



# A Liturgy of the Word : Third Sunday in Lent

Date : 7 March 2021



Ven. Moses Thabethe



Rev. Allie Joseph



Rev. Matthew Wright



Rev. Margaret Place



Rev. Alison Thabethe

**The full service or the sermon can be viewed on the website.**

## Processional Hymn

O worship the King all-glorious above,  
O gratefully sing his power and his love:  
our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,  
pavilioned in splendour and girded with praise.

O tell of his might and sing of his grace,  
whose robe is the light, whose canopy space.  
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,  
and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.

Your bountiful care, what tongue can recite?  
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;  
it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,  
and sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,  
in you do we trust, nor find you to fail.  
Your mercies, how tender, how firm to the end,  
our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend!

O measureless Might, unchangeable Love,  
whom angels delight to worship above!  
Your ransomed creation, with glory ablaze,  
in true adoration shall sing to your praise!

*Author: Robert Grant*

## Call to Worship

Wherever we find ourselves we enter into the presence of our Almighty God.  
**God bids us all welcome.**

We claim not only our place but also our unique identity as God's chosen.  
**God bids us all welcome.**

We approach the throne of our merciful God just as we are.  
**God bids us all welcome.**



*Introductory Rite* 

The Lord be with you  
And also with you

*Collect for Purity* 

*Let us pray.*

**Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hid:  
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.**

*The Kyrie* 

**Hosi, Hosi hi tsetselele x4  
Krisite, Krisite hi tsetselele x4  
Hosi, Hosi hi tsetselele x4**



*The Penitence* 

*In a time of quiet, we bring before You those times when we have failed to keep Your commandments when we have decided that we know better.*

**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.**

*Absolution* 

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy on you: pardon your sins and set you free from them; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



*The Collect*



God of passion and power  
 your Son drove the money changers out  
 of the temple:  
 cleanse us of our arrogance  
 and recreate in us a dwelling for your holiness;  
 through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
 who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
 One God, now and forever. Amen

*The Word of God*



Exodus 20:1-17

**THE PSALM : 85:1-2,8-13**

1 O Lord you were gracious to your lands:  
You restored the fortunes of Jacob.

2 You forgave the iniquity of your people:  
And covered all their sin.

8 I will hear what the Lord God will speak:  
For he will speak peace to his people\*  
To his faithful ones whose hearts are turned to him.

9 Truly his salvation is near to those that fear him:  
And his glory shall dwell in our land.

10 Mercy and truth are met together:  
Righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

11 Truth shall flourish out of the earth:  
And righteousness shall look down from heaven.

12 The Lord will also give us all that is good:  
And our land shall yield its plenty

13 For righteousness shall go before him:  
And tread the path before his feet.

*Glory to the Father and to the Son:  
 And to the Holy Spirit  
 As it was in the beginning:  
 Is now and ever shall be.*



*Sung by Sam Hermanus, Rev. Allie Josseph & Ven Moses Thabethe*

1 Corinthians 1:18-25



*Gospel Acclamation*



Glory to you, O Word of God  
Lord Jesus Christ x2

Man does not live on bread alone  
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Glory to you, O Word of God  
Lord Jesus Christ x2

*Gospel Reading*



John 2:13-22

*The Sermon*



by Ven. Moses Thabethe



*Affirmation of Faith*



**CREED for LENT**

**We believe in God the Father,  
who always welcomes us  
with lavish grace  
and longs to be close to us  
as a hen gathers her brood under her wings.**

**We believe in God the Son,  
who was lifted up  
so that salvation and abundant life  
are available to the whole world.  
We believe in God the Holy Spirit  
who leads us into the  
wilderness where our sin is revealed  
and our call to true holiness is renewed.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**We believe in one God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen**

*Prayers of Intercession*



*We now come to a time of intercession.*

Lord of heaven and earth, your word reminds us that you are not confined to temples made by human hands. In these ever-trying times where people are still unable to physically gather as they used to, may you make your presence known to them wherever they may be, and in whatever spaces and places they choose to dedicate to you in prayer and praise.

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**



You have commanded us Lord to be holy. This Lent, in our efforts to follow your example, we pray that you would guide us and that your grace would be sufficient for us. Strengthen our resolve to serve you better, Lord, and to love our neighbours as ourselves. We pray that you would save us from self-righteousness and from viewing Lent as the pursuit of moral perfection. Teach us then, Lord, what it means to be holy.

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

As your children, we pray gracious Lord, that you would help us to understand our faith better, to recognise the intentions of your heart and thereby be challenged and changed. We pray, this Lent, that we would experience an outpouring of your love which would rid us of all pretence and pride, and we ask that this love would inspire us to serve you and those around us with our whole hearts.

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Lord of life and love, as a community and as a society we have endured much trauma and disruption in the last year. Pain and loss have become familiar to many Lord, and so we commit into your hands our own healing, as well as that of our communities. Grant us the courage and honesty to admit our pain to one another so that, through mutual love and support, we may be, with Christ, the wounded healers we are called to be.

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

God of abundant life, your Son, in his earthly ministry saw the failings of the established religion to provide for the material and spiritual needs of its people. May we too be spurred on by righteous anger when those in power fail to protect the vulnerable. We ask forgiveness for the Church's complicity in failing to care for these "little ones" and ask you to help us renew our own mandate in working towards justice, healing and peace.

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

God of comfort and compassion, we continue to commit into your hands the bereaved and grieving. In their loss, may they know your love and peace, gracious Lord, and may they find solace in your presence. We commit into your hands those who have faithfully departed, as well as those who may pass away during this Lent. May they ultimately know your love and compassion and may they enjoy the light of your countenance.

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, we make these prayers in the name of your Son, our Lord, Teacher, Companion, and Friend, Jesus Christ. **Amen**

*Prayer for Offering* 

Everlasting Father, thank you that you are the light of the world, guiding our steps on your path. Your word says that the earth is yours, and everything in it. The world and all its people belong to you. We recognize that everything we have belongs to you. We acknowledge that our very lives belong to you. We now offer back to you a portion of what you have given us. May God the Father prepare our journey, Jesus the Son guide our footsteps and the Holy Spirit watch over us, on every path that we follow. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

**Amen .**

*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 them that 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.**

*Prayer of Thanksgiving* 

Loving God,  
We take time out of our busy lives  
to come before You this day  
and to offer You praise and thanks.  
We thank You for this day  
and all the days of our lives.

We thank You for the world in which we live and work.  
We thank You for the ability to gather  
physically or digitally to praise You  
and learn from Your word.

Lord, you do not leave us to wander this world  
aimlessly and without boundaries.  
We thank You that You love us so much  
that You gave Your people commandments  
in the name of love, harmony, and respect,  
commandments that remained relevant throughout the history of time.



Lord, thank you for sending us Your son, Jesus  
to teach us how to live and to love.  
For teaching the ultimate lesson of love  
through the death and resurrection of Your only son.  
Thank You, Lord. **Amen**

*Final Blessing* 

The Lord be with you  
**And also with you**

Life is short and we do not have too much time  
to gladden the hearts of those who walk with us.  
So be ready to love and unhesitating in kindness.

And may the blessing of God –  
Source of life, love and hope,  
Word of life,  
and ever-present Spirit of grace  
be with you this day and all your days.

May the blessing of our Lord Jesus Christ the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit descend upon you  
and remain with you always. **Amen.**





*Dismissal*



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

*Recessional Hymn*



I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
"Come unto me and rest.  
Lay down, O weary one,  
lay down your head upon my breast."  
I came to Jesus as I was,  
so weary, worn, and sad.  
I found in him a resting place,  
and he has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
"Behold, I freely give  
the living water, thirsty one;  
stoop down and drink and live."  
I came to Jesus, and I drank  
of that life-giving stream.  
My thirst was quenched, my soul revived,  
and now I live in him.



I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
"I am the dawning light.  
Look unto me, your morn shall rise,  
and all your day be bright."  
I looked to Jesus, and I found  
in him my star, my sun,  
and in that light of life I'll walk  
till trav'ling days are done.

*Author: Horatius Bonar (1846)*

*Giving*



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