

LENT 3 – FAIRTRADE SUNDAY



OPENING RESPONSES

Lord, we are your church:
we come to worship you.

You give us your Word:
we come to listen.

You inspire us with the Breath of Life:
we come to be open.

You call us your family:
we come to belong.

You give the gift of life:
we come to receive.

You shower us with riches:
we come to give thanks.

We are your church:
we come to worship you.



THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS JUSTICE AND JOY

The kingdom of God is justice and joy;
For Jesus restores what sin would destroy.
God's power and glory in Jesus we know;
And here and hereafter the kingdom shall grow.

The kingdom of God is mercy and grace;
The captives are freed, the sinners find place,
The outcast are welcomed God's banquet to share;
And hope is awakened in place of despair.

The kingdom of God is challenge and choice:
Believe the good news, repent and rejoice!
God's love for us sinners brought Christ to his cross:
Our crisis of judgement for gain or for loss.

God's kingdom is come, the gift and the goal;
In Jesus begun, in heaven made whole.
The heirs of the kingdom shall answer his call;
And all things cry "Glory!" to God all in all.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VQfnVPtPqg8>



Our Lord Jesus Christ said:

The first commandment is this:

'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord.
You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,
with all your soul, with all your mind,
and with all your strength.'

The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'

There is no other commandment greater than these.

On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Amen. Lord, have mercy.

From the earliest days, God established a covenant relationship with his creation, calling his people to holiness, bearing witness to his steadfast love, finding delight in serving him

Let us, then, seek God's forgiveness for ways in which we have denied his claim upon us.

Gracious God, when we do not listen
for your word in the voice of others,
forgive us and renew us.

When we neglect or misuse
the gifts you have given us,
forgive us and renew us.

When we do not love one another
as brothers and sisters in Christ,
forgive us and renew us.

When we prefer our needs
to those of our neighbours,
forgive us and renew us.

When our trade is built
on power and not on justice,
forgive us and renew us.

When the earth's bounty
is used to satisfy greed rather than need,
forgive us and renew us.

When we fail to share
the Good News with the poor,
forgive us and renew us.

May the God of love
bring us back to himself,
forgive us our sins,
and assure us of his eternal love
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

EVERY STEP

With me, God is with me
Yes He's with me every step
With me, God is with me
Yes He's with me every step
I know God is with me every step I
go
I know God is with me every step
With you, God is with you
Yes He's with you every step

With you, God is with you
Yes He's with you every step
I know God is with you every step
you go
I know God is with you every step

*Oh the love of God
Is with me every day
Every step I take
He will lead me on
Into His perfect plan
Walking hand in hand*

With us, God is with us
Yes He's with us every step
With us, God is with us
Yes He's with us every step
I know God is with us every step
we go
I know God is with us every step



COLLECT

Almighty God,
whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain,
and entered not into glory before he was crucified:
mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross,
may find it none other than the way of life and peace;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen



BIBLE READING

1 Corinthians 1.18-25

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

‘I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.’

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling-block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



VIDEO

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0xQP6tVlcxg&list=PL2zniugMzqkY2rWUwUiWJblc7ZgGmTmfH&index=8>



BIBLE READING

John 2.13-22

¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money-changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, 'Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a market-place!' ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, 'Zeal for your house will consume me.' ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, 'What sign can you show us for doing this?' ¹⁹Jesus answered them, 'Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.' ²⁰They then said, 'This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?' ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.



REFLECTION

 BEFORE THE THRONE OF GOD ABOVE

Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea
A great High Priest whose name is love
Who ever lives and pleads for me
My name is graven on His hands
My name is written on His heart
I know that while in heav'n He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart
No tongue can bid me thence depart

When Satan tempts me to despair
And tells me of the guilt within
Upward I look and see Him there
Who made an end of all my sin
Because the sinless Saviour died
My sinful soul is counted free
For God the Just is satisfied
To look on Him and pardon me
To look on Him and pardon me

Behold Him there, the risen Lamb
My perfect, spotless Righteousness
The great unchangeable I AM
The King of glory and of grace
One with Himself, I cannot die
My soul is purchased by His blood
My life is hid with Christ on high
With Christ my Saviour and my God
With Christ my Saviour and my God



THE CREED

**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.**



A TIME OF PRAYER



THE LORD'S PRAYER

Trusting in the compassion of God, as our Saviour taught us, so we pray
**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.**



LENT WINDOWS

Display something in a road facing window each week of Lent to tell something of the Christian Journey to Easter.

THIS WEEK

Something to represent The Church
(e.g. bread & wine, or a drawing of a church building)

NEXT WEEK

Something to represent The Light
(e.g. candle or the Sun or a rainbow)



FAIRTRADE

God of justice, God of the poor grant us energy, resolve and perspective to challenge the injustice we see before us. In the presence of God, in the light of the world, we commit ourselves to this task:

To speak out for those who cannot speak,
defend the rights of the poor.

We will.

To speak out with fairness and make your
views heard, defend the rights of the poor.

We will.

Speak out on behalf of the silenced and
voiceless, defend the rights of the poor.

We will.

We will defend the rights of the poor.

We will speak out, we will speak out.

Amen

 ALL MY HOPE ON GOD IS FOUNDED

All my hope on God is founded,
all my trust he shall renew;
he, my guide through changing
order,
only good and only true:
God unknown, he alone
calls my heart to be his own.

Day by day our mighty giver
grants to us his gifts of love;
in his will our souls find pleasure,
leading to our home above:
love shall stand at his hand,
joy shall wait for his command.

Pride of man and earthly glory,
sword and crown betray his trust;
all that human toil can fashion,
tower and temple, fall to dust.
But God's power, hour by hour,
is my temple and my tower.

Still from Earth to God eternal
sacrifice of praise be done;
high above all praises praising
for the gift of Christ his Son:
hear Christ's call, one and all –
we who follow shall not fall.

 THE CONCLUSION

This is love, not that we loved God,
but that he loved us and sent his Son.

He is the sacrifice for our sins,
that we might live through him.

If God loves us so much
we ought to love one another.

If we love one another
God lives in us.

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness,
to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him;
and the blessing of God almighty
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among us and remain with us always. **Amen**