



Newsletter and Notices

Sunday 7th March 2021 Third Sunday of Lent



8am Holy Communion, in Church

10am Service of the Word, in Church & via [Zoom](#)

You are welcome to share in our worship in the following ways:

1. **Come to Church** All are welcome! Remember to bring your order of service.
2. **Join with Zoom on your computer**
When you are signed in you can 'Join a Meeting'.
Meeting ID **846 662 9590**, Passcode **834900**
3. **Join with Audio Zoom via phone**
 - a) Call **0131 460 1196**
 - b) Enter Meeting ID: **846 662 9590** followed by #
 - c) You may be asked to enter Participant ID: press #
 - d) Enter Meeting Passcode: **834900** followed by #

You will be muted automatically when you join the 'meeting' (service).

Whether or not you might like to do this, let's be aware of the prayerful communion in God's Spirit that we all share, wherever we are, whether or not we are able to talk, video-call or communicate with one another.

A Psalm for The Third Sunday of Lent, Psalm 19. 7- end

Refrain: The commandment of the Lord is pure and gives light to the eyes.

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul;
 the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.
 The statutes of the Lord are right and rejoice the heart;
 the commandment of the Lord is pure and gives light to the eyes.
 The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever;
 the judgements of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.
 More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,
 sweeter also than honey, dripping from the honeycomb.
 By them also is your servant taught and in keeping them there is great reward. **[R]**
 Who can tell how often they offend O cleanse me from my secret faults!
 Keep your servant also from presumptuous sins lest they get dominion over me;
 so shall I be undefiled, and innocent of great offence.
 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight,
 O Lord, my strength and my redeemer. **[R]**

*Christ, the sun of righteousness,
 rise in our hearts this day,
 enfold us in the brightness of your love
 and bear us at the last to heaven's horizon;
 for your love's sake. Amen.*

Collect for The Third Sunday of Lent

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Gospel for The Third Sunday of Lent, John 2. 13-22

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money-changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, 'Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a market-place!' His disciples remembered that it was written, 'Zeal for your house will consume me.' The Jews then said to him, 'What sign can you show us for doing this?' Jesus answered them, 'Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews then said, 'This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

An anthem for today

On this day last year, the Choir sang *is 'Like as the Hart' (Howells)*. You might like to listen to [this version](#) sung by the choir of St John's College, Cambridge.

Like as the hart desireth the waterbrooks, so longeth my soul after thee, O God.
 My soul is athirst for God, yea, even for the living God.
 When shall I come to appear before the presence of God?
 My tears have been my meat day and night, while they daily say unto me,
 "Where is now thy God?"

Lent for Young People – Whilst it's not practical for our families to meet, do explore the links on our [Children and Young People](#) page: each week in Lent there are fresh and inspiring resources including prayers, games, quizzes and videos. **This week there's a great song for Lent. Listen to the lyrics of 'Alive' from the band Hillsong** Also -

- There's a [printable sheet on our website](#) which offers a prayer and activities that will help young people get to know the person of Jesus. This week's is based on the Gospel reading from John.
- You might also like to share in this week's Godly Story, 'The Temple', from today's Gospel. It's a fantastic visual version of the scriptures, with wondering questions for families to share together. The video's on YouTube [here](#).



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Keeping in touch – With so much disruption to church worship and activities over the past 11 months now, it has been hard to keep as connected as a community as we'd like. We've tried, through general email and website messages, hard-copy delivery to those not online, plus phone calls, personal emails, letters and even Zoom-chats, to offer ways of staying in touch. Thanks to all the very many people who have played a part in that, and for all the informal reaching-out that has been going on so that we can support one another. Above all let's keep one another in our regular prayers. But if you feel you've 'slipped the net' and missed having contact with anyone from church for a while, do let the Parish Office know by phone, letter or email. A member of the ministry team will be happy to be in touch, to talk and listen, as we try to stay connected and help one another, while pandemic and lock down persist. Thank you.

Singing in Services – Would anyone be willing to offer ministry either as a lone Cantor, and/or, conceivably, as a member of a small, household/bubbled singing group? Would anyone like to sing on a Wednesday, too? Please contact the Office.

The Charities Support Group is having a Lent Red Bucket Appeal – We will split the money between Mary's Meals, who we always support through our Lent Lunches, and The Church Army. To find out more about the charities and how to donate, please see the [CSG page](#) on our website. A Red Bucket will also be in church at our services.

Community Money Advice Connect Bishop's Stortford provides free, confidential help with for those people struggling paying bills. Trained volunteers from the churches within Bishop's Stortford can help with budgeting, personal debts, support in writing letters to creditors and find the best solution to the situation. See [their link on our website](#) for more information.

Recipes from Home with the Freedom from Torture Charity – You can now sign up for Zoom cooking classes with chefs and torture survivors Parveneh, Srwa and BJ and learn the secrets of Iranian, Kurdish and Nigerian cuisine from the comfort of your own kitchen! See our [website](#) to sign up. Last few tickets remaining.

Riding Lights Theatre Company presents a Lockdown Passion Play – Filmed remotely in lockdown, Breaking Day by Les Ellison is an innovative passion play for Easter 2021, immersing us with stark intimacy in decisions that led to crucifixion. Available to stream 19th March-15th April. Tickets £10 per household and can be purchased from the Riding Lights website: www.ridinglights.org/breaking-day

Daybreak on Good Friday. The Governor's grip on authority is slipping, his wife plagued by dreams, and their servant clearly knows more than she should. Torn between the Capitol, the Sanhedrin and the mob, the lines between personal and political begin to blur. The teacher at the centre of it all remains silent.

The church is open for personal prayer from 11am to 1pm every day.

An opportunity to spend some comforting time in prayer, peace and reflection.

Piano music is played on Tuesdays 11-11:30am and on Fridays 12-12.30pm.

'Roadmap' letter – If you've not seen a copy of Derwyn's most recent letter, it's available on the website [here](#).

If you'd like the Prayer Chain to pray for some concern which is on your heart, please make your prayer request to the coordinator: diane.pettitt@hotmail.com / 461845. Requests are strictly confidential to the Prayer Chain, who will simply pray as asked and a request won't lead to further contact or action.

Prayers for our Community via Zoom, Saturday 6th March 9:30am – A half hour session of informal prayer (ID 458 034 0358, Passcode 435609). All welcome.

Holy Communion, Wednesday 10th March, 10am – On Wednesday we will have a service of Holy Communion, in church and via Derwyn's Zoom. You can also dial in by phone; instructions on previous page. (ID 846 662 9590, Passcode 834900).

Lent resources –

- *Hope in the Wilderness*, a Lent message from the Vicar, is on our [Lent page](#).
- The Vicar has prepared a private prayer leaflet which enables individual act of penitence, at home or in church, throughout Lent. Alternatively, you might like to use it online as a small group. The leaflet and a psalm are on the [Lent page](#).
- We also offer the opportunity to share in a ten minute Zoom prayer from church, at 12noon on Tuesdays until 30th March (ID 846 662 9590, Passcode 834900). The order, 'Prayer During the Day', is on the [Lent page](#).

Zoom prayer with June on Mondays – A support chat and prayer room each week. If you're interested in joining, do call her for more details (771756).

Look out on the Lent page for details of Passiontide, Holy Week and Easter services as they are fixed in the coming days.

More details of all services and events are available on the [Calendar](#) page on our website.

Do follow us on Social Media too, for regular updates.

The Rev'd Derwyn Williams (Vicar)	653867	Churchwarden: Rosemary Thomson	758389	
The Rev'd Derek Hinge (PTO)	652173	Deputy Churchwardens:		
The Rev'd June Knight (PTO)	771756	Terry Pigram, Peter Rixson, Roger Sudbury		
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