**February 28th Lent 2**

O Lord, open our lips

**And our mouth shall proclaim your praise**

Hear our voice, O Lord,

according to your faithful love,

**According to your judgement give us life.**

**PRAISE, MY SOUL, THE KING OF HEAVEN;**

To His feet thy tribute bring.

Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,

Who like thee His praise should sing?

Praise Him! Praise Him!

Praise Him! Praise Him!

Praise the everlasting King!

Praise Him for His grace and favour

To our fathers in distress;

Praise Him, still the same forever,

Slow to chide, and swift to bless.

Praise Him! Praise Him!

Praise Him! Praise Him!

Glorious in His faithfulness.

Father-like, He tends and spares us;

Well our feeble frame He knows;

In His hands He gently bears us,

Rescues us from all our foes.

Praise Him! Praise Him!

Praise Him! Praise Him!

Widely as His mercy flows.

Angels help us to adore Him;

Ye behold Him face to face;

Sun and moon, bow down before Him,

Dwellers all in time and space.

Praise Him! Praise Him!

Praise Him! Praise Him!

Praise with us the God of grace!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mDe0ABw5IHs>

**CONFESSION**

Compassion and forgiveness belong to the Lord our God, though we have rebelled against him.

Let us then renounce our wilfulness and ask his mercy by confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness

and cleanse me from my sin:

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

Make me a clean heart, O God,

and renew a right spirit within me:

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

Cast me not away from your presence

and take not your holy spirit from me:

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

May the Father of all mercies

cleanse us from our sins,

and restore us in his image

to the praise and glory of his name,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Blessed is the Lord,

**for he has heard the voice of our prayer;**

therefore shall our hearts dance for joy

**and in our song will we praise our God.**

**COLLECT**

Almighty God,

you show to those who are in error the light of your truth, that they may return to the way of righteousness:

grant to all those who are admitted

into the fellowship of Christ’s religion,

that they may reject those things

that are contrary to their profession,

and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same;

through our Lord Jesus Christ,

who is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever. **Amen**.

**Psalm 22.23-end**

Praise the Lord, you that fear him;

O seed of Jacob, glorify him;

stand in awe of him, O seed of Israel.

**For he has not despised nor abhorred the suffering of the poor;**

**neither has he hidden his face from them;**

**but when they cried to him he heard them.**

From you comes my praise in the great congregation; I will perform my vows

in the presence of those that fear you.

**The poor shall eat and be satisfied;**

**those who seek the Lord shall praise him;**

**their hearts shall live for ever.**

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

**For the kingdom is the Lord’s**

**and he rules over the nations.**

How can those who sleep in the earth

bow down in worship, or those who go down to the dust kneel before him?

**He has saved my life for himself;**

**my descendants shall serve him;**

**this shall be told of the Lord for generations to come.**

They shall come and make known his salvation, to a people yet unborn,

declaring that he, the Lord, 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 forever. Amen.***

**TAKE UP THY CROSS, the Saviour said,**
if thou wouldst my disciple be;
deny thyself, the world forsake,
and humbly follow after me.

Take up thy cross, let not its weight
fill thy weak spirit with alarm;
his strength shall bear thy spirit up,
and brace thy heart and nerve thine arm.

Take up thy cross, nor heed the shame,
nor let thy foolish pride rebel;
thy Lord for thee the cross endured,
to save thy soul from death and hell.

Take up thy cross and follow Christ,
nor think til death to lay it down;
for only those who bear the cross
may hope to wear the glorious crown.

To thee, great Lord, the One in Three,
all praise forevermore ascend:
O grant us in our home to see
the heavenly life that knows no end.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OS3q4uTEAik>

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

**Genesis 17.1-7; 15-16**

**17**When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to him and said, ‘I am God Almighty; walk before me faithfully and be blameless. **2**Then I will make my covenant between me and you and will greatly increase your numbers.’

**3**Abram fell face down, and God said to him, **4**‘As for me, this is my covenant with you: you will be the father of many nations. **5**No longer will you be called Abram; your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations. **6**I will make you very fruitful; I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you. **7**I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you.

**15**God also said to Abraham, ‘As for Sarai your wife, you are no longer to call her Sarai; her name will be Sarah. **16**I will bless her and will surely give you a son by her. I will bless her so that she will be the mother of nations; kings of peoples will come from her.’

**NEW TESTAMENT READINGS**

**Romans 4.13-end**

**13**It was not through the law that Abraham and his offspring received the promise that he would be heir of the world, but through the righteousness that comes by faith. **14**For if those who depend on the law are heirs, faith means nothing and the promise is worthless, **15**because the law brings wrath. And where there is no law there is no transgression.

**16**Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham’s offspring – not only to those who are of the law but also to those who have the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all. **17**As it is written: ‘I have made you a father of many nations.’ He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed – the God who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that were not.

**18**Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, ‘So shall your offspring be.’ **19**Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead – since he was about a hundred years old – and that Sarah’s womb was also dead. **20**Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, **21**being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised. **22**This is why ‘it was credited to him as righteousness.’ **23**The words ‘it was credited to him’ were written not for him alone, **24**but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness – for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. **25**He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.

**Mark 8.31-end**

**31**He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. **32**He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.

**33**But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. ‘Get behind me, Satan!’ he said. ‘You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.’

**34**Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: ‘Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. **35**For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it. **36**What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? **37**Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? **38**If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father’s glory with the holy angels.’

**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 sons to glory.

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.

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.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sjDh4yuil9w>

**THE CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,**

**creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son,**

**our Lord,**

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

**born of the Virgin Mary,**

**suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**was crucified, died, and was buried;**

**he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;**

**he ascended into heaven,**

**he is seated at the right hand of the Father,**

**and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy catholic Church,**

**the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body,**

**and the life everlasting.** **Amen.**

**INTERCESSIONS**

With confidence and trust let us pray to the Father.

For the one holy catholic and apostolic Church let us pray to the Father.

Lord of compassion, **in your mercy hear us.**

For the mission of the Church,

that in faithful witness it may preach the gospel to the ends of the earth,

let us pray to the Father.

Lord of compassion, **in your mercy hear us.**

For peace in the world that a spirit of respect and reconciliation may grow among nations and peoples, let us pray to the Father.

Lord of compassion, **in your mercy hear us.**

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer …

for refugees, prisoners, and all in danger;

that they may be relieved and protected,

let us pray to the Father.

Lord of compassion, **in your mercy hear us.**

For those whom we have injured or offended,

let us pray to the Father.

Lord of compassion, **in your mercy hear us.**

For grace to amend our lives and to further the reign of God, let us pray to the Father.

Lord of compassion, **in your mercy hear us.**

In communion with all those who have walked in the way of holiness, let us pray to the Father.

Lord of compassion, **in your mercy hear us.**

God our Father,

in your love and goodness

you have taught us to come close to you in penitence

with prayer, fasting and generosity;

accept our Lenten discipline,

and when we fall by our weakness,

raise us up by your unfailing mercy;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**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.
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.**

**O LORD MY GOD!** when I in awesome wonder

Consider all the works Thy hand hath made,

I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,

Thy power throughout the universe displayed:

*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to Thee,*

*How great Thou art! How great Thou art!*

*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee,*

*How great Thou art! How great Thou art!*

When through the woods and forest glades I wander

And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;

When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,

And hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze;

And when I think that God His Son not sparing,

Sent Him to die—I scarce can take it in.

That on the cross my burden gladly bearing,

He bled and died to take away my sin:

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation

And take me home—what joy shall fill my heart!

Then shall I bow in humble adoration

And there proclaim, my God, how great Thou art!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PdE_NKyY_o0>

**BLESSING**

Christ give us grace to grow in holiness,

to deny ourselves, take up our cross, and follow him; and the blessing of God almighty,

the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,

be among us and remain with us always.

**Amen**

**NOTICES**

No news yet about returning to services on Sunday yet…hopefully not too much longer!

St Andrews is open for private prayer,

10am-2pm every day, and we aim to ring the bell on Sundays at 12 noon. If you go in please continue to wear your mask, use the hand gel and observe social distancing. Thank you.

Booklets with readings and prayers for every day in **Lent** are available to collect from St Andrews. Or let me know you would like one and we will find a way to get them to you. Donation of £1.50 per copy.

**During Lent** we will meet on Wednesday evenings on Zoom at 7pm. We will consider how Christians are ‘*Held together in the love of Christ’* and what that might mean in practice. All welcome…sorry if you don’t have access to Zoom.

Every Sunday morning we post a short service on the parish website: southshoebury.org

**Monday**

9am Morning Prayer on Zoom

12 noon Pram Service on Zoom

**Wednesday**

8am Morning Prayer on Zoom

7pm Lent Group on Zoom

**Friday**

9am Morning Prayer on Zoom

**Saturday**

2pm Catch Up Chat on Zoom

If you would like the links to any of these, please let Hannah know.

rev.hannah.robinson@outlook.com

Please hold in your prayers all who are poorly and all who care for them.

God bless you,

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