Sunday 21 February 2021
Online Evensong
The first Sunday in Lent

A shortened form of Evensong from University College, Oxford

A warm welcome to our service this week.
Thank you for joining us from wherever you may be.

The full text of the service is found in this pdf file that you have downloaded from our Online Evensong page. An audio-recording of the full service is on the page where you found the link to this text.

1 Each service is recorded a week in advance of the date on which we post it online.
INTROIT
‘Teach me, O Lord’

Teach me, O Lord, the way of thy statutes *
and I shall keep it unto the end.
Give me understanding, and I shall keep thy law *
yea, I shall keep it with my whole heart.
Make me to go in the path of thy commandments *
for therein is my desire.
Incline my heart unto thy testimonies *
and not to covetousness.
O turn away mine eyes, lest they behold vanity *
and quicken me in thy ways.
O establish thy word in thy servant *
that I may fear thee.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now,
and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

Words: Psalm 119.33-38
Music: William Byrd (1539/40-1623)
THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, which art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive them that trespass against us;
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,
For ever and ever. Amen.

VERSICLES AND RESPONSES

O Lord, open thou our lips.
And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us.
O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now,
and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Praise ye the Lord.
The Lord's Name be praised.

PSALM 25.1-9

Unto thee, O Lord, will I lift up my soul; my God, I have put my trust in thee *
O let me not be confounded, neither let mine enemies triumph over me.
For all they that hope in thee shall not be ashamed *
but such as transgress without a cause shall be put to confusion.
Shew me thy ways, O Lord *
and teach me thy paths.
Lead me forth in thy truth, and learn me *
for thou art the God of my salvation; in thee hath been my hope all the day long.
Call to remembrance, O Lord, thy tender mercies *
and thy loving-kindnesses, which have been ever of old.
O remember not the sins and offences of my youth *
but according to thy mercy think thou upon me, O Lord, for thy goodness.
Gracious and righteous is the Lord *
therefore will he teach sinners in the way.
Them that are meek shall he guide in judgement *
and such as are gentle, them shall he learn his way.
All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth *
unto such as keep his covenant, and his testimonies.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son:
and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:
world without end. Amen.

THE LESSON
From the New Testament
Mark 1.9-15

And it came to pass in those days, that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and
was baptized of John in Jordan. And straightway coming up out of the water, he
saw the heavens opened, and the Spirit like a dove descending upon him:
And there came a voice from heaven, saying, Thou art my beloved Son, in whom I
am well pleased.

And immediately the spirit driveth him into the wilderness. And he was there in
the wilderness forty days, tempted of Satan; and was with the wild beasts; and
the angels ministered unto him.

Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the
gospel of the kingdom of God, and saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom
of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.
DEUS MISEREATUR
Psalm 67

God be merciful unto us, and bless us *
and shew us the light of his countenance, and be merciful unto us;
That thy way may be known upon earth *
thy saving health among all nations.
Let the people praise thee, O God *
yea, let all the people praise thee.
O let the nations rejoice and be glad *
for thou shalt judge the folk righteously, and govern the nations upon earth.
Let the people praise thee, O God *
let all the people praise thee.
Then shall the earth bring forth her increase *
and God, even our own God, shall give us his blessing.
God shall bless us *
and all the ends of the world shall fear him.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son:
and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:
world without end. Amen.

Music: Anglican chant, by Giles Underwood

SERMON
The Chaplain

PRAYERS
THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ did fast forty days in the wilderness,
and was tempted as we are, yet without sin:
give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to thy Spirit;
and, as thou knowest our weakness,
so may we know thy power to save;
through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord,
who liveth and reigneth with thee,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

THE COLLECT FOR PEACE

O God, from whom all holy desires,
all good counsels, and all just works do proceed:
Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give
that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments,
and also that by thee we being defended
from the fear of our enemies
may pass our time in rest and quietness;
through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

THE COLLECT FOR AID AGAINST ALL PERILS

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord;
and by thy great mercy
defend us from all perils and dangers of this night;
for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

INTERCESSIONS

Let us continue to pray for all whose lives are overturned by covid,
and the wider consequences of the pandemic ...

... Bless, O Lord, the work of this College,
and grant that love of neighbour and all sound learning
may here for ever flourish. Amen
HYMN

Forty days and forty nights
Thou wast fasting in the wild,
Forty days and forty nights
Tempted and yet undefiled.

Sunbeams scorching all the day,
Chilly dewdrops nightly shed,
Prowling beasts about thy way,
Stones thy pillow, earth thy bed.

Let us thine endurance share,
And awhile from joys abstain,
With thee watching unto prayer,
Strong with thee to suffer pain.

And if Satan, vexing sore,
Flesh or spirit should assail,
Thou, his vanquisher before,
Grant we may not faint nor fail.

So shall we have peace divine,
Holier gladness ours shall be,
Round us too shall angels shine,
Such as ministered to thee.

Keep, O keep us, Saviour dear,
Ever constant by thy side,
That with thee we may appear
At the eternal Eastertide.

Words: G H Smyttan (1822-70) and Francis Pott (1832-1909)
Music: ‘Aus der Tiefe’, attributed to M. Herbst (1656-81)

BLESSING

Christ gave 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.
VOLUNTARY
Voluntary in B flat
Jonathan Battishill (1738-1801)