

Killiskey Parish

*Sunday 7th February 2021 @ 11.00am
The Second Sunday before Lent*



SERVICE OF MORNING PRAYER
The Gathering of God's People

GREETING

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Opening Hymn: CH638 *“O for a heart to praise my God”*

O for a heart to praise my God,
a heart from sin set free;
a heart that's cleansèd by the blood
so freely shed for me.

A heart resigned, submissive, meek,
my dear Redeemer's throne;
where only Christ is heard to speak,
where Jesus reigns alone;

a humble, lowly, contrite heart,
believing, true, and clean,
which neither life nor death can part
from him that dwells within;

a heart in every thought renewed,
and full of love divine;
perfect and right, and pure and good,
a copy, Lord, of thine.

Thy nature, gracious Lord, impart;
come quickly from above:
write thy new name upon my heart,
thy new, best name of Love.

Charles Wesley (1707-88)
based on Psalm 51: 10; Ezekiel 36: 26

SENTENCE OF SCRIPTURE

Jesus said: "Come to me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."

Matthew 11 : 28

INTRODUCTION

Beloved in Christ,
we come together to offer to Almighty God
our worship and praise and thanksgiving,
to confess our sins and to receive God's forgiveness,
to hear his holy word proclaimed,
to bring before him our needs and the needs of the world,
and to pray that in the power of his Spirit
we may serve him and know the greatness of his love.

Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

Silence is kept.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

**Heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault;
by what we have done
and by what we have failed to do.
We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ who died for us,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

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.**

Proclaiming and Receiving the Word

O Lord, open our lips
and our mouth will proclaim your praise.
O God, make speed to save us.
O Lord, make haste to help us.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be for ever. Amen.
Praise the Lord.
The Lord's name be praised.

The First Reading: Hosea 2: 14-20

Therefore, I will now persuade her,
and bring her into the wilderness,
and speak tenderly to her.

From there I will give her her vineyards,
and make the Valley of Achor a door of hope.

There she shall respond as in the days of her youth,
as at the time when she came out of the land of Egypt.

On that day, says the Lord, you will call me, 'My husband', and no longer will you call me, 'My Baal'. For I will remove the names of the Baals from her mouth, and they shall be mentioned by name no more. I will make for you a covenant on that day with the wild animals, the birds of the air, and the creeping things of the ground; and I will abolish the bow, the sword, and war from the land; and I will make you lie down in safety. And I will take you for my wife for ever; I will take you for my wife in righteousness and in justice, in steadfast love, and in mercy. I will take you for my wife in faithfulness; and you shall know the Lord.

After the reading silence may be kept.

The Psalm: Psalm 103: 1-13, 22

- 1 Bless the Lord, O my soul, ♦
and all that is within me bless his holy name.
- 2 Bless the Lord, O my soul, ♦
and forget not all his benefits;**
- 3 Who forgives all your sins ♦
and heals all your infirmities;
- 4 Who redeems your life from the Pit ♦
and crowns you with faithful love and compassion;**
- 5 Who satisfies you with good things, ♦
so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.
- 6 The Lord executes righteousness ♦
and judgement for all who are oppressed.**
- 7 He made his ways known to Moses ♦
and his works to the children of Israel.
- 8 The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, ♦
slow to anger and of great kindness.**
- 9 He will not always accuse us, ♦
neither will he keep his anger for ever.
- 10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins, ♦
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.**
- 11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, ♦
so great is his mercy upon those who fear him.
- 12 As far as the east is from the west, ♦
so far has he set our sins from us.**
- 13 As a father has compassion on his children, ♦
so is the Lord merciful towards those who fear him.
- 22 Bless the Lord, all you works of his,
in all places of his dominion; ♦
bless the Lord, O my soul.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son♦
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, ♦
and shall be for ever. Amen.

The Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 3: 1-6

Are we beginning to commend ourselves again? Surely we do not need, as some do, letters of recommendation to you or from you, do we? You yourselves are our letter, written on our hearts, to be known and read by all; and you show that you are a letter of Christ, prepared by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.

Such is the confidence that we have through Christ towards God. Not that we are competent of ourselves to claim anything as coming from us; our competence is from God, who has made us competent to be ministers of a new covenant, not of letter but of spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

After the reading silence may be kept.

Hymn before the Gospel: CH218 “And can it be that I should gain”

And can it be that I should gain
an interest in the Saviour’s blood?
Died He for me, who caused his pain;
for me, who him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be
that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

He left His Father’s throne above—
so free, so infinite His grace—
emptied Himself of all but love,
and bled for Adam’s helpless race:
'Tis mercy all, immense and free,
for, O my God, it found out me!

Long my imprisoned spirit lay,
fast bound in sin and nature’s night;
thine eye diffused a quickening ray—
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;
my chains fell off, my heart was free,
I rose, went forth, and followed thee.

No condemnation now I dread;
Jesus, and all in him, is mine!
Alive in Him, my living head,
And clothed in righteousness divine,
bold I approach the eternal throne,
and claim the crown, through Christ, my own.

Charles Wesley (1707-88)

The Gospel: Mark 2: 13-22

Jesus went out again beside the lake; the whole crowd gathered around him, and he taught them. As he was walking along, he saw Levi son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, 'Follow me.' And he got up and followed him.

And as he sat at dinner in Levi's house, many tax-collectors and sinners were also sitting with Jesus and his disciples—for there were many who followed him. When the scribes of the Pharisees saw that he was eating with sinners and tax-collectors, they said to his disciples, 'Why does he eat with tax-collectors and sinners?' When Jesus heard this, he said to them, 'Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick; I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.'

Now John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting; and people came and said to him, 'Why do John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but your disciples do not fast?' Jesus said to them, 'The wedding-guests cannot fast while the bridegroom is with them, can they? As long as they have the bridegroom with them, they cannot fast. The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast on that day.

'No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old cloak; otherwise, the patch pulls away from it, the new from the old, and a worse tear is made. And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; otherwise, the wine will burst the skins, and the wine is lost, and so are the skins; but one puts new wine into fresh wineskins.'

After the reading silence may be kept.

THE SERMON

THE APOSTLES' CREED

**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.**

The Prayers of the People

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

**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.**

Show us your mercy, O Lord,
and grant us your salvation.

O Lord, guide and defend our rulers
and grant our government wisdom.

Let your ministers be clothed with righteousness
and let your servants shout for joy.

O Lord, save your people
and bless those whom you have chosen.

Give peace in our time, O Lord,
and let your glory be over all the earth.

O God, make clean our hearts within us
and renew us by your Holy Spirit.

THE COLLECTS

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God,
you have created the heavens and the earth
and made us in your own image:
Teach us to discern your hand in all your works
and your likeness in all your children;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who with you and the Holy Spirit
reigns supreme over all things, now and for ever. **Amen.**

COLLECTS AT MORNING PRAYER

Go before us, Lord, in all our doings, with your most gracious favour,
and further us with your continual help;
that in all our works begun, continued and ended in you,
we may glorify your holy name,
and finally by your mercy attain everlasting life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Heavenly Father,
in whom we live and move and have our being:
We humbly pray that your Holy Spirit may so guide and govern us
that in all the cares and occupations of our daily life,
we may never forget your presence
but may remember that we are always walking in your sight,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

INTERCESSIONS

We continue to pray to the wise and loving God who, in the midst of the shifting sands of time,
guides and protects us.

For clergy and lay readers: that through their preaching people may hear the Gospel in its
freshness and purity. Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

For government leaders: that they may find inspiration in the Gospel to work for justice and
peace. Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

For those who have heard the Gospel but whose lives remain untouched by it. Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

For those who have lost some precious person in their lives: that they may know your
comforting. Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

For all gathered here remotely: that we may experience the joy of the Gospel. Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

For our own special needs. [Pause for private prayer]. Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Heavenly Father, look lovingly on our changing world and keep us safe amidst the uncertainties
that darken our days and cloud our nights. We make our prayer through Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn: CH94 *"In the name of Jesus"* (vs. 1, 4, 5, 7 and 8)

In the name of Jesus every knee shall bow,
every tongue confess him King of glory now;
'tis the Father's pleasure we should call him Lord,
who from the beginning was the mighty Word.

Humbled for a season, to receive a name
from the lips of sinners unto whom he came;
faithfully he bore it spotless to the last,
brought it back victorious when from death he passed.

Bore it up triumphant, with its human light,
through all ranks of creatures to the central height;
to the eternal Godhead, to the Father's throne,
filled it with the glory of his triumph won.

In your hearts enthrone him; there let him subdue
all that is not holy, all that is not true;
crown him as your captain in temptation's hour,
let his will enfold you in its light and power.

With his Father's glory, Jesus comes again,
angel hosts attend him and announce his reign;
for all wreaths of empire meet upon his brow,
and our hearts confess him King of glory now.

Caroline M Noel (1811-77) altd.
v1 based on Philippians 2: 10-11

Going Out as God's People

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

To God, who by the power at work within us,
is able to do far more abundantly
than all we ask or think,
to him be glory in the Church and in Christ Jesus
to all generations for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Ephesians 3: 20