

Communion Service: 19 March 2023
4th Sunday of Lent: Mothering Sunday

Notices

- Mardle deadline today

Collect for 4th Sunday of Lent

Eternal Lord,
our beginning and our end:
bring us with the whole creation
to your glory, hidden through past ages
and made known
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Song: Strength will rise

Strength will rise as we
wait upon the Lord
We will wait upon the Lord
We will wait upon the Lord

Our God
You reign forever
Our hope
Our strong deliverer

You are the everlasting God
the everlasting God
You do not faint
You won't grow weary
You're the defender of the weak
You comfort those in need
You lift us up on
wings like eagles

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Brenton Brown & Ken Riley © 2005 Thankyou Music

Song: You are my strength

You are my strength when I am weak
You are the treasure that I seek
You are my all in all

Seeking You as a precious jewel
Lord, to give up I'd be a fool
You are my all in all

Jesus, Lamb of God
Worthy is Your name
Jesus, Lamb of God
Worthy is Your name

Taking my sin, my cross, my shame
Rising again I bless Your name
You are my all in all

When I fall down You pick me up
When I am dry You fill my cup
You are my all in all

Jesus, Lamb of God
Worthy is Your name
Jesus, Lamb of God
Worthy is Your name

Dennis Jernigan © 1990, Shepherd's Heart Music

Saying Sorry

Father God, we are sorry for the things we do and say and think which make you sad, and for not thinking of others before ourselves.

Please forgive us, and help us to love you and other people more and more.

Amen.

Receiving Forgiveness

May God who loved the world so much that he sent his Son to be our Saviour, forgive us our sins, and make us holy to serve him in the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

John 9:1-41 (NIV)

As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. ² His disciples asked him, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?'

³ 'Neither this man nor his parents sinned,' said Jesus, 'but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him. ⁴ As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵ While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.'

⁶ After saying this, he spat on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man's eyes. ⁷ 'Go,' he told him, 'wash in the Pool of Siloam' (this word means 'Sent'). So the man went and washed, and came home seeing.

⁸ His neighbours and those who had formerly seen him begging asked, 'Isn't this the same man who used to sit and beg?' ⁹ Some claimed that he was.

Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.'

But he himself insisted, 'I am the man.'

¹⁰ 'How then were your eyes opened?' they asked.

¹¹ He replied, 'The man they call Jesus made some mud and put it on my eyes. He told me to go to Siloam and wash. So I went and washed, and then I could see.'

¹² 'Where is this man?' they asked him.

'I don't know,' he said.

¹³ They brought to the Pharisees the man who had been blind. ¹⁴ Now the day on which Jesus had made the mud and opened the man's eyes was a Sabbath. ¹⁵ Therefore the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. 'He put mud on my eyes,' the man replied, 'and I washed, and now I see.'

¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, 'This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.' But others asked, 'How can a sinner perform such signs?' So they were divided.

¹⁷ Then they turned again to the blind man, 'What have you to say about him? It was your eyes he opened.'

The man replied, 'He is a prophet.'

¹⁸ They still did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they sent for the man's parents. ¹⁹ 'Is this your son?' they asked. 'Is this the one you say was born blind? How is it that now he can see?'

²⁰ 'We know he is our son,' the parents answered, 'and we know he was born blind. ²¹ But how he can see now, or who opened his eyes, we don't know. Ask him. He is of age; he will

22 speak for himself.' ²² His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders, who already had decided that anyone who acknowledged that Jesus was the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. ²³ That was why his parents said, 'He is of age; ask him.'

²⁴ A second time they summoned the man who had been blind. 'Give glory to God by telling the truth,' they said. 'We know this man is a sinner.'

²⁵ He replied, 'Whether he is a sinner or not, I don't know. One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see!'

²⁶ Then they asked him, 'What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?'

²⁷ He answered, 'I have told you already and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples too?'

²⁸ Then they hurled insults at him and said, 'You are this fellow's disciple! We are disciples of Moses! ²⁹ We know that God spoke to Moses, but as for this fellow, we don't even know where he comes from.'

³⁰ The man answered, 'Now that is remarkable! You don't know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. ³¹ We know that God does not listen to sinners. He listens to the godly person who does his will. ³² Nobody has ever heard of opening the eyes of a man born blind.

³³ If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.'

³⁴ To this they replied, 'You were steeped in sin at birth; how dare you lecture us!' And they threw him out.

³⁵ Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, and when he found him, he said, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?'

³⁶ 'Who is he, sir?' the man asked. 'Tell me so that I may believe in him.'

³⁷ Jesus said, 'You have now seen him; in fact, he is the one speaking with you.'

³⁸ Then the man said, 'Lord, I believe,' and he worshipped him.

³⁹ Jesus said, 'For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind.'

⁴⁰ Some Pharisees who were with him heard him say this and asked, 'What? Are we blind too?'

⁴¹ Jesus said, 'If you were blind, you would not be guilty of sin; but now that you claim you can see, your guilt remains.'

Talk

by Adrian

My Jesus, My Saviour

My Jesus, my Saviour
Lord, there is none like You.
All of my days I want to praise
The wonders of Your mighty love.
My comfort, my shelter,
Tower of refuge and strength,
Let every breath, all that I am,
Never cease to worship You.

Shout to the Lord all the earth, let us sing
Power and majesty, praise to the King.
Mountains bow down
And the seas will roar
At the sound of Your name.
I sing for joy at the work of Your hands.
Forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand.
Nothing compares to the
Promise I have in You.

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Lord, there is none like You.
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Forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand.
Nothing compares to the
Promise I have in You.

Nothing compares to the promise I have,
Nothing Compares to the promise I have in you.

Darlene Zschech © 1993 Kingsway's Thankyou Music

There is strength within the sorrow

There Is Strength Within The Sorrow
There Is Beauty In Our Tears
And You Meet Us In Our Mourning
With A Love That Cast Out Fear
You Are Working In Our Waiting
You're Sanctifying Us
When Beyond Our Understanding
You're Teaching Us To Trust

Your Plans Are Still To Prosper
You Have Not Forgotten Us
You're With Us In The Fire And The Flood

You're Faithful Forever Perfect In Love
You Are Sovereign Over Us

You Are Wisdom Unimagined
Who Could Understand Your Ways
Reigning High Above The Heavens
Reaching Down In Endless Grace
You're The Lifter Of The Lowly
Compassionate And Kind
You Surround And You Uphold Me
And Your Promises Are My Delight

Your Plans Are Still To Prosper
You Have Not Forgotten Us
You're With Us In The Fire And The Flood
You're Faithful Forever Perfect In Love
You Are Sovereign Over Us

Even What The Enemy Means For Evil
You Turn It For Our Good
You Turn It For Our Good
And For Your Glory
Even In The Valley, You Are Faithful
You're Working For Our Good
You're Working For Our Good
And For Your Glory

You're Faithful Forever Perfect In Love
You Are Sovereign Over Us

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There is strength within the sorrow

There Is Strength Within The Sorrow
There Is Beauty In Our Tears
And You Meet Us In Our Mourning
With A Love That Cast Out Fear
You Are Working In Our Waiting
You're Sanctifying Us
When Beyond Our Understanding
You're Teaching Us To Trust

Your Plans Are Still To Prosper
You Have Not Forgotten Us
You're With Us In The Fire And The Flood
You're Faithful Forever Perfect In Love
You Are Sovereign Over Us

Profession of Faith

The president addresses the congregation:

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess
the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the Virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried;

he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven,

**he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the
dead.**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting.

Amen.

Our Prayers

led by Sue

Amazing Grace

Amazing grace how sweet the sound

That saved a wretch like me

I once was lost but now I'm found

Was blind but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear

And grace my fears relieved

How precious did that grace appear

The hour I first believed

My chains are gone I've been set free

My God my Saviour has ransomed me

And like a flood His mercy reigns

Unending love amazing grace

The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures

My chains are gone I've been set free
My God my Saviour has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy reigns
Unending love amazing grace

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine
But God who called me here below
Will be forever mine
Will be forever mine
You are forever mine

Chris Tomlin, John Newton © 2006 sixsteps Music

Holy Communion

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is right to praise you,
Father, Lord of all creation;
in your love you made us for yourself.

When we turned away
you did not reject us,
but came to meet us in your Son.

**You embraced us
as your children
and welcomed us
to sit and eat with you.**

In Christ you shared our life
that we might live in him
and he in us.

**He opened his arms of love
upon the cross
and made for all
the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

On the night he was betrayed,
at supper with his friends
he took bread,
and gave you thanks;
he broke it
and gave it to them, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body
which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this
in remembrance of him:
his body is the bread of life.**

At the end of supper,
taking the cup of wine,
he gave you thanks, and said:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you
for the forgiveness of sins;
do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this
in remembrance of him:
his blood is shed for all.**

As we proclaim his death
and celebrate his rising in glory,
send your Holy Spirit
that this bread and this wine
may be to us the body and blood
of your dear Son.

**As we eat and drink
these holy gifts
make us one in Christ,
our risen Lord.**

With your whole Church
throughout the world

we offer you
this sacrifice of praise
and lift our voice
to join the eternal song of heaven:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full
of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**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.**

Every time we eat this bread
and drink this cup.

**We proclaim the Lord's death
until he comes.**

Giving of Communion

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 Christ died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts
by faith with thanksgiving.

Receiving Bread and Wine Amazing Grace

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me

I once was lost but now I'm found
Was blind but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
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My chains are gone I've been set free
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The earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine
But God who called me here below
Will be forever mine
Will be forever mine
You are forever mine

Chris Tomlin, John Newton © 2006 sixsteps Music

Post Communion Prayer

God of glory,
you nourish us with your Word
who is the bread of life:
fill us with your Holy Spirit
that through us the light of your glory
may shine in all the world.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Come Set Your Rule and Reign

Come set Your rule and reign
In our hearts again
Increase in us we pray

Unveil why we're made
Come set our hearts ablaze with hope
Like wildfire in our very souls
Holy Spirit come invade us now

We are Your Church
We need Your power
In us

We seek Your kingdom first
We hunger and we thirst
Refuse to waste our lives
For You're our joy and prize
To see the captive hearts released
The hurt; the sick; the poor at peace
We lay down our lives for Heaven's cause

We are Your Church
We pray revive
This earth

Build Your kingdom here
Let the darkness fear
Show Your mighty hand
Heal our streets and land
Set Your church on fire
Win this nation back
Change the atmosphere
Build Your kingdom here
We pray

Unleash Your kingdom's power
Reaching the near and far
No force of hell can stop
Your beauty changing hearts
You made us for much more than this
Awake the kingdom seed in us
Fill us with the strength and love of Christ

We are Your church
We are the hope
On earth

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Closing Blessing
Christ Jesus,

the splendour of the Father and the image of his being,
draw you to himself that you may live in his light and share his glory;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the son and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you, now and always.

Amen.