

# Service for the Sunday next before Lent



**St Laurence Church, Downton**

14 February 2021

# *Preparation*

## Call to Worship

By the appearance on earth of our Saviour Jesus Christ  
**God has broken the power of death  
and brought life and immortality to light.**

Arise, shine, for your light has come  
**and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.**

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,  
so may the light of your presence, O God,  
set our hearts on fire with love for you;  
now and for ever. **Amen.**

*The Team Rector introduces the service*

Hymn: *O for a thousand tongues to sing*  
*(St Martin's Voices)*

O for a thousand tongues to sing  
my great Redeemer's praise, my great Redeemer's praise,  
the glories of my God and King,  
the triumphs of his grace, the triumphs of his grace,  
the triumphs of his grace!

Jesus! the name that charms our fears,  
that bids our sorrows cease, that bids our sorrows cease;  
'tis music in the sinner's ears,  
'tis life, and health, and peace, 'tis life, and health, and peace,  
'tis life, and health, and peace.

He speaks; and, listening to his voice,  
new life the dead receive, new life the dead receive;  
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice;  
the humble poor believe, the humble poor believe,  
the humble poor believe.

Hear him, ye deaf; his praise, ye dumb,  
your loosened tongues employ, your loosened tongues employ;  
ye blind, behold your Saviour come;  
and leap, ye lame, for joy, and leap, ye lame, for joy,  
and leap, ye lame, for joy.

My gracious Master and my God,  
assist me to proclaim, assist me to proclaim,  
to spread through all the earth abroad  
the honours of thy name, the honours of thy name,  
the honours of thy name. Amen.

*Charles Wesley (1707-1788)*

### Gathering:

Sing praises to God, all you faithful ones  
**God hears us in our fear and our sorrow.**

Where there is no way  
**God leads us in a new way**

Where there is no mercy  
**God surprises us with fresh mercy**

Where there is weeping  
**God invites us to step into a new dance.**

### Responsorial:

Beyond our busyness,  
Above the cold winter floor  
there is a glory rising born of heaven  
and reaching out to each one of us  
**a light that shines through the clouds  
an invitation seeking all of who we are  
that transfigures the world**

that transforms darkness into hope  
that brings life from a cross  
where old life ends and new life is born.

**In glory Jesus meets us here  
raising us from depths of valley  
to the height of the mountain  
carrying the weight of our humanity  
to the heights of heavens glory.**

Let us worship from the mountain and hear again  
"This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!"

*Rev. Rob Smith*

Prayer:

O God,  
whose beauty is beyond our imagining,  
and whose power we cannot comprehend:  
show us your glory  
as far as we can grasp it,  
and shield us  
from knowing more than we can bear  
until we may look upon you without fear,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## *The Liturgy of the Word*

Readings:

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Mark 9:2-9

*After each reading:*

This is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Reflection by Bishop Nicholas

Music: *Ave Verum Corpus* (Bob Chilcott - The Oxford Choir)

# Prayers

*We are led in a time of prayer*

*This response is used:*

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

*The Lord's Prayer is said:*

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has 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.**

## Conclusion

The Collect

Almighty Father,  
whose Son was revealed in majesty  
before he suffered death upon the cross:  
give us grace to perceive his glory,  
that we may be strengthened to suffer with him  
and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## Blessing:

Christ Jesus,  
the splendour of the Father  
and the image of his being,  
draw you to himself  
that you may live in his light  
and share his glory;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

By the appearance on earth of our Saviour Jesus Christ  
**God has broken the power of death  
and brought life and immortality to light.**

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia!  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**