

Second Sunday in Lent

March 1, 2026

8:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist (said)

11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (choral)

Celebrant: *The Rt Rev'd Victoria Matthews, Honorary Assistant*

Deacon & Preacher: *The Rev'd Joan Claring-Bould*

Welcome! We are glad to have you join us in worship today.

Our Church School (for youth up to age 12) will gather downstairs for their lesson and return to the service during the Offertory Hymn. New children are always welcome.



Lent Prose

The congregation is encouraged to join in singing the refrain.



**Refrain: Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us:
for we have sinned against thee.**

*To thee, Redeemer, on thy throne of glory: lift we
our weeping eyes in holy pleadings: listen, O Jesu,
to our supplications. **Refrain.***

*O thou chief Cornerstone, Right hand of the Father:
way of Salvation, Gate of Life Celestial: cleanse
thou our sinful souls from all defilement. **Refrain***

*God, we implore thee, in thy glory seated: bow
down and hearken to thy weeping children: pity and
pardon all our grievous trespasses. **Refrain.***

*Sins oft committed now we lay before thee: with
true contrition, now no more we veil them. Grant
us, Redeemer, loving absolution. **Refrain.***

*Innocent, captive, taken unresisting: falsely
accus'd, and for us sinners sentenced: save us, we
pray thee, Jesu our Redeemer. Refrain.*

Gathering of the Community

Celebrant: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: **His mercy endures for ever.**

Celebrant: Almighty God,

**All: to you all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hidden.
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

*The Confession and Absolution is given prominence during the Lenten
Season and is based on the Baptismal Covenant (see pp. 158-159 in the
BAS) to help us reflect on our vocation as Christian disciples.*

Celebrant: Dear Friends in Christ,
as we prepare for the Paschal Feast,
continuing in the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers,
let us make ready our hearts
to renew the covenant of our baptism.
Let us kneel before our Creator and Redeemer.

Please Kneel (or sit) as you are able.

Let us ask God to bring to light
the things now hidden in darkness,
and to disclose to us the secret purposes of our hearts.
And most especially,
let us remember the covenant of our baptism
and test our hearts and conscience
to know how faithfully we have proclaimed
by word and example
the good news of God in Christ.

Silence is kept.

Celebrant: Most merciful God,
**All: we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us,
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Kyrie/Trisagion

The Collect

Almighty God, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross, give us faith to perceive his glory, that being strengthened by his grace we may be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

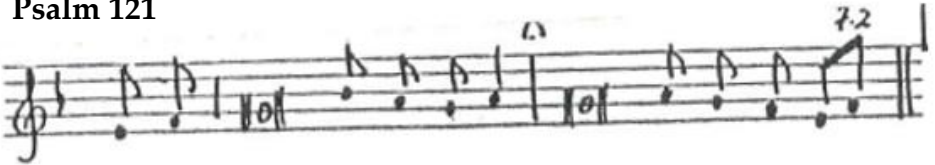
Genesis 12:1-4a

Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 121



- 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; *
from where is my help to come?
- 2 My help comes from the Lord; *
the maker of heaven and earth.
- 3 He will not let your foot be moved *
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.
- 4 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel *
shall neither slumber nor sleep;

- 5 The Lord himself watches over you; *
the Lord is your shade at your right hand,
- 6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day, *
nor the moon by night.
- 7 The Lord shall preserve you from all evil; *
it is he who shall keep you safe.
- 8 The Lord shall watch over your going out and
your coming in, *
from this time forth for evermore.

The Epistle

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there transgression. For this reason the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest on grace, so that it may be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (who is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations"), in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of eternal glory. *The Son of man must be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.* **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of eternal glory.**

The Holy Gospel

Deacon The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the

Announcements

Closing Hymn #468 (*Blue Book*)

Thornbury

The Dismissal

Deacon

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All

Thanks be to God.

Parish News and Announcements

Today's Preacher

Our guest preacher today is the Rev'd Joan Claring-Bould, honorary assistant priest at St Peter's Cathedral in the Diocese of Adelaide, Australia. A long-time friend of our parish, Mother Joan has extensive experience as a hospital and community chaplain and with the L'Arche Community in Canada, including extensive study and formation with the spiritual master Henri Nouwen who spent the later years of his life there. Welcome Mother Joan!

Daily Prayer Devotions for Lent

Copies of a simple, shortened form of daily prayer for use during Lent are available at the back of the church. You can use this along with the daily Scripture readings available online at <https://prayer.forwardmovement.org/fdd>. These readings are from the Forward Day-by-Day booklets which are usually available at the back of the church, but we have run out! More are on order.

Christian Education during Lent

Our Christian Education series this Lent will focus on the Baptismal Covenant (see BAS, pp. 158-159) and how it can help you develop a Way of Life as a Christian. All sessions will be held in-person and online, at 8 p.m.

Wednesday, March 4th

Prayer led by Bishop Victoria

Wednesday, March 11th

Holy Scripture led by Dr Walter Deller, Trinity College

Wednesday, March 18th

Fasting, led by Father Hatt

Wednesday, March 25th

Almsgiving led by parishioner Shelagh MacPherson

Baptism and Confirmation Classes

Classes for those seeking baptism, confirmation and those from other Christian denominations who wish to be formally received into the Anglican Church are being held during Lent. Bishop Kevin Robertson will be with us at St Martin's on Sunday, May 10th for the Confirmation.

Father Hatt is away this morning at neighbouring St Matthias' Church for their final Sunday of worship before closing for five years. He will also be away tomorrow, Monday, March 2nd to Monday, March 9th for his annual Winter break. Thank you to Bishop Victoria who is on-call for pastoral emergencies during this time.

Soup Sunday for Heat-it-Forward Returns!

By popular demand, on Sunday, March 8th Soup Sunday returns to raise funds for Heat-it-Forward. We will be offering mulligatawny soup and open-face Swiss cheese buns with gluten free options - available for take out after the 8:30 a.m. service and for eat in or take out after the 11:00 a.m. service. Suggested donation of \$15.00 per person. Bring your appetite – and enjoy – as you help to restore the funds in our Memorial Fund, one sip at a time.

As this is the first Soup Sunday for a while, the offering is being sponsored by Kathie Wagg. Should you wish to sponsor a future Soup Sunday, please advise either Glen Storey or Kathie Wagg. Thank You.

Lychgate Newsletter

The next Lychgate parish newsletter will be published March 22nd. Articles are due March 8th. Please send them to editor Ian Greene.

This Week at St Martin's

Today , March 1st (*Second Sunday in Lent*)

8:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist (said)

11 a.m. Holy Eucharist (sung)

Monday, March 2nd (*Chad, Bishop of Lichfield*)

7:30 p.m. Parish Council (Guild Room)

Tuesday, March 3rd (*John & Charles Wesley, Priests and Evangelists*)

10 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Chapel)

6 p.m. - 8p.m. Beavers (Hall)

Wednesday, March 4th (*Lenten Feria*)

6 p.m. - 8 p.m. Cubs (Hall)

8 p.m. Christian Education (Guild Room and online)

Thursday, March 5th (*Lenten Feria*)

1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Pickleball (Hall)

6 p.m. - 9 p.m. Pickleball (Hall)

8 p.m. Choir Rehearsal (Church)

Friday, March 6th (*Lenten Feria*)

7:45 p.m. - 10 p.m. Naturally High Park (Hall)

Saturday, March 7th (*Perpetua & her Companions, Martyrs at Carthage*)

10:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Healey Willan Singers Rehearsal (Church)

8 p.m. Trinity Bach Project Concert (Church)

Next Sunday, March 8th (*Third Sunday in Lent*)

8:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist (said)

11 a.m. Holy Eucharist (sung)

12:30 p.m. Soup Sunday (Hall)



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Clergy

The Rev'd Nicholas Hatt

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The Rev'd Canon Alyson Barnett-Cowan

Honorary Assistant

The Rev'd Canon David Luxton

Honorary Assistant

The Rev'd James Decker

Honorary Assistant

The Rev'd Michelle Childs-Ward

Honorary Assistant

The Rt Rev'd Victoria Matthews

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Bernard Sanders

Sexton

Weekly Worship Schedule

Sundays 8:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist (said)

11 a.m. Holy Eucharist (choral)

Tuesdays 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist (said)

Feast days and special services as announced.