

Morning Prayer

14th February, 2021

THE SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

“In the Gym - Exercising Our Generosity Muscle”

Gracious God,
You call us to let go of the things we cling to
and step out in faith,
trusting in Your love and provision.
Give us courage to step out boldly,
to plant our small seeds generously, and without fear.
Use our gifts to accomplish more than we could possibly imagine,
so that, through us, Your kingdom might come
and Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Amen

We have come together in the name of Christ
to offer our praise and thanksgiving,
to hear and receive God’s holy word,
to pray for the needs of the world,
and to seek the forgiveness of our sins,
that by the power of the Holy Spirit
we may give ourselves to the service of God.

Here is love, vast as the ocean
Loving kindness as the flood
When the Prince of Life, our Ransom
Shed for us His precious blood

Who His love will not remember?
Who can cease to sing His praise?
He can never to be forgotten
Throughout Heaven's eternal days

On the mount of crucifixion
Fountains opened deep and wide
Through the floodgates of God's mercy
Flowed a vast and gracious tide
Grace and love, like mighty rivers
Poured incessant from above
And Heaven's peace and perfect justice
Kissed a guilty world in love - Repeat

Confession

We fill our lives with the fear of scarcity,
assuming there is not enough money,
time, patience or love.
We turn away when a stranger asks for nourishment,
claiming there isn't enough even for ourselves.

Forgive us when we doubt your abundance
and ignore the possibilities in what we have been given.

We often sit with arms crossed and fists clenched,
crying out that you have turned away
and left us empty handed.

Forgive us when we reject your abundance
and neglect the possibilities in what we have been given.
Open our eyes to the wonders that surround us.
Help us surrender to the loving embrace that enfolds us.

Absolution

Take comfort:

We are always embraced in Christ's love,
Demonstrated by His death and resurrection
In Christ, there is always enough. **Amen.**

Reading – 1 Timothy 6 (11-21) – Emily O'Farrell

Talk

Prayers – Clare Horscroft

The Collect for The Sunday Before Lent

Almighty Father,
whose Son was revealed in majesty
before he suffered death upon the cross:
give us grace to perceive his glory,
that we may be strengthened to suffer with him
and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be your 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.

And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory
forever and ever. AMEN.

Give thanks with a grateful heart

Give thanks to the Holy One

Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son

Give thanks with a grateful heart

Give thanks to the Holy One

Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son

And now let the weak say, "I am strong"

Let the poor say, "I am rich

Because of what the Lord has done for us"

And now let the weak say, "I am strong"

Let the poor say, "I am rich

Because of what the Lord has done for us" - *Repeat*

The Final Blessing

Keep your eyes fixed on Jesus, who was wounded for our sins,
that you may bear in your life the love and joy and peace
which are the marks of Jesus in his disciples;
and the blessing ...

The Grace

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and
the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. Amen.