



The Parish
Eucharist
on
The Second Sunday of Lent

Sunday, 25 February, 2024

9.00am

Welcome to this morning's service

The President and Preacher is
Precentor
Canon Jenny Gaffin

Sung by
The Cathedral Youth Choir
Directed by Helen Davies

Setting:
St Anne's Mass - MacMillan

Preparation

For individual use before the service begins.

Old Testament Reading

(Genesis 17. 1-7, 15-16)

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, 'I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.' Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, 'As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. God said to Abraham, 'As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.'

The Gathering

Please stand as the minister enters

The Processional

Aurelia 167



To Abraham and Sarah
the call of God was clear:
`Go forth and I will show you
a country rich and fair.
You need not fear the journey,
for I have pledged my word
that you shall be my people
and I will be your God'.

From Abraham and Sarah
arose a pilgrim race,
dependent for their journey
on God's abundant grace;
and in their heart was written

by God this saving word:
that `You shall be my people
and I will be your God'.

We of this generation
on whom God's hand is laid,
can journey to the future
secure and unafraid,
rejoicing in God's goodness
and trusting in this word:
that `You shall be my people
and I will be your God'.

Judith A. Fetter (b. 1937)

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The Greeting

The president greets the people

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you
and also with you.

The president introduces the celebration.

The Prayer of Preparation

Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from whom 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 Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Prayers of Penitence

The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart God will not despise.
Let us come to the Lord, who is full of compassion,
and acknowledge our transgressions in penitence and faith.

Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God.
Amen.

We sing:

4

Lord, have mer-cy. Lord, -have mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy.

11

Christ, -have mer-cy Lord, have mer-cy. Lord, -have mer-cy.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in 3/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a 3/4 time signature. A '4' is written above the first measure. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics 'Lord, have mer-cy. Lord, -have mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy.' are written below the staff. The second staff begins with a '11' above the first measure. The melody continues with quarter and eighth notes, ending with a double bar line. The lyrics 'Christ, -have mer-cy Lord, have mer-cy. Lord, -have mer-cy.' are written below the staff.

The president says

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

Let us pray.

Silence is kept – please remain standing

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.

Please sit down.

The Liturgy of the Word

New Testament Reading

Read by Sian Howell-Jones

(Romans 4. 13-25)

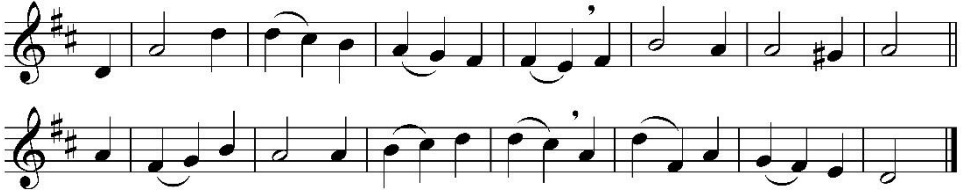
A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

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. 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 violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he 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. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become 'the father of many nations', according to what was said, 'So numerous shall your descendants be.' He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith 'was reckoned to him as righteousness.' Now the words, 'it was reckoned to him', were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

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

The Gradual Hymn

Abridge 64



Be thou my guardian and my guide,
and hear me when I call;
let not my slippery footsteps slide,
and hold me lest I fall.

The world, the flesh, and Satan
dwell
around the path I tread;
O save me from the snares of hell,
thou quickener of the dead.

And if I tempted am to sin,
and outward things are strong,
do thou, O Lord, keep watch within,
and save my soul from wrong.

Still let me ever watch and pray,
and feel that I am frail,
that if the tempter cross my way,
yet he may not prevail.

Isaac Williams (1802-1865)

Please remain standing for the Gospel reading

The Gospel

(Mark 8.31-38)

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.' He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For

what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

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

Sermon

Canon Jenny Gaffin

There is a period of silence after the sermon for reflection.

Please stand with the president for

Affirmation of Faith

Let us declare our faith in God

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and earth is named**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit
who strengthens us
with the power from on high.
We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

The president invites the congregation to kneel or sit down.

The Prayers of Intercession

Led by Linda Cronshaw

This response is used

Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Those who are ill at home or in hospital,

Arthur Blundell, Brian McConkey, Chris Drewe, Lilah Jane, Margaret Ingham,
Margaret Young,

Oliver Colville, Sue Penfold, Ruth Tyres, Jenny Bellamy.

those who have recently died

Ann Thomas

and those whose anniversaries are at this time,

Norah Barnes (25), Edna Smith (26), Elizabeth Ann Armstrong, William Barlow Landers,
Annis Peat, Phyllis Lund (27), May Sharples, Ruth Fielding, Jeff Bradshaw (28), Muriel
Hirst (1), May Elizabeth Brown, Frederick W Street (2)

[numbers are the day of the month]

And at the end

Merciful Father,
**accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son
our Saviour, Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

Please stand with the president for the peace.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

The president introduces the Peace and then says

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

When offering a greeting please respect those who may wish to keep their distance and not pass the peace physically.

Please give what you prayerfully can. You may prefer to use the collection point or card reader on the way out. If you are a UK tax payer please use and sign the blue gift aid form provided on your chair. Alternatively, The Parish Giving Scheme is the easy way to give regularly to support the ongoing ministry of Blackburn Cathedral and you can find out more and sign up by using the QR code provided here. Blackburn Cathedral's Parish Giving Scheme Code is: 030603001



Offertory Hymn

Leoni 148



The God of Abraham praise
who reigns enthroned above,
ancient of everlasting days,
and God of love:
to him uplift your voice,
at whose supreme command
from earth we rise and seek the joys
at his right hand.

There dwells the Lord our King,
the Lord our righteousness,
triumphant o'er the world of sin,
the Prince of peace:
on Sion's sacred height
his kingdom he maintains,
and glorious with his saints in light
for ever reigns.

Before the great three-one
they all exulting stand,
and tell the wonders he hath done
through all their land:
the listening spheres attend,
and swell the growing fame,
and sing in songs which never end
the wondrous name.

The God who reigns on high
the great archangels sing,
and 'Holy, holy, holy,' cry,
'almighty King!
who was, and is the same,
and evermore shall be:
eternal Father, great I AM,
we worship thee.'

The whole triumphant host
give thanks to God on high;
'Hail, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,'
they ever cry:
Hail! Abraham's God, and mine!
(I join the heavenly lays)
all might and majesty are thine,
and endless praise.

Thomas Olivers (1725-99), based on the Hebrew Yigdal, Hebrew melody (Descant by Charles Velu

Preparation of the Table

Taking of the Bread and Wine

Wise and gracious God,
you spread a table before us;
nourish your people with the word of life
and the bread of heaven.

Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and good
to give you thanks and praise,
almighty God and everlasting Father,
through Jesus Christ your Son.
For in these forty days
you lead us into the desert of repentance
that through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline
we may grow in grace
and learn to be your people once again.
Through fasting, prayer and acts of service
you bring us back to your generous heart.
Through study of your holy word
you open our eyes to your presence in the world
and free our hands to welcome others
into the radiant splendour of your love.
As we prepare to celebrate the Easter feast
with joyful hearts and minds
we bless you for your mercy
and join with saints and angels
for ever praising you and singing:

We sing:

4

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly_ Lord God of_ power and
might_ Heav'n and earth are_ full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in_ the_
high - est. Bless-ed is he, ble - ssed is_ he who comes in the name of the
Lord._____ Ho - san - na in the_ high -
est, ho - san - na_ in_____ the high - est.

How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord.
As a mother tenderly gathers her children,
you embraced a people as your own.
When they turned away and rebelled
your love remained steadfast.

From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary,
to be the living bread,
in whom all our hungers are satisfied.

He offered his life for sinners,
and with a love stronger than death
he opened wide his arms on the cross.

On the night before he died,
he came to supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he gave you thanks.
He broke it and gave it to them, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,
he gave you thanks, and said:
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Jesus Christ is Lord

**Lord, by your cross and resurrection
you have set us free.
You are the Saviour of the world.**

Father, we plead with confidence
his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross;
we remember his dying and rising in glory,
and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand.

Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you
these gifts of your creation;
may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence,
form us in the likeness of Christ,
and build us into a living temple to your glory.

Bring us at the last with Mary, Paul and all the saints
to the vision of that eternal splendour
for which you have created us;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
by whom, with whom, and in whom,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever.
Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Joining our prayers with those of the Church Universal, so we
say, each in our own language, the prayer our Saviour taught us,

**Notre père, qui es aux cieux ... Missierna, li inti fis-smewwiet...
Vater unser im Himmel ... Padre nostro, que estais nos céus...
Padre nostro che sei nei cieli ... Ojczy nasz, któryś jest w niebie...
Otče náš, jenž jsi na nebesích ... ي السَّمَاوَاتِ،
Têve Mūsū, kuris esi danguje! ... Ein Tad, yr hwn wyt yn y nefoedd...
Tatal nostru care esti in ceruri ...**

**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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The president breaks the consecrated bread, saying:

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.
**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

8 Organ *mp* Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world, have
mer-cy_ on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world, have mer-cy_ on
15 *mf* *mp* us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world, grant us peace.

The Giving of Communion

The president says

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you.

Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

When you are ready to receive communion please approach the president in single file and return to your seat by one of the side aisles.

Please do come and ask this first minister for any blessings.

Communion is available in both kinds, and the minister distributing bread will say

The body of Christ. **Amen.**

After receiving the bread, if you wish to receive wine please move to the next minister before returning to your place.

The minister distributing wine will say

The blood of Christ. Amen.

If you do not wish to receive communion wine, please walk past that second minister and return to your place.

The choir sings:

Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness: and cleanse me from my sin.
For I acknowledge my faults: and my sin is ever before me.

Words Psalm 51 vv.2 and 3, music by Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810- 1876)

Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept.

Almighty God,
you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves:
keep us both outwardly in our bodies,
and inwardly in our souls;
that we may be defended from all adversities
which may happen to the body,
and from all evil thoughts
which may assault and hurt the soul;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

**Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory.
Amen.**

Please stand

The Dismissal

God, who from the death of sin
raised you to new life in Christ,
keep you from falling
and set you in the presence of his glory;
and the blessing of almighty God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

The Organ Voluntary

Prelude in E minor BWV 555

J.S. Bach (1685 – 1750)

Please do consider staying for tea or coffee after the service.

The president will leave immediately and may go outside at first.

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Notices for the Week beginning Sunday, 25 February, 2024

Choral Evensong Today 4pm

Tallis Dorian Mode

Sicut cervus - Palestrina

Responses Radcliffe

Psalm 135.1-14 [15-21]

Next Sunday

Old Testament reading

Psalm

New Testament reading

Gospel Reading

The Third Sunday of Lent

Exodus 20.1-17

19

I Corinthians 18-25

John 2.13-22

Blackburn Foodbank in February

We are collecting **Tinned Rice Pudding**. If you can afford to give, please add it to your weekly or monthly shopping list and donate.

Lent 2024 Devotional - Journey to Freedom

Do pick up a **free** copy of the Lent devotional booklet from the back of the Cathedral. This year, the Diocesan Lent Devotional booklets, which are also titled 'Journey to Freedom' to match with Bishop Philip's Lent Course, will walk us through Exodus.

Lent Organ Meditations

Our series of Choral Evensong with Lent Organ Meditations continues this afternoon at 4pm with Marc Murray (Bury Parish Church). If you have never been to Evensong with Organ meditation why not make it your Lent discipline this year – and why not bring a friend!

Cathedral Weekend Away

The Cathedral is holding a weekend away on Friday 31st May to Saturday 1st June in the beautiful surroundings of Stonyhurst College in the Ribble Valley. **Now is the time to secure your place.** Please speak to Canon James who can accept your deposit (cheque, cash or bank transfer) and will send you a sign up form to complete.

Threads Through Creation

6th March to 14th April – a spectacular textile exhibition by Jacqui Parkinson at the Cathedral.

Choristers' Open Day

Saturday 9th March, 11.15am-4pm. For children aged 8 and over who are interested in music, come and see what it's like to be a chorister at Blackburn Cathedral.

International Women's Day

- Wednesday 6th March, 12.15pm - **Vocal Recital** given by Imogen Garner, with a programme of female composers. Accompanied by John Gough on piano. Free to attend with retiring collection, no booking required.
- Friday 8th March, 7.30pm – **International Women's Day Concert** featuring The Decibelles and Rossendale Ladies Choir. Free to attend but accepting donations in aid of Lancashire Women. Reserve your tickets here: <https://buytickets.at/blackburncathedral/1125304>
- Sunday 10th March, 4pm – **International Women's Day Choral Evensong** with all music by female composers, including works by Beach, Forbes, Weir and Burk. Free to attend, no booking required.
- Sunday 10th March, straight after Evensong – **Organ Meditation** performed by Shanna Hart, Director of Music at St Botolph without Aldgate, London. Free to attend with retiring collection in aid of The Wish Centre, no booking required.

Wednesday Concerts, 12.15, admission free.

February 28th - Damian O'Keefe (Baritone), John Robinson (Piano)

March 6th – Imogen Garner (Soprano), John Gough (Piano)

March 13th – Ewa Belmas

March 20th – Peter King

March 27th – Graham Eccles

Services this week

Monday 26 Feb

8.30am Morning Prayer

5.00pm Evening Prayer

Tuesday 27 Feb

8.30am Morning Prayer with Eucharist

5.00pm Choral Evensong

Blackburn Canticles - Hudson
Responses Bertalot
Ubi caritas - Gjeilo
Psalm 74

Wednesday 28 Feb

8.30am Morning Prayer
11.30am Eucharist (BCP)
5.00pm Choral Evensong
Gibbons Short Service
Responses Bertalot
A Blackburn Blessing - Robinson
Psalm 119.81-104

Thursday 29 Feb 8.30am

Morning Prayer with Eucharist
5.00pm Choral Evensong
Plainsong & Burgon
Responses Plainsong
Litany to the Holy Spirit - Hurford
Psalm 78.40-end

Friday 1 March

8.30am Morning Prayer
12.30pm Eucharist
5.00pm Evening Prayer

Saturday 2 March

9.00am Morning Prayer with Eucharist
4.00pm Evening Prayer