

Teign Valley & Haldon Hill Mission Community
Scattered Church: Worship at home on 22/02/26 Lent 1

Hymn

Forty days and forty nights
you were fasting in the wild;
forty days and forty nights
tempted still, yet unbeguiled.

Sunbeams scorching all the day;
chilly dew-drops nightly shed;
prowling beasts about your way;
stones your pillow; earth your bed.

Keep, O keep us, Saviour dear,
ever constant by your side;
that with you we may appear
at th' eternal Eastertide.

George Hunt Smyttan 1822-1870
adapted Michael Forster b.1946

The grace and mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you
and also with you.

We meet in the presence of God
who knows our needs,
hears our cries,
feels our pain,
and heals our wounds.

The gospel calls us to turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ.
As we offer ourselves to him in penitence and faith,
we renew our confidence and trust in his mercy.

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.

May the God of love and power
forgive us and free us from our sins,
heal and strengthen us by his Spirit,
and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collect

Heavenly Father,
your Son battled with the powers of darkness,
and grew closer to you in the desert:
help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer
that we may witness to your saving love
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Readings

Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, 'You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.' Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, 'Did God say, "You shall not eat from any tree in the garden"?' The woman said to the serpent, 'We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, "You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die."' But the serpent said to the woman, 'You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.' So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Romans 5:12-19

Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned—sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgement following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Matthew 4:1-11

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.' But he answered, 'It

is written,

“One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.” ’

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written,

“He will command his angels concerning you”, and “On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.” ’

Jesus said to him, ‘Again it is written, “Do not put the Lord your God to the test.” ’

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour; and he said to him, ‘All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

“Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.”

Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Reflection

(Dial 01647 407047 to hear it again during the week)

Affirmation of faith

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

Though he was divine,

he did not cling to equality with God,

but made himself nothing.

Taking the form of a slave,

he was born in human likeness.

He humbled himself

and was obedient to death,

even the death of the cross.

Therefore God has raised him on high,

and given him the name above every name:

that at the name of Jesus

every knee should bow,

and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord,

to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

cf Philippians 2.6-11

Intercessions

The Lord's Prayer

Trusting in the compassion of God, let us pray as our Saviour taught us

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.

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.**

The Peace

Jesus says: 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.
Do not let your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.'
The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

cf John 14.27

Notices

Let us say together:
**God of our pilgrimage,
you have led us to the living water:
refresh and sustain us
as we go forward on our journey,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.**

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

Hymn

Lead us, heav'nly Father, lead us
o'er the 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.

Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us,
all our weakness thou dost know;
thou didst tread this earth before us,
thou didst feel its keenest woe;
lone and dreary, faint and weary
through the desert thou didst go.

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
nothing can our peace destroy.

James Edmeston 1791-1867

Teign Valley & Haldon Hill Mission Community Services

Services by telephone

(Call 0333 0110 616; code 334 7721)

Sundays at 9am: Sunday Worship – a half hour Service of the Word: hymns, readings and prayers

Mar 30 Holy Monday 6.00pm telephone Evening Prayer

Mar 31 Holy Tuesday 6.00pm telephone Evening Prayer

Apr 1 Holy Wednesday 6.00pm telephone Evening Prayer

Services in church

Feb 22 Lent 1 10.30am MC HC St Mary Dunsford

4.00pm Forest Church Ashton

Mar 1 Lent 2 10.30am HC St John the Baptist Ashton

10.30am HC St James Christow

10.30am Service of the Word St Mary Dunsford

World Day of Prayer Friday 6 March at 2.30pm St John the Baptist Ashton

Mar 8 Lent 3 10.30am HC St Thomas Becket Bridford

10.30am HC St Michael & All Angels Dunchideock

10.30am Family Service St Mary Dunsford

Mar 15 Mothering Sunday 10.30am HC St Michael Doddiscombsleigh

10.30am HC St Mary Dunsford

Mar 22 Passion Sunday 10.30am MC HC St Thomas Becket Bridford

10.30am Service of the Word St Mary Dunsford

4.00pm Forest Church Ashton

Mar 29 Palm Sunday 10.30am MC HC St John the Baptist Ashton

10.30am Service of the Word St Mary Dunsford

Mar 30 Holy Monday 6.00pm telephone Evening Prayer

Mar 31 Holy Tuesday 6.00pm telephone Evening Prayer

Apr 1 Holy Wednesday 6.00pm telephone Evening Prayer

Apr 2 Maundy Thursday 6.00pm HC & Washing of Feet St John the Baptist Ashton

Apr 3 Good Friday 10.30am Passion of St John HC St James Christow

3.00pm Meditation & Prayers St Thomas Becket Bridford

6.00pm Good Friday Music St Mary Dunsford

Apr 5 Easter Sunday 10.30 HC Ashton with Bridford, Christow, Doddiscombsleigh, Dunchideock & Dunsford

Apr 12 Easter 2 10.30am HC St John the Baptist Ashton

10.30am HC St Michael & All Angels Dunchideock

10.30am Family Service St Mary Dunsford

Apr 19 Easter 10.30am HC St James Christow

10.30am HC St Michael Doddiscombsleigh

10.30am Service of the Word St Mary Dunsford

Apr 25 Messy Church 3.00pm Dunsford Village Hall

Apr 26 Easter 4 10.30am MC HC St Michael & All Angels Dunchideock

10.30am Service of the Word St Mary Dunsford

4.00pm Forest Church Ashton

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Use the QR codes below, or go to <https://www.achurchnearyou.com> and search for the parish you want to support...remember to Gift Aid your donation if you can...thank you!

