..

Lord, hear us.

**Lord graciously hear us.**

Let us commend the world,

for which Christ suffered,

to the mercy and protection of God.

Lord, in your mercy

*All* **Hear our prayer**

*The Collect for the Second Sunday of Lent*

Almighty God,

you show to those who are in error the light of your truth,

that they may return to the way of righteousness:

grant to all those who are admitted

into the fellowship of Christ’s religion,

that they may reject those things

that are contrary to their profession,

and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ,

who is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

*All* **Amen.**

*The Lord’s Prayer*

Trusting in the compassion of God,

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 it is 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*

Christ give us grace to grow in holiness,

to deny ourselves, take up our cross and follow him;

and the blessing of God almighty,

the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit

be with us, and all those we love and pray for,

today and always.

*All* **Amen**

**Future events**

**Bible Study Group:** Next Bible Study February 26th at 2.30pm at The Cottage Washfield. If you would like to come could you contact Tim Gorringe [t.j.gorringe@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:t.j.gorringe@exeter.ac.uk) or the Church Office 01884 250417 [office@exevalleymissioncommunity.org](mailto:office@exevalleymissioncommunity.org)

**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*.

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.

*Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England; Common Worship: Pastoral Services;*

*Common Worship: Daily Prayer; are all copyright © The Archbishops' Council of the Church of England.*

*New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989 the Division of Christian Education of the*

*National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.*