

**A Service of the Word**  
**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2025 • The Fifth Sunday of Lent**

**10.00 Introduction, Greeting**

In the name of the Father...

The Lord be with you:

**All: and also with you.**

We have come together as the family of God...

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;

**O my God, in you I trust.**

You are the God of my salvation;

**To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.**

In you I hope all the day long.

**O my God, in you I trust.**

Remember, Lord, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.

**To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; O my God, in you I trust.**

**Collect for Purity**

**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.**

**Hymn 156**

1. We sing the praise of him who died,  
of him who died upon the cross;  
the sinner's hope let men deride,  
for this we count the world but loss.
2. Inscribed upon the cross we see  
in shining letters, 'God is love';  
he bears our sins upon the tree;  
he brings us mercy from above.
3. The cross! It takes our guilt away:  
it holds the fainting spirit up;  
it cheers with hope the gloomy day,  
and sweetens every bitter cup.
4. It makes the coward spirit brave,  
and nerves the feeble arm for fight;  
it takes its terror from the grave,  
and gilds the bed of death with light:
5. The balm of life, the cure of woe,  
the measure and the pledge of love,  
the sinner's refuge here below,  
the angels' theme in heaven above.

**Confession**

Lord, have mercy  
Christ, have mercy  
Lord, have mercy

**All: Lord, have mercy**  
**All: Christ, have mercy**  
**All: Lord, have mercy.**

**Absolution**

**Collect for The Fifth Sunday of Lent**

**A reading from the book of Isaiah**

This is the word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

*Isaiah 43. 16-21*

**Psalm 1**

**Refrain: The Lord knows the way of the righteous.**

**A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians**

This is the word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

*Philippians 3. 4b-14*

**Hymn 144**

1. How deep the Father's love for us,  
how vast beyond all measure,  
that he should give his only Son  
to make a wretch his treasure.  
How great the pain of searing loss;  
the Father turns his face away,  
as wounds which mar the Chosen One  
bring many souls to glory.
2. Behold the man upon a cross,  
my sin upon his shoulders;  
ashamed, I hear my mocking voice  
call out among the scoffers.  
It was my sin that held him there  
until it was accomplished;  
his dying breath has brought me life –  
I know that 'it is finished'.
3. I will not boast in anything, no gifts, no power, no wisdom;  
but I will boast in Jesus Christ, his death and resurrection.  
Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer;  
but this I know with all my heart – his wounds have paid my ransom.

**Gospel Reading please stand**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

**All: Glory to you, O Lord.**

After ... This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

*John 12. 1-8*

## Music for meditation

### Homily *The Vicar*

### Affirmation of faith

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

**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.**

### Prayers *using the response:*

Let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

### The Lord's Prayer

#### Prayerful Hymn 142

1. Glory be to Jesus, who, in bitter pains,  
poured for me the life-blood from his sacred veins.
  2. Grace and life eternal in that blood I find;  
blest be his compassion infinitely kind.
  3. Blest through endless ages be the precious stream,  
which from endless torments did the world redeem.
  4. Abel's blood for vengeance pleaded to the skies;  
but the blood of Jesus for our pardon cries.
  5. Oft as it is sprinkled on our guilty hearts,  
Satan in confusion terror-struck departs.
  6. Oft as earth exulting wafts its praise on high,  
angel-hosts rejoicing make their glad reply.
5. Lift ye then your voices; swell the mighty flood;  
louder still and louder praise the precious blood.

### Notices

#### The Peace

#### Hymn 157

1. When I survey the wondrous cross  
on which the Prince of glory died,  
my richest gain I count but loss,  
and pour contempt on all my pride.
2. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast  
save in the cross of Christ my God;  
all the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to his blood.
3. See from his head, his hands, his feet,  
sorrow and love flow mingled down;  
did e'er such love and sorrow meet,  
or thorns compose so rich a crown!
4. His dying crimson, like a robe,  
spreads o'er his body on the tree:  
then am I dead to all the globe,  
and all the globe is dead to me.
5. Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
that were a present far too small;  
love so amazing, so divine,  
demands my soul, my life, my all.

#### Closing Prayer

This is love, not that we loved God,  
He is the sacrifice for our sins,  
If God loves us so much  
If we love one another

**but that he loved us and sent his Son.  
that we might live through him.  
we ought to love one another.  
God lives in us.**

#### Blessing

#### Dismissal

One in heart and one in mind, and empowered by the Spirit, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**All: In the name of Christ. Amen.**

#### Closing Music

*No Collection is taken, please donate by Text or leave a gift (in a completed gift aid envelope if you are able to do so) in the Offertory Plates or by contactless card giving as you leave. Thank you. We are encouraging supporters of the church to give by Bank Transfer to support our work. Details are on our website at [www.saintmichaelweb.org.uk](http://www.saintmichaelweb.org.uk) or contact the Parish Office at [church@saintmichaelweb.org.uk](mailto:church@saintmichaelweb.org.uk)*

*Thank you for joining this service, whether by Zoom or in person.*