

Morning Prayer 14th February 2021

The Sunday next before Lent

Service with Tini Horning



Personal preparation before the service begins.

Please take time to remember where you are,
and why you are here.
Give thanks and become still
in the presence of God

PRELUDE

GATHERING IN

Among the poor,
among the proud,
among the persecuted,
among the privileged,
Christ is coming to make all things new

In the private house,
in the public place,
in the wedding feast,
in the judgement hall,
Christ is coming to make all things new

That the kingdom might come,
that the world might believe,
that the powerful might stumble,
that the hidden might be seen,
Christ is coming to make all things new

Within us, without us,
behind us, before us,
in this place, in every place,
for this time, for all time,
Christ is coming to make all things new

Song

Light of the world
You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes let me see
Beauty that made
This heart adore You
Hope of a life spent with You

So here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
And You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me

King of all days
Oh so highly exalted
Glorious in heaven above
Humbly You came
To the earth You created
All for love's sake became poor

So here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
And You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me

And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross
And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross

So here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
And You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me

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Tim Hughes
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Let us pray with words from Psalm 50

The Lord, the most mighty God, has spoken ♦
**and called the world from the rising of the sun to
its setting.**

Out of Zion, perfect in beauty, God shines forth; ♦
our God comes and will not keep silence.

Consuming fire goes out before him ♦
and a mighty tempest stirs about him.

He calls the heaven above, ♦
and the earth, that he may judge his people:

‘Gather to me my faithful, ♦
who have sealed my covenant with sacrifice.’

Let the heavens declare his righteousness, ♦
for God himself is judge.

Glory be 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.**

The Collect for today, 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.
Amen.

The first reading is taken from 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Let us prepare ourselves for the word of God
Our hearts and our minds are open

And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. The 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. For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. For 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.
Thanks be to God.

The Gospel reading is taken from Mark 9:2-9

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

After 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. His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them. And there appeared before them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus.

Peter 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." (He did not know what to say, they were so frightened.)

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

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

As 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 Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Homily

Song

Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name

The sun comes up it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes

Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger
Your name is great and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name

And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending

Ten thousand years and then forevermore

Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul

Worship His holy name

Sing like never before O my soul

I'll worship Your holy name

Worship Your holy name

Lord I'll worship Your holy name

CCLI Song # 6016351

Jonas Myrin | Matt Redman

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Intercessions (by Iris)

Radiant Lord,

When I try to picture how you were transfigured on the mountain, awe fills me. My understanding ends and with it my seemingly sophisticated theological thinking. I imagine you were very close to the Father, so close that you became transparent for his glory. In your conversation with Moses and Elijah you were deeply connected with the fathers and mothers of our faith. And then: a sudden end to light and community and shortly afterwards, your lonely way to the cross began.

Take us with you on our way to the Father. When we are confused and frightened like Peter help us to look for you in silence. Give us ears to listen to you, the beloved son. Give us eyes to recognise you when you - as you do so often - stand right in front of us.

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

We pray for the fathers and mothers of faith who are right among us: Our next pastor and his family, the leaders of the church, the many people whom we can learn from.

Give them strength and patience. But give them also enthusiasm and joy and let us all walk together towards your kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

Crucified Lord,

Lent begins next Wednesday. We remember your way to the cross and what you went through to get to the very end.

We ask you to help us accompany you. Please do not let us long for these pleasant pious shivers that being reverent might give us. Let us understand where we are among those who revile and hurt you. Let us also see where we are so caught up in our own personal suffering that we simply overlook to carry *our* cross and diligently avoid fulfilling the mission you gave each of us, just because it would mean accepting the dark sides of our lives.

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

We pray for all who have become guilty in a way that they can hardly bear. Let them find forgiveness and real communion with their neighbours and you. Enable them to make adjustments in their lives and find life anew.

We pray for everyone working for peace and justice. Strengthen them, especially when they find hostile opposition and protect them from blind and self-righteous activism.

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

Risen Lord,

You light the darkness, heal and fulfil the world and us with life.

In many areas we have become numb and blunt. Let us feel life in its greatness and its pain. Fulfil us with deep joy and honest grief.

We pray for all who have fallen prey to addictions - medicaments, gambling, alcohol, unhealthy social commitments, illegal drugs, work and more work. Let them see reality as it is, accept help, face difficulties and go on their way toward healing with perseverance. Help them by revealing your face and warm love and by showing them a worthwhile goal.

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

We pray for the sick people everywhere and especially in our community. Be present for them and ease their suffering. We ask you to be with Margaret, Brian and Bev.

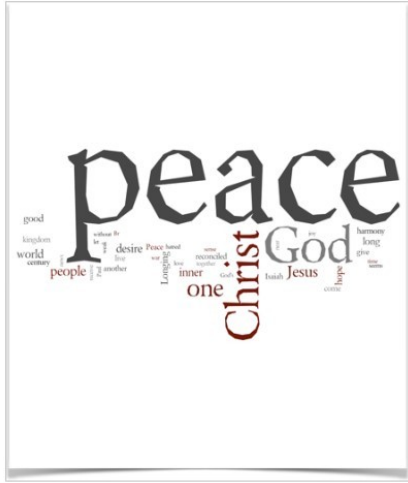
We pray for David-Andrew's sister Eva who is suffering from a severe pneumonia in the midst of uncertain political conditions and a poorly equipped health system in Uganda. Lord, you know best what she and her family need. Have mercy upon them. We lay them into your loving arms.

Let's pray together:

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

The Lord's Prayer

In the language of our hearts, let us pray as our Saviour taught us



A sign of peace

God is love
And those who live in love live in God
And God lives in them.
We meet in the name of Christ and share his peace.

Song

Lord the light of Your love is shining
In the midst of the darkness shining
Jesus Light of the World shine upon us
Set us free by the truth You now bring us
Shine on me shine on me

Shine Jesus shine
Fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze Spirit blaze
Set our hearts on fire
Flow river flow
Flood the nations with grace and mercy
Send forth Your word
Lord and let there be light

Lord I come to Your awesome presence
From the shadows into Your radiance
By the blood I may enter Your brightness
Search me try me consume all my darkness
Shine on me shine on me

Shine Jesus shine
Fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze Spirit blaze
Set our hearts on fire
Flow river flow
Flood the nations with grace and mercy
Send forth Your word

As we gaze on Your kingly brightness
So our faces display Your likeness
Ever changing from glory to glory
Mirrored here may our lives tell Your story
Shine on me shine on me

Shine Jesus shine
Fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze Spirit blaze
Set our hearts on fire
Flow river flow
Flood the nations with grace and mercy
Send forth Your word

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Graham Kendrick
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The Blessing

The Lord bless us and watch over us,
the Lord make his face shine upon us
and be gracious to us,
the Lord look kindly on us and give us peace;
and the blessing
of God Almighty, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
be with us now and always.
Amen.

The Conclusion

The Lord bless us, and preserve us from all evil,
and keep us in eternal life.
Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude