

HOME WORSHIP FOR 28 FEBRUARY THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

OPENING PRAYER

Covenant God, God of Abraham and of Sarah, we come before you. You will keep your word!
Covenant God, God of Amos and of Jeremiah, we come before you. You will keep your promises!
Covenant God, God of the New Covenant in Jesus, we come before you. The cross is your trusted sign!

Covenant God, God whose love is sealed in the waters of baptism, we come before you. Your covenant endures!

We stand with the disciples and listen to Jesus; we cannot believe that God's Chosen One must suffer.

We reflect with the disciples; there has to be another way, a way of compromise.

Then, Jesus foretells his death and we are stunned; we agree with Peter: "Jesus you have got it wrong!"

The heart-wrenching truth comes home to us; as followers of the Jesus Way, we are called to share the sacrificial path. O God, give us the courage to stay faithful. Amen.

MEMORY VERSE – try to memorise these verses from today's readings.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD. May your hearts live for ever! All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.
(Psalm 22: 26-27)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Ephesians 3)

We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.

We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high.

We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Heavenly Father, increase our faith, that everyone in your Church may be more ready to trust you and move forward with you wherever you lead us.

You speak what is true: and the truth can set us free,

Heavenly Father, give to all leaders and their advisers the courage to be honest, the will to be just, the greatness to be humble and the openness to learn.

You speak what is true: and the truth can set us free,

Heavenly Father, at the door of each home place your welcome; in the rooms of each home, your love; in the eyes of each person, your truth; and in all our companionship, your own.

You speak what is true: and the truth can set us free,

Heavenly Father, give comfort and healing to those who are ill, peace to the anxious, and reassurance to the afraid; may we know your love for us through both the good and the agonising times.

You speak what is true: and the truth can set us free,

Heavenly Father, give us thankful hearts to bless your name in sadness and in joy, knowing that you are always there beside us.

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

CLOSING PRAYER

At this Lenten time, we reflect on the hard choices Jesus made. May we, following in Jesus' footsteps make the right choices on the Christian Way: a way of compassion, a way of healing, a way of support for the powerless, a way of thanksgiving and worship, a way of love. O God, bless all we do, as you have blessed us with the gift of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Summon up your courage; Jesus is calling you to follow the difficult but faithful path.

We will resist temptation, resist the easy way out;
we will reflect carefully on our areas of testing; we will search out the Way of Jesus thoroughly,
carefully; we will find strength with our fellow travellers along the way; we will follow the Way,
courageously, faithfully, even sacrificially!
Rejoice in God's loving presence that is with you continually. Amen.