



**LANCASTER
PRIORY**

A welcoming, inclusive, Christian community

Choral Eucharist

10.00am

3rd March 2024

The Third Sunday of Lent

Welcome to Lancaster Priory

We are really pleased that you are worshipping with us today. Wherever you have come from, this is your church and you are unconditionally welcome.

We are currently in the part of the church year known as Lent. Lent is the six week period leading up to Easter. It's one of the most important times of year for many Christians around the world, particularly those within the Anglican, Catholic and Orthodox traditions, held at a similar level of importance to Advent – the build up to Christmas.

While Advent is a celebration and a time of great anticipation, Lent is more frequently seen as a time of solemn observance and preparation for the celebration of the death and resurrection of Jesus at Easter. From its start on Ash Wednesday until its conclusion on Easter Sunday, Lent has been a traditional time for fasting or giving something up or abstinence. Just as we carefully prepare for events in our personal lives, as a wedding, or birthday, the commencement of Lent invites us to make our minds and hearts ready for remembering Jesus' life, death and resurrection.

Throughout this booklet you will find instructions regarding posture (sit and stand), these capture what is normal for our congregation but are not intended to be restrictive for those who may need to sit or indeed not sit for too long.

Notices are given before the service, please see the notice sheet for more information.

Refreshments are served at the back of church following this service every week. Please join us.



CONTACTLESS CARD DONATIONS STATION—you can donate to the Priory using the contact-less card reader which stands beside the door. Alternatively you can give online via GiveaLittle using this QR Code:



Acknowledgements

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The setting of the Kyrie, Sanctus and Benedictus, and Agnus Dei are from the *Mass of St Cedd* by Peter Nardone (b. 1965)

The Gathering *Please stand as the choir, servers and clergy enter as we sing the hymn. During the hymn the altar is censed.*

Processional Hymn LP4

Restore, O Lord,
The honour of Your name,
In works of sovereign power
Come shake the earth again;
That men may see
And come with reverent fear
To the living God,
Whose kingdom shall outlast the years.

2. Restore, O Lord,
In all the earth Your fame,
And in our time revive
The church that bears Your name.
And in Your anger,
Lord, remember mercy,
O living God,
Whose mercy shall outlast the years.

3. Bend us, O Lord,
Where we are hard and cold,
In Your refiner's fire
Come purify the gold.
Though suffering comes
And evil crouches near,
Still our living God
Is reigning, He is reigning here.

4. Restore, O Lord,
The honour of Your name,
In works of sovereign power
Come shake the earth again;
That men may see
And come with reverent fear
To the living God,
Whose kingdom shall outlast the years. G. Kendrick (b. 1950) and C. Rolinson (b. 1958)

The Greeting *The president says*

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

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

And also with you.

*Young Church and their leaders gather at the front and the president prays
with them before they go to their activities.*

Prayers of Penitence *A minister leads the confession*

The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart God will
not despise. Let us come to the Lord, who is full of compassion, and
acknowledge our transgressions in penitence and faith.

Silence is kept

**God of mercy, we acknowledge that we are all sinners.
We turn from the wrong that we have thought and said and done,
and are mindful of all that we have failed to do.
For the sake of Jesus, who died for us, forgive us for all that is past,
and help us to live each day in the light of Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

The Kyrie *The choir sings*

Kyrie eleison.	Lord, have mercy.
Christe eleison.	Christ, have mercy.
Kyrie eleison.	Lord, have mercy.

The president pronounces the absolution

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
+pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Collect

The president says 'Let us pray' and silence is kept.

Eternal God,
give us insight
to discern your will for us,
to give up what harms us,
and to seek the perfection we are promised
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading Exodus 20.1-17

Then God spoke all these words:

I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

Honour your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.
You shall not covet your neighbour's house; you shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Psalm

Sung by the Choir

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 1.18-25

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

[St Paul writes:] For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

'I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.'

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling-block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Acclamation

We stand and face the Gospel procession. A cantor sings

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

The Lord is a great God, O that today you would listen to his voice.
Harden not your hearts.

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

The Gospel Reading John 2.13-22

A minister says

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.

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money-changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, 'Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a market-place!' His disciples remembered that it was written, 'Zeal for your house will consume me.' The Jews then said to him, 'What sign can you show us for doing this?' Jesus answered them, 'Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews then said, 'This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon

Please sit.

The Affirmation of Faith

Please stand.

We say together in faith
Holy, holy, holy
is the Lord God almighty,
who was, and is, and is to come.

We believe in God the Father,
who created all things:
**for by his will they were created
and have their being.**

We believe in God the Son,
who was slain:
**for with his blood,
he purchased us for God,
from every tribe and language,
from every people and nation.**

We believe in God the Holy Spirit:
**the Spirit and the Bride say, 'Come!'
Even so come, Lord Jesus! Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Please kneel or sit for the intercessions. These responses may be used

Lord, in your mercy *or* Lord of compassion:
Hear our prayer. **In your mercy, hear us.**

And at the end

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

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

The president introduces the Peace

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord
Jesus Christ, who has given us access to his grace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

A minister says

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Offertory Hymn CH594

During which a collection is taken and the gifts of the people are gathered and presented. The altar is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.

Come, Holy Spirit, come!
Inflame our souls with love,
transforming every heart and home
with wisdom from above.
O let us not despise
the humble path Christ trod,
but choose, to shame the worldly-wise,
the foolishness of God.

2. Come with the gift to heal
the wounds of guilt and fear,
and to oppression's face reveal
the kingdom drawing near.
Where chaos longs to reign,
descend, O holy Dove,
and free us all to work again
the miracles of love.

3. Spirit of truth, arise;
inspire the prophet's voice:
expose to scorn the tyrant's lies,
and bid the poor rejoice.
O Spirit, clear our sight,
all prejudice remove,
and help us to discern the right,
and covet only love.

4. Give us the tongues to speak,
in every time and place,
to rich and poor, to strong and weak,
the word of love and grace.
Enable us to hear
the words that others bring,
interpreting with open ear
the special song they sing.

5. Come, Holy Spirit, dance
within our hearts today,
our earthbound spirits to entrance,
our mortal fears allay.
And teach us to desire,
all other things above,
that self-consuming holy fire,
the perfect gift of love!

Michael Forster (b. 1946)

The Eucharistic Prayer

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.

It is indeed right and good
to give you thanks and praise,
almighty God and everlasting Father,
through Jesus Christ your Son.
For in these forty days
you lead us into the desert of repentance
that through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline
we may grow in grace
and learn to be your people once again.
Through fasting, prayer and acts of service
you bring us back to your generous heart.
Through study of your holy word
you open our eyes to your presence in the world
and free our hands to welcome others
into the radiant splendour of your love.
As we prepare to celebrate the Easter feast
with joyful hearts and minds
we bless you for your mercy
and join with saints and angels
for ever praising you and singing:

The choir sings

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus,
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.
[Benedictus qui venit
in nomine Domini.
Hosanna in excelsis.]

Holy, holy, holy,
Lord God of hosts,
heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.
[Blessed is he that cometh
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.]

The priest continues

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood
of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
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.

Christ is the bread of life:
**When we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,
until you come in glory.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once
for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection
and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.
As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Silence is kept. Please kneel or sit

Our Father,
who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory,
now and forever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

The president breaks the consecrated bread

Every time we eat this bread
and drink this cup.

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

Giving of Communion

The president invites the congregation to receive Holy 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.**

Agnus Dei

Please sit. The choir sings

Agnus Dei,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona nobis pacem.

O Lamb of God
that takest away the sin of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God
that takest away the sin of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God
that takest away the sin of the world,
grant us thy peace.

The priest and people receive communion. We welcome communicant members of all Christian denominations to receive communion. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, please carry this booklet with you. Gluten-free hosts are available, please indicate this to the president, green cards are available from the sidespeople for this purpose.

Communion Anthem *The choir sing an anthem.*

God so loved the world John Stainer (1840-1901)

Communion Hymn LP6

We remain seated to sing.

Speak, O Lord, as we come to You
To receive the food of Your Holy Word
Take Your truth, plant it deep in us
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness
That the light of Christ might be seen today
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us
All Your purposes for Your glory

2. Teach us Lord, full obedience
Holy reverence, true humility
Test our thoughts and our attitudes
In the radiance of Your purity
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see
Your majestic love and authority
Words of pow'r that can never fail
Let their truth prevail over unbelief

3. Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time
That will echo down through eternity
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises
And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us
Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built
And the earth is filled with Your glory

Keith Getty (b. 1974) and Kristyn Getty (b. 1980)

Prayer after Communion

Merciful Lord,
grant your people grace to withstand the temptations
of the world, the flesh and the devil,
and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

All say this prayer

God of our pilgrimage,
you have fed us with the bread of heaven.
Refresh and sustain us
as we go forward on our journey,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Dismissal

The Blessing *The president says*

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness,
to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him;
and the blessing of God Almighty,
✠the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Recessional Hymn LP19

During this hymn the servers, choir and clergy move to the west and all turn to face the font.

For the healing of the nations,
Lord, we pray with one accord;
for a just and equal sharing
of the things that earth affords.
To a life of love in action
help us rise and pledge our word.

2. Lead us forward into freedom,
from despair your world release,
that, redeemed from war and hatred,
all may come and go in peace.
Show us how through care and goodness
fear will die and hope increase.

3. All that kills abundant living,
let it from the earth be banned;
pride of status, race, or schooling,
dogmas that obscure your plan.
In our common quest for justice
may we hallow life's brief span.

4. You, Creator God, have written
your great name on humankind;
for our growing in your likeness
bring the life of Christ to mind;
that by our response and service
earth its destiny may find.

Words Fred Kaan (1929-2009)

The Dismissal *A minister says*

This is love, not that we loved God,
but that he loved us and sent his Son.

He is the sacrifice for our sins,
that we might live through him.

If God loves us so much
we ought to love one another.

If we love one another
God lives in us.

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

Organ Voluntary *Kyrie, Gott Heiliger Geist* by J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Please remain standing while the servers, choir and clergy depart.