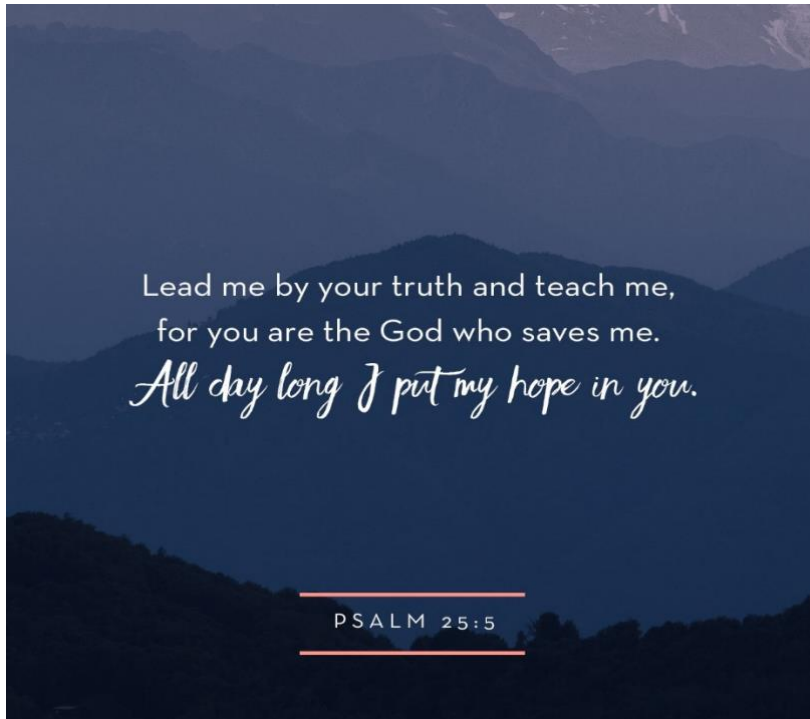


Sunday Morning Worship

21st February 2021

The First Sunday of Lent



"Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long."
Psalm 25:4-5

Opening Prayer

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you this morning.

God of our days and years,
we set this time apart for you.
Form us in the likeness of Christ
so that our lives may glorify you. **Amen.**

Opening Worship – What a Friend We Have in Jesus

What a Friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit,

O what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged,
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness,
Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy-laden,
Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge—
Take it to the Lord in prayer;
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?
Take it to the Lord in prayer;
In His arms He'll take and shield thee,
Thou wilt find a solace there.

Confession

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.

Please join in with the response to 'Father, forgive us' -
Save us and help us.

For turning away from you,
and ignoring your will for our lives;
Father, forgive us:
save us and help us.

For behaving just as we wish,
without thinking of you;
Father, forgive us:
save us and help us.

For failing you by what we do,
and think and say;
Father, forgive us:
save us and help us.

For letting ourselves be drawn away from you
by temptations in the world about us;
Father, forgive us:
save us and help us.

For living as if we were ashamed
to belong to your Son;
Father, forgive us:
save us and help us.

Absolution

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy on you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Collect of the Day

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness,
and was tempted as we are, yet without sin:
Give us grace to discipline ourselves
in obedience to your Spirit;
and, as you know our weakness,
so may we know your power to save;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Almighty and everlasting God,
you hate nothing that you have made
and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent:
Create and make in us new and contrite hearts
that we, worthily lamenting our sins
and acknowledging our wretchedness,
may receive from you, the God of all mercy,

perfect remission and forgiveness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Kids Slot
Psalm 25:1-10

Affirmation of Faith

If you are able please stand as we affirm our faith:

We join together to say:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 again 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.**

Bible Reading – Matthew 4: 1-11

Sermon

Prayers and Intercessions

*In our prayers and intercessions this morning, the response to 'Create in us a
clean heart, O Lord' will be 'and put a right spirit within us.'*

**Create in us a clean heart, O Lord,
and put a right spirit within us.**

Lord Jesus Christ,
You were tempted, as we were;
be our strength in times of weakness.
When we fall lift us up; when we are in error direct us.
In all our wanderings, be our guide;
that we may be Your faithful people. *Amen.*

Gracious and merciful God,
on the first Sunday of Lent we come together to worship you,
to seek your forgiveness and to ask for renewal.
Create in us a clean heart, O Lord,
and put a right spirit within us.

We come in the name of Christ,
remembering His lonely days in the wilderness,
His time wrestling with temptation,
and the ministry that followed,
restoring and transforming lives.
Create in us a clean heart, O Lord,
and put a right spirit within us.

Help us to learn from His example –
to search our hearts as He did,
to consider our calling,
to reflect on our faith,
to resist temptation,
and to commit ourselves more wholly to You.
Create in us a clean heart, O Lord,
and put a right spirit within us.

Help us to recognise all Jesus has done for us
through His life, death and resurrection;
and so may we come gladly to You,
confessing our sins,
acknowledging our weaknesses,
and receiving Your forgiveness.
Create in us a clean heart, O Lord,
and put a right spirit within us.

Gracious and merciful God,
we come together on this first Sunday of Lent.
Speak to us today and in the days ahead,
so that we may know You and love You better.
Create in us a clean heart, O Lord,
**and put a right spirit within us,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.***

The Lord's Prayer

Let's say together:

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.

Closing Worship – When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the Prince of Glory died;
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
save in the death of Christ, my God;
all the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown.

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were an offering far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.

Closing Prayers and Blessing

Almighty God,
we thank you for the gift of your holy word.
May it be a lantern to our feet,
a light to our paths,
and a strength to our lives.
Take us and use us
to love and serve
in the power of the Holy Spirit
and in the name of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Lord bless you and watch over you,
the Lord make his face shine upon you
and be gracious to you,
the Lord look kindly on you and give you peace;
And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. *Amen.*