

Holy Trinity

Headington Quarry



Second Sunday before Lent
Sunday 7th February 2021

The Gathering

Welcome and parish prayer

Hymn

All creatures of our God and King,
Lift up your voice and with us sing:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
Thou silver moon with softer gleam:
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
Ye clouds that sail in heaven along,
O praise him, alleluia!
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice;
Ye lights of evening, find a voice:
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Thou flowing water, pure and clear,
Make music for thy Lord to hear,
Alleluia, alleluia!
Thou fire so masterful and bright,
That givest us both warmth and light:
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

And ye that are of tender heart,
Forgiving others, take your part,
O sing ye, alleluia!
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,
Praise God and on him cast your care!
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless,
And worship him in humbleness,
O praise him, alleluia!

Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, Three-in-One:
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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

Amen.

The Greeting

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you
and also with you.

Prayers of Penitence

God so loved the world
that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ
to save us from our sins,
to be our advocate in heaven,
and to bring us to eternal life.
Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith,
firmly resolved to keep God's commandments
and to live in love and peace with all.

**Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy
forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly,
love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God.
Amen.**

Almighty God,
who in Jesus Christ has given us
a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,
forgive you your sins,
open your eyes to God's truth,
strengthen you to do God's will
and give you the joy of God's kingdom,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Gloria in Excelsis

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.**

The Collect

Let us pray.

Silence is kept

Almighty God,
you have created the heavens and the earth
and made us in your own image:
teach us to discern your hand in all your works
and your likeness in all your children;

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who with you and the Holy Spirit
reigns supreme over all things,
now and for ever. **Amen**

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Proverbs 8.1, 22-31

Does not wisdom call,
and does not understanding raise her voice?
The Lord created me at the beginning of his work,
the first of his acts of long ago.
Ages ago I was set up,
at the first, before the beginning of the earth.
When there were no depths I was brought forth,
when there were no springs abounding with water.
Before the mountains had been shaped,
before the hills, I was brought forth—
when he had not yet made earth and fields,
or the world's first bits of soil.
When he established the heavens, I was there,
when he drew a circle on the face of the deep,
when he made firm the skies above,
when he established the fountains of the deep,
when he assigned to the sea its limit,
so that the waters might not transgress his command,
when he marked out the foundations of the earth, then I was beside
him, like a master worker;
and I was daily his delight,
rejoicing before him always,
rejoicing in his inhabited world
and delighting in the human race.

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Taize Chant

The Lord is my light, my light and salvation:
in God I trust, in God I trust.

Gospel Reading

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

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

Gospel reading: John 1.1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

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

Sermon

Revd Prof Rob Gilbert

Affirmation of Faith

Let us declare our faith in God
**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.**

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

Prayers of Intercession

Lord, hear us
Lord, graciously hear us.

Merciful Father,
**accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Peace

God has called us to live in peace.
The peace of the Lord be always with you.
and also with you.

Preparation of the Table

Hymn

O Christ the same, through all our story's pages,
our loves and hopes, our failures and our fears;
eternal Lord, the King of all the ages,
unchanging still, amid the passing years:
O living Word, the source of all creation,
who spread the skies, and set the stars ablaze,
O Christ the same, who wrought our whole salvation,
we bring our thanks for all our yesterdays.

O Christ the same, the friend of sinners sharing
our inmost thoughts, the secrets none can hide,
still as of old upon Your body bearing

the marks of love, in triumph glorified:
O Son of Man, who stooped for us from heaven,
O Prince of Life, in all Your saving power,
O Christ the same, to whom our hearts are given,
we bring our thanks for this the present hour.

O Christ the same, secure within whose keeping
our lives and loves, our days and years remain,
our work and rest, our waking and our sleeping,
our calm and story, our pleasure and our pain:
O Lord of love, for all our joys and sorrows,
for all our hopes, when earth shall fade and flee,
O Christ the same, beyond our brief tomorrows,
we bring our thanks for all that is to be.

Prayer over the Gifts

Gracious God,
accept the offering of your Church,
the hearts of your people
joined in praise and thanksgiving,
in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.
Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer E

The Lord be with you
and also with you.
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.

Father, you made the world and love your creation.
You gave your Son Jesus Christ to be our Saviour.
His dying and rising have set us free from sin and death.
By your Holy Spirit you make us your friends.
And so we gladly thank you,
with saints and angels praising you, and saying:

**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.**

We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith
Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.

Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with the blessed Virgin Mary, and all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

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.**

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.
**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

**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.**

Giving of Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

The president receives communion whilst people join in from their homes.

Anthem 'A Gaelic Blessing', John Rutter

Prayer after Communion

God our creator,
by your gift
the tree of life was set at the heart of the earthly paradise,
and the bread of life at the heart of your Church:
may we who have been nourished at your table on earth
be transformed by the glory of the Saviour's cross
and enjoy the delights of eternity;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

**Father of all,
we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.
Dying and living, he declared your love,
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
we who drink his cup bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

The Sending Out

Hymn

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render: O help us to see
'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.

The Blessing

The peace of God,
which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds
in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

The Dismissal

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

Organ Music

Fantasia in C, J.S. Bach, recorded by Rosie Tweddle

Copyright: Common Worship & Times and Seasons ©The Archbishops' Council 2000, 2006

NOTICES

Lent at HTHQ

Lent begins on Wednesday 17th February (Ash Wednesday). Here are some details of Lent courses and groups being planned, with more details to follow:

'For such a time as this'. A Lent Course exploring ecological justice, from USPG. Each session features Bible study, stories of hope and encouragement from USPG partner churches across the world, and opportunities to reflect on how, as Christians, we can respond to the climate emergency. This course will run on Zoom on **Tuesday evenings in Lent from 7-8pm**, starting on **Tuesday 23rd February**. You may also like to do the course individually or in home groups. Please let Helen know if you plan to attend (office@hthq.uk), and if you would like a print-out of the booklet which can be downloaded here:

<https://www.uspg.org.uk/engage/support5/forsuchatime/lent-course-2021/>

Lent Poetry Challenge

Many of us have turned to poetry for wisdom during this time, and may find it helpful to commit to reading a poem a day during Lent, following Malcolm Guite's book *Word in the Wilderness* (Canterbury Press, 2014). Laura will be holding three Zoom sessions to read and discuss some of the poems together. These will be on **Monday evenings (1st, 15th, 29th March) at 7-8pm**. Please let Laura know if you would like to take part (vicar@hthq.uk).

Come and See

Lots of people are asking deep questions of faith at this time. 'Come and See', run through Oxford Diocese, is an invitation to everyone and anyone who feels adrift in this pandemic, whether or not they know anything about the Christian faith. You can find more details and register here: <https://www.oxford.anglican.org/come-and-see/>

Lent Retreat: Growing back better

2020 challenged us, individually and collectively, in ways no-one could have imagined. It has confronted us with the question of whether we want to go back to how things were, or to 'grow back better'. It has challenged us to reflect on what kind of people we truly desire to become and what kind of world we hope to pass on to future generations. This Lent Retreat, run by Pray as you Go in collaboration with Sacred Space, offers seven weekly sessions to help reflect on these questions. <https://pray-as-you-go.org/retreat/lent-2021>

Prayers for Hope and Healing

This contemplative prayer gathering will meet weekly on Thursdays at 8.30pm during Lent, beginning Thursday 25th February (there will be no prayer meeting on February 18th). The focus will be: seeing salvation, praying through art.

OTHER NOTICES

New Lockdown

Although communal worship can still take place during this third lockdown, we have taken the difficult decision to pause communal worship and continue with online services only. A letter setting out this decision in more detail can be found on the church website. Funerals will still be able to take place in church, with a maximum of 30 people attending. The church will be open for private prayer at weekends only, owing to the electrical work taking place during the week. We hope to resume communal worship, even in a limited way, in time for Lent and Easter, and we will keep the situation under review over the coming weeks. Please do get in touch with Laura or the churchwardens if you have any questions or concerns about this.

Electrical Works

Let there be light! The first phase of our building project began on Monday 11th January, and we look forward to new lighting, a new sound system, and interior redecoration. Please note that there will be no access to the church building during the week, and anyone with a church key who needs to arrange access must contact the site manager (via the parish office). Please pray for the contractors and all involved with our building project as we begin this first phase, and plan for the next:

*Eternal God, Father Son and Holy Spirit
Bless the work that will be taking place over the coming weeks
May the contractors work safely and diligently.
May the work that takes place be done
to the glory and honour of your name,
that all who visit this house of prayer,
may be drawn out of darkness into your marvellous light.
We make our prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.*

Survey about church life

To help us plan during this current phase of the pandemic, and beyond, we would be grateful if you could spend a few minutes filling out this online form, which gives you a chance to share ideas and feedback about worship, ways to stay connected, and other issues that may be on your heart. The survey is anonymous and can be found here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1q3C7UOirhirIPAgQ7bz4D8irT_bNP7GAb2d1-W-GvgI/edit

Oxford Hospitals Trust Staff Appeal

Support during the COVID-19 crisis can help make a real difference to the NHS staff working across our hospitals and the patients they are caring for at this difficult time. Donations go towards a range of items including specialist medical equipment, care boxes and hampers for staff who are most affected, care packs for patients, virtual music concerts and phone chargers to help those on wards who feel isolated or bored, especially with visiting restricted. Please go here to donate if you are able:

<https://www.hospitalcharity.co.uk/Appeal/staffsupport>

Morning Prayer: Weekly on Mondays at 9am

A chance to pause for prayer at the beginning of the week. The focus for prayer will be the psalms, which offer ancient wisdom for contemporary times.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86782891843?pwd=S25BN0E3QUF6aXk5cHBETktaRmhlZ09>

Meeting ID: 867 8289 1843

Passcode: 309879

Please note there will be no morning prayer sessions on Monday 15th or Monday 22nd February. We will resume again on Monday 1st March.

How the Light Gets in: A short retreat with Angela Tilby

An afternoon online retreat on **Saturday 13th February**, run by the Oxford Centre for Spiritual Growth, reflecting on Leonard Cohen's quote: 'There's a crack, a crack in everything, that's how the light gets in'. With priest, journalist and broadcaster Angela Tilby. Please see <http://www.ocsg.uk.net/> for more details.