



A Liturgy of the Word First Sunday in Lent

6 March 2022



Ven. Moses Thabethe



Rev. Matthew Wright



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Rev. Margaret Place



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

Processional Hymn



He who would valiant be
'gainst all disaster,
let him in constancy
follow the Master.
There's no discouragement
shall make him once relent
his first avowed intent
to be a pilgrim.

Who so beset him round
with dismal stories,
do but themselves confound—
his strength the more is.
No foes shall stay his might,
though he with giants fight;
he will make good his right
to be a pilgrim.

Since, Lord, Thou dost defend
us with Thy Spirit,
we know we at the end
shall life inherit.
Then, fancies, flee away!
I'll fear not what men say,
I'll labour night and day
to be a pilgrim.



Call to Worship



As we embark on our Lenten journey, let us place our hope and trust in God, in God's Word and promise, which will to sustain us and carry us through this season of penitence.

Into the wilderness we go.

The wilderness of longing.

The wilderness of expectation.

The wilderness of hope.

May God's angels go before us.

And the Lord himself guide and lead us.



Introductory Rite



The Lord be with you
And also with you

Praise the Lord:
Praise God, you servants of the Lord.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:
Blessed be God's Name, now and forever.

Collect for Purity



Let us pray.

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



Morena re utlwele bohloko x2
Kriste o re utlwele bohloko x2
Morena re utlwele bohloko x2

The Penitence



*Rend your hearts, and not your garments, and return
to the Lord your God: for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.*

**Most holy and merciful Father,
We confess to you and to one another,
that we have sinned against you
in thought, word and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you
with our whole heart and mind and strength.
We have not loved our neighbour as ourselves.
In your mercy forgive what we have been,
help us amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be,
so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name.
For the sake of Jesus Christ, 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 mercy,
Jesus found a sure defence in your word:
strengthen us to persevere faithfully
as we confront the temptations of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen**

The Word of God



Deuteronomy 26:1-11
Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16
Romans 10:8b-13

Gospel Acclamation



Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ
King of endless glory x2

If today you'd hear His voice
Harden not your hearts

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ
King of endless glory x2

Gospel Reading



Luke 4:1-13

The Sermon



by Revd Margaret Place

Affirmation of Faith



Let us declare our faith in God.

**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.**



Prayers of Intercession 

For the Church

In these times of unrest and uncertainty, we pray that the Church may continue to be a beacon of hope and light in the world. You have called us to be a people of peace and reconciliation. Help us to faithfully proclaim your holy Word. We pray for our brothers and sisters within the Roman Catholic tradition, the Orthodox traditions, and the Reformed and Charismatic traditions. May your Holy Spirit inspire leaders of all denominations. We pray especially for our own Archbishop, Thabo, and Diocesan Bishop, Steve – empower them to faithfully lead your people.
Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

For our world and its leaders

At this time of extraordinary tension and trepidation, where the world is still emerging from a global pandemic, we pray for the cessation of armed conflict globally. We commit especially into your hands, Father, the rising tension between Russia and the West and for the war in Ukraine. We pray fervently for a de-escalation of this conflict, that a peaceful and amicable solution may be achieved by diplomatic means, and for a lasting peace in that region.
Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

For the earth and creation

In your Holy Word, you commanded your people to give to you of their first fruits so as to remind them that the fruit of the earth comes forth by your life-giving power. Remind us, Lord, that the produce of our hands too is a result of your divine grace. Inspire us to be good stewards not only of that which you have blessed us with but, indeed, the resources of all creation.
Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

For the needs of our community

We give you thanks heavenly Father for the successful vestry meeting held last Sunday in our parish. We thank you for our newly-elected church wardens and parish councillors. We ask your blessing upon them, that they may carry out the work of your kingdom in this parish. Indeed, may your hand of blessing and guidance remain upon all members of the St Michael's community that we would continue to strive to be a loving, affirming and inclusive community.
Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

For those who feel burdened

Gracious Father we pray for all who may feel burdened or overwhelmed at this time – whether from stressful conditions in the workplace, the demands and needs of family members, the anxiety of managing one's finances, we pray your hand of comfort and assurance to be upon them. Fill them with your peace, sustain them through their difficulty, and grant them a knowledge that you will bring them out to a level place.
Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

For the bereaved

Finally, we pray for those who have passed on, and for all those who will pass on this Lent. In the face of death, we



can turn no one else but you, Lord. Grant your healing comfort to those who mourn the loss of loved ones, and repose to the souls of those who have passed on. We pray especially for the repose of ...

God our Father, in every age you call a people to hear your word and to do your will.

Open our eyes to your deeds and our ears to the sound of your call so that our every act may increase our sharing in the new life you offer to us. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen

Prayer for Offering 

God of grace and providence, you shower us with every good gift and for this we thank you. The birds of the air neither sow nor reap and yet you feed them. Indeed, you care for all your creatures. We now give back to you a small measure of what you have blessed us with. We ask you to set this apart for the work of your kingdom and the spreading of your Good News. In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

Lord's Prayer 

The Lord's Prayer: (in Afrikaans)

**Ons vader wat woon in die hemel,
geheilig sy u naam, laat u ryk kom,
u wil geskied, soos in die hemel so ook op die aarde
gee ons vandag ons dag se brood
en vergeef ons al ons skulde,
net soos ons vergewe die wat teen ons sondig.
Laat kom ons nie in die versoeking,
maar verlos ons van die bose.
Van u is die ryk en die sterkte en die ere, vir ewig en ewig, Amen.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving 

Father of all, we give you thanks and praise that, when we were still far off, you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us so we and all your children shall be free and the whole earth live to praise your name, through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



Final Blessing 

The Lord be with you
And also with you

**God, who spoke the universe into being;
Christ, who announced completion of salvation on the cross;
Holy Spirit, who comforted the disciples with words of peace:**

Help us, this Lent, to be a people of Word and Sacrament,
may we be fed in the desert by your holy manna,



and sustained by your life-giving Word.
May we in turn speak life, love, and affirmation to those around us,
thereby increasing the bounds of your kingdom.
In the name of Jesus, who died, was buried, and rose again, for us. **Amen**

Dismissal 

Go now, and live in the spirit of your baptism,
even when you are led into wild and hard places.
With repentance and trust, give yourselves to God,
and with fasting and prayer,
strengthen yourselves against the ways of the tempter.

And may God enfold you in tender and lasting love.
May Christ be beside you in times of struggle.
And may the Spirit guide you back to the path
whenever you stray, that you may keep the covenant.

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the 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.



Recessional Hymn 

1 Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us
O'er this world's tempestuous sea
Guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us
For we have no help but thee;
Yet possessing every blessing
If our God our Father be.

2 Saviour, breath forgiveness o'er us:
All our weaknesses thou dost know;
Though didst tread this earth before us,
Thou did feel its keenest woe;
Lone and dreary, faint and weary,
Through the desert thou didst go.

3 Spirit of our God, descending,
Fill our hearts with heavenly joy,
Love with every passion blending,
Pleasure that can never cloy:
Thus provided, pardoned, guided,
Ever can our peace destroy.

Giving 

Thank you for your continued financial contribution
to the church at this time so as to enable St Michael's
to meet its obligations in mission and ministry.


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