



**St Edmund's Church Taverham
and St Peter's Church Ringland**

Sunday 22nd February 2026

First Sunday of Lent

The greatness of the Lord, is beyond compare

The greatness of the Lord, is beyond compare
All splendour and glory, forever He is holy
The greatness of the Lord, is beyond compare

The friendship of the Lord, is beyond compare
The friendship of the Lord, is beyond compare
Oh Jesus, my treasure, abide with me forever
The friendship of the Lord, is beyond compare

The faithfulness of God, it will never fail
The faithfulness of God, it will never fail
My hope is, in You God, the Rock my life is built on
The faithfulness of God, it will never fail

The Kingdom of our God, it will never end
The Kingdom of our God, it will never end
The great and glorious One, who was and is to come
The Lamb of God is seated on the throne

Eternally You reign and we will sing the same
The Lamb of God has triumphed over all
The greatness of the Lord, is beyond compare
The greatness of the Lord, is beyond compare
The greatness of the Lord, is beyond compare
(Brooke Ligertwood)

**Jesus began his ministry to the world,
led by the Spirit into the wilderness.**

As we begin our Lenten journey,
let us be led by the Spirit,
even into the uncomfortable places.

**In those forty days, and in that place,
Jesus was faced with hunger, doubt
and temptation.**

As we seek to follow Jesus,
we would be led,
even into the uncomfortable choices.

**Jesus left the wilderness,
faithful and obedient to God,
rejoicing in the One in whom he trusted.**

As we continue on our path to faithfulness,
we will be led by our Christ,
rejoicing in the Lord our God.
(Thom Shuman)

We seek to do your will,
to share your truth,
to sing of your faithfulness,
to proclaim the good news,
as we follow Jesus
into the wonder of your kingdom,
praying as he taught us, saying,

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

What love could remember no wrongs we have done

Omniscient, all knowing, he counts not their sum
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore
Our sins they are many, his mercy is more

*Praise the Lord
His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness, new every morn
Our sins they are many, his mercy is more*

What patience would wait as we constantly roam
What father, so tender, is calling us home
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor
Our sins they are many, his mercy is more

What riches of kindness he lavished on us
His blood was the payment, his life was the cost
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford
Our sins they are many, his mercy is more
(Matt Papa & Matt Boswell)

How happy are those whose wrongs are forgiven,
whose sin is no longer held against them!
How happy are those who no longer lie—
to themselves or to anyone else.
When we refuse to admit our sin,
it eats away at us, little by little,
weakening us in body and soul.

So let's come before God with our prayers of confession.
Let's lay before God the sin that is weighing us down,
so that we can be freed from its burden,
and receive God's mercy and love.

**God, you are our hiding place!
Your unfailing love surrounds us,
and you fill our hearts with songs of joy!
Continue to guide us in the way we should go,
and watch over us,
so that our lives may bring honour to your name. Amen.**

Oh, what joy for those whose sins are forgiven,
whose mistakes have been wiped away
by God's mercy and grace!
So let's rejoice in God's unfailing love,
which has set us free yet again.
(Based on Psalm 32)

Faithful One, so unchanging
Ageless One, You're my rock of peace
Lord of all, I depend on You

I call out to You again and again
I call out to You again and again

*You are my rock in times of trouble
You lift me up when I fall down
All through the storm your love is the anchor
My hope is in you alone*

Loyal and true, so engaging
When I'm lost, you will find me
Lord, my God, how I need you now
(Brian Doerksen)

A reading from the gospel of Matthew beginning at chapter 4 verse 1

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.

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to 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.

Lord, I come, I confess

Bowing here I find my rest
Without You I fall apart
You're the One that guides my heart

*Lord, I need You, oh, I need You
Every hour I need You
My one defence, my righteousness
Oh God, how I need You*

Where sin runs deep Your grace is more
Where grace is found is where You are
Where You are, Lord, I am free
Holiness is Christ in me

So teach my song to rise to You
When temptation comes my way
When I cannot stand I'll fall on You
Jesus, You're my hope and stay
(Matt Maher)

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.**

Blessed are those who run to Him, who place their hope and confidence

In Jesus, He won't forsake them
Blessed are those who seek His face, who bend their knee and fix their gaze
On Jesus, they won't be shaken

Blessed are those who walk with Him, whose hearts are set on pilgrimage
With Jesus, they'll see His glory
Blessed are those who die to live, whose joy it is to give it all for Jesus
And for Him only, Oh Jesus, all for Your glory

*Come on and praise the Lord with me, Sing if you love His name
Come on and lift your voice with me, He's worthy of all our praise
Come on and bring your offering, Sing if you've known His grace
Come on and lift up your holy hands, He's worthy of all our praise*

Bless God in the sanctuary
Bless God in the fields of plenty
Bless God in the darkest valley
Every chance I get, I bless Your name

Bless God when my hands are empty
Bless God with a praise that costs me
Bless God when nobody's watching
Every chance I get, I bless Your name

Bless God when the weapon's forming
Bless God when the walls are falling
Bless God 'cause He goes before me
Every chance I get, I bless Your name

Bless God for He holds the vict'ry
Bless God for He's always with me
Bless God for He's always worthy
Every chance I get, I bless Your name
(Brooke Ligertwood / Cody Carnes)

It was never promised
that you will not be tempted,
not thrown into turmoil,
not stumble or fall,
but that by grace you will be saved, through trusting God.
Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

Grace is a free gift of God.
Gift. Just ongoing gift.
For me. For you.
Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

You have a destiny to inherit,
over which the angels in heaven marvel.

The quiet strength of Christ,
the humble power of God,
and the pervasive light of the Spirit,
is yours
today and always.

Thanks be to God.
(Bruce Prewer)

When I fear my faith will fail

Christ will hold me fast
When the tempter would prevail
He will hold me fast
I could never keep my hold
Through life's fearful path
For my love is often cold
He must hold me fast

*He will hold me fast
He will hold me fast
For my Saviour loves me so
He will hold me fast*

Those He saves are His delight
Christ will hold me fast
Precious in His holy sight
He will hold me fast
He'll not let my soul be lost

His promises shall last
Bought by Him at such a cost
He will hold me fast

For my life He bled and died
Christ will hold me fast
Justice has been satisfied
He will hold me fast
Raised with Him to endless life
He will hold me fast
Till our faith is turned to sight
When he comes at last
(Ada Habershon, Robert Harkness, Matt Merker)

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