

The Blofield Benefice

A Service

for the

2nd Sunday of Lent



*Keeping
a Holy Lent*

But you, Lord, sit enthroned for ever;
your renown endures through all generations.
¹³ You will arise and have compassion on Zion,
for it is time to show favour to her;
the appointed time has come.
¹⁴ For her stones are dear to your servants;
her very dust moves them to pity.
¹⁵ The nations will fear the name of the Lord,
all the kings of the earth will revere your glory.
¹⁶ For the Lord will rebuild Zion
and appear in his glory.
¹⁷ He will respond to the prayer of the destitute;
he will not despise their plea.

Psalm. 102. 12-17

Opening prayer.

God of all our days,
we set this time apart for you.
Form us in the likeness of Christ
so that our lives may glorify you.
Amen.

Hymn

I At the name of Jesus
every knee shall bow,
every tongue confess him
King of Glory now.
'Tis the Father's pleasure
we should call him Lord,
who from the beginning
was the mighty Word.

- 2 Humbled for a season,
to receive a name
from the lips of sinners
unto whom he came,
faithfully he bore it
spotless to the last,
brought it back victorious
when from death he passed:
- 3 Bore it up triumphant
with its human light,
through all ranks of creatures
to the central height,
to the throne of Godhead,
to the Father's breast;
filled it with the glory
of that perfect rest.
- 4 In your hearts enthrone him;
there let him subdue
all that is not holy,
all that is not true;
crown him as your captain
in temptation's hour:
let his will enfold you
in its light and power.
- 5 For this same Lord Jesus
shall return again,
with his Father's glory,
with his angel train;
all the wreaths of empire
meet upon his brow,
and our hearts confess him
King of Glory now.

Caroline Maria Noel (1817-1877)
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Prayer of Confession

The gospel calls us to turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ.

As we offer ourselves to him in repentance and faith, we renew our confidence and trust in his mercy.

All

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.**

**We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in
newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen.**

May almighty God,
who sent his Son into the world to save sinners,
bring *you* his pardon and peace, now and for ever.
Amen.

The Collect Prayer

Almighty God,
by the prayer and discipline of Lent
may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings,
and by following in his Way
come to share in his glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

The Psalm – Psalm 22.23-31

You who fear the Lord, praise him!
All you descendants of Jacob, honour him!
Revere him, all you descendants of Israel!

²⁴ For he has not despised or scorned
the suffering of the afflicted one;
he has not hidden his face from him
but has listened to his cry for help.

²⁵ From you comes the theme of my praise in the great
assembly;
before those who fear you I will fulfil my vows.

²⁶ The poor will eat and be satisfied;
those who seek the Lord will praise him –
may your hearts live for ever!

²⁷ All the ends of the earth
will remember and turn to the Lord,
and all the families of the nations
will bow down before him,

²⁸ for dominion belongs to the Lord
and he rules over the nations.

²⁹ All the rich of the earth will feast and worship;
all who go down to the dust will kneel before him –
those who cannot keep themselves alive.

³⁰ Posterity will serve him;
future generations will be told about the Lord.

³¹ They will proclaim his righteousness,
declaring to a people yet unborn:
He has done it!

**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.**

A song

- 1 From heaven you came, helpless babe,
entered our world, your glory veiled;
not to be served but to serve,
and give Your life that we might live.

*This is our God, the Servant King,
he calls us now to follow Him,
to bring our lives as a daily offering
of worship to the Servant King.*

- 2 There in the garden of tears,
my heavy load he chose to bear;
his heart with sorrow was torn,
'Yet not My will but Yours,' He said.

Refrain

- 3 Come see His hands and His feet,
the scars that speak of sacrifice;
hands that flung stars into space
to cruel nails surrendered.

Refrain

- 4 So let us learn how to serve,
and in our lives enthrone Him;
each other's needs to prefer,
for it is Christ we're serving.

Refrain

Graham Kendrick (born 1950)
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A reading from the Gospel of Mark

The Baptism and The Temptation of Jesus

Mark.8.31-38

Then Jesus began to teach them that it was necessary for
the Son of Man to suffer many things and be rejected by
the elders, chief priests, and scribes, be killed, and rise

after three days. ³² He spoke openly about this. Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³ But turning around and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! You are not thinking about God’s concern but human concerns.”

³⁴ Calling the crowd along with his disciples, he said to them, “If anyone wants to follow after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. ³⁵ For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life because of me and the gospel will save it. ³⁶ For what does it benefit someone to gain the whole world and yet lose his life? ³⁷ What can anyone give in exchange for his life? ³⁸ For whoever is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will also be ashamed of him when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

After the reading this response is used

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

The Sermon

The Affirmation of Faith

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

**All Though he was divine,
he did not cling to equality with God,
but made himself nothing.
Taking the form of a slave,
he was born in human likeness.
He humbled himself
and was obedient to death,
even the death of the cross.**

**Therefore God has raised him on high,
and given him the name above every name:
that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bow,
and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is
Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.
Amen.**

cf Philippians 2.6-11

The Intercessions

*The Intercessions for today have been prepared by,
Sue Shillam, our lay minister.*

Lenten Lord, we come before you in faith and seek your love.

Lenten Lord, we give you thanks and pray in faith for our Archbishops, Bishops and Archdeacons. We pray especially for our own clergy Kevin, Judith, Ron and Paul and all who guide us in faith.

We ask you to fill them all with your Holy Spirit that they may have love and strength for their pastoral care, grace and wisdom for their teaching and power to make known your Gospel in these parishes of the Blofield Benefice of churches.

Lenten Lord, **hear our prayer**

Lenten Lord, hope of the hopeless, you have given us reason to go on through these dark times. We learn each day of the hungry, squalor, violence and suffering around the world. We can turn away but there is no such option for those who suffer. Teach us to hear your

voice in the cry of the poor, the hungry, the sick and the oppressed and teach us in responding to them, to respond to you. We especially pray for the volunteers at St. Martin's House in Norwich and the Tearfund and Christian Aid overseas.

Lenten Lord, **hear our prayer**

Lenten Lord, we remember today all those who are ill and those who fear for the future, we pray for those who are in care and for all who cannot cope on their own. We pray especially for our residential homes in Blofield, North Burlingham and Upton.

You, Lord, meet each of us where we are, and many of us in our need. You are the same yesterday, today and forever, and you have promised to be with us all our days.

We also pray this morning for our Royal Family, especially for Prince Philip and his recovery and our dear Queen Elizabeth.

Lenten Lord, **hear our prayer**

Lenten and everlasting Lord, we pray for those we love, but see no longer. We pray for each and everyone of the beloved people now represented by more than 1000 little crosses in the Cathedral which mark the Covid deaths in Norfolk.

*Behind each number- one beloved face
A light in life whom no one can replace,
leaves on this world, a signature, a trace,
a gleaming and a memory of grace.*

Lenten Lord, in our journeying with you-
it is your hand that stops s stumbling or slipping on the
path, your word that keeps us growing and builds upon
our faith, your power that grants endurance whatever
happens next.

When we cannot or do not say the things we mean to,
speak for us, through your spirit, in the presence of God.
Lenten Lord, **hear our prayer.**

Amen

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

All

**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,
for ever and ever.
Amen**

A hymn.

- 1 Take up your cross, the Saviour said,
If you would my disciple be;
Deny yourself, the world forsake,
And humbly follow after me.
- 2 Take up your cross, let not its weight
Fill your weak spirit with alarm;
His strength shall bear your spirit up,
Shall brace your heart and nerve your arm.
- 3 Take up your cross then in his strength,
And ev'ry danger calmly brave,
To guide you to a better home,
And vict'ry over death and grave.
- 4 Take up your cross and follow Christ,
Nor think till death to lay it down;
For only he who bears the cross
May hope to wear the glorious crown.
- 5 To you, great Lord, the One in three,
All praise for evermore ascend;
O grant us here below to see
The heav'nly life that knows no end.

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Concluding prayer

May the Father,
who so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
bring you by faith to his eternal life.

May Christ,
who accepted the cup of sacrifice
in obedience to the Father's will,
keep you steadfast as you walk with him the way of his
cross.

May the Spirit,
who strengthens us to suffer with Christ
that we may share his glory,
set your minds on life and peace.

Amen.