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

**Sunday 9th February 2025 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**

O Lord, open our lips

*All* **and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Your light springs up for the righteous

*All* **and all the peoples have seen your glory.**

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We stand before you, God, to worship you.  
We stand, not as fishermen on the shore,  
but as a gathered group of people  
who have felt you tugging at our heart,  
who have heard you and sensed you calling us  
to love you and our neighbour as ourselves.  
**Amen.**

Blessings abound when you call us, Lord:  
when we encounter you in expected and unexpected places,  
when you speak to our need,  
are balm to our woes,  
are a guide in our confusion,  
an anchor in our uncertainty,  
a challenge in our complacency  
and love beyond measure.  
How can we not live in awe of all you are,  
have been and will be?  
**Amen.**

### A prayer of confession

Holy God, we know that on our own we fail and fall,  
falter and stumble, but we know that with you we can be better.  
You call us to be the best we can be, and we know we have failed.  
We confess those failings and seek your forgiveness (silence).

### Assurance of forgiveness

Our holy God has heard our confession,  
felt our pain, knows our desires, has forgiven us,  
renewed us, freed us, refreshed us.  
Thanks be to God.  
**Amen.**

Psalmody *Psalm 138*

**1**I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart;  
    before the “gods” I will sing your praise.  
**2**I will bow down toward your holy temple  
    and will praise your name  
    for your unfailing love and your faithfulness,  
for you have so exalted your solemn decree  
    that it surpasses your fame.  
**3**When I called, you answered me;  
    you greatly emboldened me.

**4**May all the kings of the earth praise you, Lord,  
    when they hear what you have decreed.  
**5**May they sing of the ways of the Lord,  
    for the glory of the Lord is great.

**6**Though the Lord is exalted, he looks kindly on the lowly;  
    though lofty, he sees them from afar.  
**7**Though I walk in the midst of trouble,  
    you preserve my life.  
You stretch out your hand against the anger of my foes;  
    with your right hand you save me.  
**8**The Lord will vindicate me;  
    your love, Lord, endures forever—  
    do not abandon the works of your hands.

*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.**

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us.

Let us pray with one heart and mind.

Lord, help us to hear your word, and to speak it.  
Help us to know your truth, and to show it.  
Help us to feel your love, and to share it.  
In Jesus’ name.

*All* **Amen.**

**The Word of God**

*First reading:* Isaiah 6: 1-8

**61**In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord, high and exalted, seated on a throne; and the train of his robe filled the temple. **2**Above him were seraphim, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. **3**And they were calling to one another:

“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty;  
    the whole earth is full of his glory.”

**4**At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke.

**5**“Woe to me!” I cried. “I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the Lord Almighty.”

**6**Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar. **7**With it he touched my mouth and said, “See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for.”

**8**Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?”

And I said, “Here am I. Send me!”

This is the word of the Lord.

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

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*Canticle:*  A Song of the New Creation *from Isaiah 43*

*All* **I will make a way in the wilderness,**

**and rivers in the desert.**

1    ‘I am the Lord, your Holy One,

the Creator of Israel, your King.’

2    Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea,

a path in the mighty waters,

3    ‘Remember not the former things,

nor consider the things of old.

4    ‘Behold, I am doing a new thing;

now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?

5    ‘I will make a way in the wilderness

and rivers in the desert,

to give drink to my chosen people,

6    ‘The people whom I formed for myself,

that they might declare my praise.’

*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* **I will make a way in the wilderness,**

**and rivers in the desert.**

*Second reading:*  Luke 5: 1-11

**51**One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret, the people were crowding around him and listening to the word of God. **2**He saw at the water’s edge two boats, left there by the fishermen, who were washing their nets. **3**He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little from shore. Then he sat down and taught the people from the boat.

**4**When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, “Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch.”

**5**Simon answered, “Master, we’ve worked hard all night and haven’t caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets.”

**6**When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break. **7**So they signalled their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink.

**8**When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus’ knees and said, “Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!” **9**For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken, **10**and so were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, Simon’s partners.

Then Jesus said to Simon, “Don’t be afraid; from now on you will fish for people.” **11**So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him.

This is the word of the Lord.

*All*  **Thanks be to God**

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

**A hands folded over a book

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**Intercessions**

Compassionate God we bring to you in our prayers those whose calling sends them to places of danger.

We remember those in our emergency services and those around the world who are first at traffic accidents, at plane crashes and crime scenes.

We pray for those responding to the shootings in Orebro in Sweden, for the injured and bereaved.

**Lord be with them**

We pray for all who search for those missing at sea or on mountains or under rubble, for those who fight fires, for all who witness and deal with catastrophic injuries and loss of life.

**Lord be with them**

We pray for those whose calling sends them to places of desperation:

For aid workers and medics working where there is hunger and starvation. Especially we remember the people of Sudan, Syria, Yemen, Gaza and all those living in refugee camps around the world.

And for journalists and reporters on the front line.

**Lord be with them**

We pray for those in the armed forces of their nation, for veterans struggling to adapt to civilian life, and for all with PTSD.

**Lord be with them**

We pray for those whose calling is to remain in their local communities to serve together, worship together and to be people of faith, hope and integrity.

We pray for those exploring a vocation in your Church, for those whose responsibility it is to discern vocations, and for those called to shape the future of your Church.

**Lord be with them**

We pray for young people who face decisions about careers and study choices.

**Lord be with them**

We pray for those who feel overwhelmed by the enormity of their calling.

Those whose love of their work is slowly slipping away.

Those whose energy has run out.

Those who feel they have no gifts that can be used.

**Lord be with them**

We pray for one another and those we know who are low on confidence and for those who feel they have lost their role in life and their sense of purpose, through age or illness or a change of circumstances. Today we pray especially for …….

**Lord be with them and us today and everyday**

**In Jesus' name**

**Amen**

*Collect for the Fourth Sunday before Lent*

O God, you know us to be set

in the midst of so many and great dangers,

that by reason of the frailty of our nature

we cannot always stand upright:

grant to us such strength and protection

as may support us in all dangers

and carry us through all temptations;

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,

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*

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*

The God of hope fill you

with all joy and peace in believing;

and the blessing of God almighty,

the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,

be among us and remain with us

and those we love and pray for

today and always.

*All* **Amen.**

*Sending out prayer*

Almighty God, you have given us a fresh glimpse  
of your glory and majesty.  
We are not worthy to walk with you,  
but you have made us clean.  
Send us out, in the power of your Holy Spirit,  
to speak your words and to show your love. **Amen.**

**What’s on**

**Exe Valley Mission Community Lunch**

The next lunch will be at Cruwys Morchard Village Hall on Thursday 13 February, 12.30pm-2.30pm. Please let the church office know if you will be joining us 01884 250417 or 07733949295

**Prayer Breakfast at The Rectory**

The next prayer breakfast will be at 9.00am on Saturday 15 February 2025. Everyone welcome.

**Prayer Chain**

The Exe Valley Mission Community are starting a telephone prayer chain. If you like to be included for prayer or know someone who would like to be included, please contact Steph at the church office 01884 250417. Only first initials will be used on the prayer chain to ensure total confidentiality.

**Coffee and Chat with Steph**

Steph will be at Banburys from 10.15am on Friday February 14th for coffee and a chat if you would like to join her.

**Practicing the Way – A course for Lenten Discipleship**

Steph will be running this course during Lent at The Rectory Withleigh.

Thursday 13, 20 & 27 March and Thursday 3 April at 11.00am & 7.00pm.

Please come along when you can and encourage others to sign up. Please let the church office know when you can come. 01884 250417

**Contacting Church Office**

Monday, Wednesday and Friday 10.00am -12 noon

Email: [office@exevalleymissioncommunity.org](mailto:office@exevalleymissioncommunity.org) Tel: 01884 250417 or 07733949295

**Giving**

**Giving to the Exe Valley Mission Community**

If you would like to make a contribution to the work of The Exe Valley Mission Community please make a gift using the Exe Valley Group of Churches BACS details. Please use the reference EVMC Services.

**Account Name:** Exe Valley Group of Churches

**Sort Code:**60-21-27

**Account No:** 54731690

Cheques should be made payable to: 'Exe Valley Group of Churches'

To give to St Peter’s Church PCC, please use account number 00213815 and

sort code 30-98-61. Please use the reference St Peter’s services.

Thank you for your support.

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