

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

**First Sunday of Lent**

**Reading 1:** Romans 10: 8b - 13

**Gospel:** Luke 4: 1 - 13

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

The Lord be with you,  
**and also with you.**

**Prayer:**

Lord, direct our thoughts, and teach us to pray.  
Lift up our hearts to worship you in spirit and in truth,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Psalm: 91: 1 – 2, 9 - end**

You who live in the shelter of the Most High,  
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,  
<sup>2</sup> will say to the Lord, 'My refuge and my fortress;  
my God, in whom I trust.'

Because you have made the Lord your refuge,  
the Most High your dwelling-place,  
<sup>10</sup> no evil shall befall you,  
no scourge come near your tent.

<sup>11</sup> For he will command his angels concerning you  
to guard you in all your ways.

<sup>12</sup> On their hands they will bear you up,  
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.

<sup>13</sup> You will tread on the lion and the adder,  
the young lion and the serpent you will trample under foot.

<sup>14</sup> Those who love me, I will deliver;  
I will protect those who know my name.

<sup>15</sup> When they call to me, I will answer them;  
I will be with them in trouble,  
I will rescue them and honour them.

<sup>16</sup> With long life I will satisfy them,  
and show them my salvation.

Glory 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.  
Amen.

Our Lord Jesus Christ said:

The first commandment is this:

“Hear O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord.

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,  
with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength”

The second is this:

“Love your neighbour as yourself”

There is no commandment greater than these. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Amen, Lord, have mercy.

### **Invitation to Confession:**

God shows His love for us in that , while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Let us then show our love for Him by confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

### **Confession:**

Lord God, we have sinned against you; we have done evil in your sight.

We are sorry and repent.

Have mercy on us according to your love.

Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin.

Renew a right spirit within us and restore us to the joy of your salvation  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **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:**

Eternal God, whose Son went among the crowds and brought healing with his touch:

help us to show his love, in your Church as we gather together,

and by our lives as they are transformed into the image of Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Song:** (*click link*)    Amazing Grace    <https://youtu.be/Jbe7OruLk8I>

## Reading 1: Romans 10 : 8b - 13

“The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart,” that is, the message concerning faith that we proclaim: <sup>9</sup>If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup>For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.

<sup>11</sup>As Scripture says, “Anyone who believes in him will never be put to shame.” <sup>12</sup>For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, <sup>13</sup>for, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

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

## Gospel: Luke 4: 1 - 13

### Jesus Is Tested in the Wilderness.

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, <sup>2</sup>where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry. <sup>3</sup>The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread.” <sup>4</sup>Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone.’” <sup>5</sup>The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. <sup>6</sup>And he said to him, “I will give you all their authority and splendour; it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. <sup>7</sup>If you worship me, it will all be yours.” <sup>8</sup>Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.’” <sup>9</sup>The devil led him to Jerusalem and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. “If you are the Son of God,” he said, “throw yourself down from here. <sup>10</sup>For it is written:

“He will command his angels concerning you  
to guard you carefully;  
<sup>11</sup>they will lift you up in their hands,  
so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.”

<sup>12</sup>Jesus answered, “It is said: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” <sup>13</sup>When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time.

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

**Talk:** (click link) <https://youtu.be/fyKmfVhLOYE>

*Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.*

## The Creed

We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is,  
seen and unseen.  
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come.  
Amen.

### **Prayers of Intercession.**

Father God, you have given us the bread of life through your Son. Show us the way to resist this life's temptations as Jesus resisted the false promises of the Devil in the wilderness.  
Help us to discern the difference between your will and our desires and give us the strength to follow the true path of righteousness.  
May your gift of Jesus serve as a constant reminder of your love for us.  
Lord, hear us.

### **Lord, graciously hear us.**

May your Church demonstrate its commitment to lead us through the wilderness in hope and expectation of your glorious kingdom.  
May the flame of hope be at the heart of our worship, the power of prayer underpin all our activities and the practice of mission be our purpose.  
We pray for all priests and ministers that they may uphold and explain the faith so that we can all be better witnesses to the love you have shown to all believers. Thank you for providing for us so well through Peter, Jacqui, Norman, Ken, Jenny, Brenda, Karen and all others with special roles here. We continue to pray for those charged with finding, training and deploying new ministers, especially for our Deanery, as it faces serious shortages.  
Help us all to hear your individual call to ministry, to recognise it and offer our time and abilities, whatever they might be, as we all benefit from your Son's sacrifice for the sake of everyone.  
Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

This week we bring to you, Father, our prayers for everyone involved in the crisis in Ukraine; those who have lost loved ones, those separated from loved ones, those trying to escape what is really their home country, those in neighbouring countries who are trying to help the refugees, and those further afield who want to find ways of helping the sufferers. We ask you to enable leaders to make right decisions at every level of this conflict so that it doesn't grow into a world war. Particularly we pray for President Putin that he may learn that a peaceful future can benefit everyone. May a focus on LOVE, PEACE and RECONCILIATION help all participants, and those with whom they share afterwards, to move forward with hope and a clear awareness of your presence always.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord graciously hear us.**

Let the whole world sing your praises, Lord, as we wonder at your creation. Bring to us a due regard and proper respect for the planet, so that future generations can also experience life in all its fullness. And may those who are suffering from malnourishment through poverty, injustice or climate change, be helped in immediate and developmental ways to receive and grow what they need. Let equality and equity be restored

in a way which honours you, sovereign God, and may we each take small steps to play our part. Thank you for the current Bible Study Groups who are concentrating on environmental issues during Lent, and may more people feel encouraged to join the groups. We pray for Jenny and all her volunteer helpers planning for this Summer's Holiday Club. Thank you, Father for all you are doing through the Little Lions Group. We continue to pray for Karen, Jacqui and all their helpers - as well as all the families.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

In our own community we pray for all who live or work in the South-West area of Southminster which runs from Rose Drive & The Brambles out to Lavender Drive and other roads off the bypass; and from Burnham Road South out to the Old Heath area. We also pray that following the removal of legal pandemic restrictions people will remain sensible in their actions for the sake of all. Thank you, Father, for all who organise community events at the Memorial Hall and in the church buildings. Thank you for a good audience at our recent Big Band Concert which enabled us to support the Knightswood Day Care Centre. We pray for the Centre as it adjusts to the post-pandemic situation and moves forward with new plans. We also pray for those who provide for people in need through the local Food Pantry, and for those who have to use it.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

We pray, Lord, that you will encourage and watch over those who are ill at this time, as we remember especially those mentioned on our weekly bulletin.....

We pray for all doctors and nurses, qualified carers and family members so that those in need may know your loving care at a difficult time.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Give your peace and a welcome home to those who have died and are now in your closer presence, including .....

Let fond memories and the promise of your constant love bring comfort to all those who mourn.

Merciful Father,

**Accept these prayers**

**for the sake of your only son  
our saviour, Jesus Christ.      Amen.**

***Silence is kept.***

**Lord's Prayer:**

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  
and 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 forever.      Amen.

**Song:** *(click link)*    Great is thy Faithfulness    <https://youtu.be/iDuMoA9IxE>

**Blessing:**

God give you grace to grow in holiness,  
to deny yourselves,  
take up your cross and follow him.....

.....and the blessing of God almighty;  
Father Son and Holy Spirit,  
be with us, and remain with us  
and all those whom we love,  
now and forever.  
Amen.

Song: *(click link)*

*Post something on the Facebook page to bless others.*