

**Welcome to St. Mary's  
for our 12.15pm Lunchtime Service**

**Scan the QR code here  
or on notices at the  
back to access today's  
slides**



# Greeting

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you**



**TELL OUT, MY SOUL,** the greatness of the  
Lord!

Unnumbered blessings give my spirit  
voice;

Tender to me the promise of His word;

In God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of His  
name!

Make known His might, the deeds His arm  
has done;

His mercy sure, from age to age the same;  
His holy name—the Lord, the mighty One.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of His  
might!

Powers and dominions lay their glory by;  
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to  
flight,

The hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of His word!  
Firm is His promise, and His mercy sure:  
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord  
To children's children and forever more!



## Reading: Ezra 1:1-8; 3:8-13

<sup>1</sup> In the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, in order to fulfil the word of the Lord spoken by Jeremiah, the Lord moved the heart of Cyrus king of Persia to make a proclamation throughout his realm and also to put it in writing:

## Reading: Ezra 1:1-8; 3:8-13

<sup>2</sup> ‘This is what Cyrus king of Persia says:  
“The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth and he has appointed me to build a temple for him at Jerusalem in Judah. <sup>3</sup> Any of his people among you may go up to Jerusalem in Judah and build the temple

## Reading: Ezra 1:1-8; 3:8-13

of the Lord, the God of Israel, the God who is in Jerusalem, and may their God be with them. <sup>4</sup> And in any locality where survivors may now be living, the people are to provide them with silver and gold, with goods and livestock, and with freewill offerings for the temple of God in

## Reading: Ezra 1:1-8; 3:8-13

Jerusalem.””

<sup>5</sup> Then the family heads of Judah and Benjamin, and the priests and Levites – everyone whose heart God had moved – prepared to go up and build the house of the Lord in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup> All their neighbours assisted them with articles of

## Reading: Ezra 1:1-8; 3:8-13

silver and gold, with goods and livestock, and with valuable gifts, in addition to all the freewill offerings.

<sup>7</sup> Moreover, King Cyrus brought out the articles belonging to the temple of the Lord, which Nebuchadnezzar had carried away from Jerusalem and had

## Reading: Ezra 1:1-8; 3:8-13

placed in the temple of his god.<sup>8</sup> Cyrus king of Persia had them brought by Mithredath the treasurer, who counted them out to Sheshbazzar the prince of Judah.

---

## Reading: Ezra 1:1-8; 3:8-13

<sup>1</sup> In the second month of the second year after their arrival at the house of God in Jerusalem, Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, Joshua son of Jozadak and the rest of the people (the priests and the Levites and all who had returned from the captivity to Jerusalem) began the work. They

## Reading: Ezra 1:1-8; 3:8-13

appointed Levites twenty years old and older to supervise the building of the house of the Lord. <sup>9</sup> Joshua and his sons and brothers and Kadmiel and his sons (descendants of Hodaviah<sup>[a]</sup>) and the sons of Henadad and their sons and brothers – all Levites – joined together in supervising

## Reading: Ezra 1:1-8; 3:8-13

those working on the house of God.

<sup>10</sup> When the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the Lord, the priests in their vestments and with trumpets, and the Levites (the sons of Asaph) with cymbals, took their places to praise the Lord, as prescribed by David king of

## Reading: Ezra 1:1-8; 3:8-13

Israel. <sup>11</sup> With praise and thanksgiving they sang to the Lord:

‘He is good;

his love towards Israel endures for ever.’

And all the people gave a great shout of praise to the Lord, because the

foundation of the house of the Lord was

## Reading: Ezra 1:1-8; 3:8-13

laid. <sup>12</sup> But many of the older priests and Levites and family heads, who had seen the former temple, wept aloud when they saw the foundation of this temple being laid, while many others shouted for joy. <sup>13</sup> No one could distinguish the sound of the shouts of joy from the sound of

## Reading: Ezra 1:1-8; 3:8-13

weeping, because the people made so much noise. And the sound was heard far away.

Reading ending with the response...

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



## Prophetic predictions of Exile: Amos 8

‘A basket of ripe fruit ... the time is ripe for my people Israel, I will spare them no longer ... the songs in the temple will turn to wailing.’

# Prophetic explanation of Exile: Hosea 1

‘Go, marry a promiscuous woman and have children with her, for like an adulterous wife this land is guilty of unfaithfulness to the Lord.’

# Prophetic hope for the exiles: Isaiah 11

<sup>2</sup> [God] will raise a banner for the nations  
and gather the exiles of Israel;

he will assemble the scattered people of  
Judah from the four quarters of the earth.

# King Cyrus of Persia's role prophesied

*Isaiah 45:1-4*

<sup>1</sup> 'This is what the Lord says to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I take hold of to subdue nations before him and to strip kings of their armour, to open doors before him so that gates will not be

## King Cyrus of Persia's role prophesied

shut: <sup>2</sup> I will go before you and will level the mountains; I will break down gates of bronze and cut through bars of iron.

<sup>3</sup> I will give you hidden treasures, riches stored in secret places, so that you may know that I am the Lord, the God of Israel,

**King Cyrus of Persia's role prophesied**

who summons you by name.

<sup>4</sup> For the sake of Jacob my servant, of Israel my chosen, I summon you by name and bestow on you a title of honour, though you do not acknowledge me.

## Jeremiah's prophecy of restoration (29)

<sup>10</sup> This is what the Lord says: 'When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will come to you and fulfil my good promise to bring you back to this place...

<sup>14</sup> I will be found by you,' declares the Lord, 'and will bring you back from

## Jeremiah's prophecy of restoration (29)

captivity. I will gather you from all the nations and places where I have banished you,' declares the Lord, 'and will bring you back to the place from which I carried you into exile.'

## Cries of Joy and of Grief (Ezra 3:13)

<sup>13</sup> No one could distinguish the sound of the shouts of joy from the sound of weeping, because the people made so much noise. And the sound was heard far away.

## Solomon's Temple is Dedicated (2 Kgs 8)

<sup>10</sup> When the priests withdrew from the Holy Place, the cloud filled the temple of the Lord. <sup>11</sup> And the priests could not perform their service because of the cloud, for the glory of the Lord filled his temple.



# Prayers of Intercession

*That may use the response:*

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

# Prayers of Intercession

*that may conclude:*

Merciful Father,

**accept these prayers**

**for the sake of your Son,**

**our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

# The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

# The Lord's Prayer

**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.**



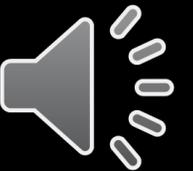
# I CANNOT TELL

Why he whom angels worship

Should set his love upon the sons of men

Or why as shepherd he should seek the  
wanderers

To bring them back, they know not how  
or when



But this I know, that he was born of Mary  
When Bethlehem's manger was his only  
home

And that he lived at Nazareth and  
laboured

And so the Saviour, Saviour of the world  
is come.

I cannot tell, how silently he suffered  
As with his peace, he graced this place of  
tears

Or how his heart upon the cross was  
broken

The crown of pain to three and thirty  
years

But this I know, he heals the broken  
hearted

And stays our sin, and calms our lurking  
fear

And lifts the burden from the heavy laden  
For yet the Saviour, Saviour of the world  
is here.

I cannot tell, how he will win the nations  
How he will claim his earthly heritage  
How satisfy the needs and aspirations  
Of East and West, of sinner and of sage.

But this I know, all flesh shall see his glory  
And he shall reap the harvest he has  
sown

And some glad day the sun will shine in  
splendour

When he the Saviour, Saviour of the  
world is known.

I cannot tell, how all the lands shall  
worship

When at his bidding, every storm is  
stilled

Or who can say, how great the jubilation  
When all the hearts of men with love are  
filled.

But this I know, the skies will thrill with  
rapture

And myriad, myriad human voices sing

And earth to heaven and heaven to earth  
will answer

‘At last, the Saviour, Saviour of the world  
is King’!



**DRAW  
NEAR**

# EASTER

**Maundy Thursday, 2 April, 6.30 for 7pm meal and service at St Luke's**

Come and help prepare the meal that we'll eat together as we remember the Last Supper

**Good Friday, 3 April, 2pm "Around the cross" service at St Mary's**

A reflective service as we remember what Jesus went through on the cross

**Saturday 4 April, 10.30am-1.30pm, "Experience Easter"**

Have a go at the Easter workshop we will be taking into schools this year (with eggs to give away)

**Easter Sunday, 5 April, Celebration Services:**

9.30am St Luke's, 11am St Mary's, 2pm Cantonese



*The Parish of Stockport and Brinnington*  
ST MARY'S – ST THOMAS' – ST LUKE'S

**St. Mary's  
Welcome  
team needs  
you!**



- **Are you friendly?**
- **Do you enjoy meeting new people?**
- **Do you enjoy chatting?**
- **Do you want to be part of a team?**
- **Have you got what it takes?**

**Speak to John C or David after the service.**



# Greeting

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

**In the name of Christ, Amen.**