

Morning Worship
Sunday 9 March 2025 - Fair Trade: 1st Sunday of Lent

We come to worship

The grace and mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

I will give you thanks, O Lord, among the peoples

I will sing praise to you among the nations.

For your loving-kindness is as high as the heavens,

And your faithfulness reaches to the clouds. (Ps 57:10-11)

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness

Let the whole earth tremble before him.

Tell it out among the nations that the Lord is King.

He has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved; He will judge the people with equity. (Ps 96: 9-10)

The poor shall eat and be satisfied

Those who seek the Lord shall praise him; Their hearts shall live forever. (Ps 22:26)

SPOTLIGHT on LIFTS

Our young people and leaders leave us for their own activities.

Song

CHRIST'S IS THE WORLD in which we move,
Christ's are the folk we're summoned to love,
Christ's is the voice which calls us to care,
And Christ is the One who calls us here.

*To the lost Christ shows His face;
To the unloved He gives His embrace:
To those who cry in pain or disgrace,
Christ makes with His friends
A touching place.*

Feel for the people we most avoid,
Strange or bereaved or never employed;
Feel for the women, and feel for the men
Who fear that their living is all in vain.

To the lost

Feel for the parents who've lost their child,
Feel for the women whom men have defiled,
Feel for the baby for whom there's no breast,
And feel for the weary who find no rest.

To the lost

Feel for the lives by life confused,
Riddled with doubt, in loving abused;
Feel for the lonely heart, conscious of sin,
Which longs to be pure but fears to begin.

To the lost

Gospel for today

Luke 4:1-13. Jesus is tested in the wilderness.
This is the Gospel of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

A time to reflect and to say sorry

Lord God, as we begin our journey through Lent, give us the desire to seek first your Kingdom, the honesty to admit our failings, and the humility to receive your forgiveness, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

You have created earth's abundance and given us companions with whom to share it, but we use it carelessly, endangering ourselves and our neighbours.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy**

You have called us to pay fair wages to all who labour and to be honest in all our transactions, but we take part in systems that exploit the powerless.

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy**

You have called us to speak up for people who are being treated unfairly, but we are too often silent or quiet in the face of injustice.
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy**

A short time of silence for personal confession

We remain seated as we sing

DEAR LORD AND FATHER OF MANKIND,
Forgive our foolish ways;
Reclothe us in our rightful mind;
In purer lives Thy service find,
In deeper reverence, praise,
In deeper reverence, praise.

Instrumental verse

Breathe through the heats of our desire
Thy coolness and Thy balm;
Let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
Speak through the earthquake, wind and fire,
O still small voice of calm,
O still small voice of calm!

Agents of Change

Song

Jesus said that if I thirst
I should come to Him
No one else can satisfy
I should come to Him

Jesus said, if I am weak
I should come to Him
No one else can be my strength
I should come to Him

*For the Lord is good and faithful
He will keep us day and night
We can always run to Jesus
Jesus, strong and kind*

Jesus said that if I fear
I should come to Him
No one else can be my shield
I should come to Him

*For the Lord is good and faithful
He will keep us day and night
We can always run to Jesus
Jesus, strong and kind*

Jesus said, if I am lost
He will come to me
And He showed me on that cross
He will come to me

*For the Lord is good and faithful
He will keep us day and night
We can always run to Jesus
Jesus, strong and kind*

(repeat chorus)

Jesus, strong and kind.

Old Testament Reading

2 Samuel 23: 13-17

This is the Word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

Reflection – Learning to consume rightly

Concluding with “Just a Moment (in the supermarket)” and our response:

Where our habits have reflected our sin and not your love,
Have mercy, Lord – forgive us our sins.

Where we seek help to form habits that conform to your ways,
Grant us grace, Lord – your will be done.

Where new habits of righteousness transform unjust structures,
We praise you, Lord – your kingdom come!

Song

SEEK YE FIRST the kingdom of God
And His righteousness,
And all these things shall be added unto you,
Hallelu, hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelu, hallelujah!

Man shall not live by bread alone,
But by every word
That proceeds from the mouth of God,
Hallelu, hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelu, hallelujah!

Ask and it shall be given unto you,
Seek and ye shall find.
Knock and it shall be opened unto you,
Hallelu, hallelujah!
Hallelu, hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelu, hallelujah!

Our Belief

We believe in God the creator, who is always creative and invites us to affirm and explore who we are, with all our differences; and who is the source of our faith.

We believe in God the Saviour revealed in the world as Jesus the Christ who died and is risen, the one Lord of the church.

We believe in God the Reconciler, the Holy Spirit, who is always with us bearing witness with our spirits that we are the children of God.

We believe that our smallness can never diminish God's vastness; that our frailties can never overcome God's will for wholeness.

We believe, and in this belief, we need one another, as a choir needs every voice and every part for the harmony to be complete. We believe - that in the Holy Spirit, in Jesus Christ and in the love of God - we are one!

We believe - And may our lives reflect our belief.

Prayers

Ending with The 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. 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 for ever. Amen.

Notices

Song (Tune: To God be the Glory)

With praise and elation we greet the Divine
In beauty of love that we just can't define;
The mystery is wondrous; it captures our soul;
It gives our life purpose; it makes us feel whole.

Praise and sing; praise and sing

Of compassion and care;

Praise and sing; praise and sing;

Let us be well-aware

When love is encountered by you and by me

Our souls can take flight, and our spirits are free.

Compassion inspires us to act in like ways;
When we are forgiven our guilt then decays;
We know that with love we can rise to great heights;
With love as the spark much more good-will ignites.

Praise and sing

The Sacred within us, as Jesus has shown,
Lights up the desire to let love be known;
His love points the way to have true liberty,
To real inner peace, singing God's melody.

Praise and sing

Sending Out

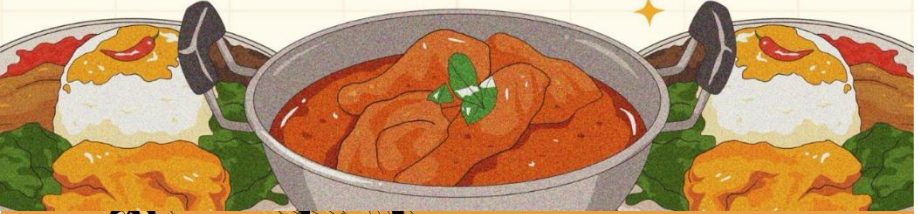
Dear Lord, you call us to a neighbourly love that is generous in practical ways, that doesn't leave by the roadside those harmed by sin and greed but goes out of its way to bring healing. Help us to see how neighbours near and far are suffering, their resources stolen by unjust people and systems. And fill us, we pray, with your Spirit, that we may be inspired to go further each day in using our gifts of time and money and talent lovingly, in ways that redress injustice and renew life. Amen.

May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

Christ Church CURRY NIGHT

Saturday 15th March - 7.30pm

Enjoy a selection of homemade curries and drinks - all for a donation



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featuring Cover stories
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Doors open at 6.30pm

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Christ Church, CO3 3AT

NOAH

FLOOD 25



Friday 25th & Saturday 26th April
7.30pm, Christ Church CO3 3AT

Tickets £10

