

# Holsworthy Benefice

## March News Sheet

Holsworthy Benefice					
	Bridgerule	Hollacombe	Holsworthy	Pancrasweek	Pyworthy
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> March</b>	11am Sung Eucharist	9.30am Mass	9.30am Sung Eucharist		9.30am Family Service
<b>5<sup>th</sup> March</b>		12.00pm Ash Wednesday	7pm Ash Wednesday		
<b>9<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	11am Morning Prayer	3pm Evensong	11am Sung Eucharist		9.30am Sung Eucharist
<b>16<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>		9.30am Mass	11am Sung Eucharist 3pm Leading your Church into Growth Service		9.30am Sung Eucharist
<b>20<sup>th</sup> March</b>		7pm Stations of the Cross			
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> Feb</b>	11am All Age Eucharist		11am Cafe style Church	9.30pm All Age Service	9.30am Morning Prayer
<b>30<sup>th</sup> March</b>			10am Mothering Sunday Sung Eucharist		9.30am Mothering Sunday Family Service
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> April</b>	11am Sung Eucharist	9.30am Mass	9.30am Sung Eucharist		9.30am Family Service

The winners of the St Peter's Monthly Jackpot Draw drawn in February were:

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize, £18.50 – ticket number 172, Adam from Trewyn Road**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize, £3.70 – ticket number 37, Helen from Trewyn Park**

**Bridgerule, Hollacombe, Holsworthy and Pyworthy with Pancrasweek**  
**Revd Alison Hardy - [reverendalisonhardy@gmail.com](mailto:reverendalisonhardy@gmail.com) - 07780295752**  
**Admin: Libbi Cullimore - [holsworthybenefice@icloud.com](mailto:holsworthybenefice@icloud.com) 07717750198**

Dear Friends

Our first Sunday in March marks the 'Sunday next before Lent' and is swiftly followed by Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday. Enjoy your pancakes before we mark Lent with ash crosses!

I was recently asked by a bride what I would be giving up for Lent. Her question made me stop and think. Lent is a time set aside in our church year to give us space to focus upon our spiritual health. Fasting is one aspect of drawing closer to God: – when we give up our objects of comfort, by necessity we are often driven to rely more greatly upon God's comfort. In years past, my usual Lenten practice was to 'give up church' as lambing so frequently clashed with Lent. For a few short weeks every hour not sleeping or eating was spent in the lambing shed and fields. I am not sure that this necessarily drew me closer to God, although there were many desperate 'arrow' prayers when facing a difficult lambing.

Prayer is the theme of this year's Lent Course. Devised by Pete Grieg who founded the 24/7 Prayer movement, each session covers a different aspect of prayer. If your prayer life could do with a little encouragement, this course will leave you excited by prayer.

Wishing you a blessed Lent,  
Alison

### New Grandchild

Thank you very much for your prayers and kind enquiries concerning my latest grand-child. Zephy was born at home on 3rd February. Of British-Nigerian descent his naming ceremony took place on the 8th day of his birth.

He is named:  
Zephaniah (God protects)  
Akinmayowa  
(the valiant one has brought us joy)  
Ira (vigilant)  
Ikechukwu (the power of God)  
– a big name for the little chap to grow into.

Here he is with big brother Asa and sister Mya-Rae.



Many of you have told me of your own expected or recently born grandchildren and relatives. I am delighted for all of you. May God bless them and all our families with his divine protection and knowledge of his love.

# Readings for March

## 2<sup>nd</sup> March – Green

### Sunday next before Lent

Exodus 34:29-end

Psalm 99

2 Corinthians 3: 12- 4:2

Gospel Luke 9: 28-36 (37-43a)

## 23<sup>rd</sup> March – Purple

### Third Sunday of Lent

Isaiah 55:1-9

Psalm 63: 1-9

1 Corintihians 10: 1-13

Gospel Luke 13: 1-9

## 9<sup>th</sup> March – Purple

### First Sunday of Lent

Deuteronomy 26: 1-11

Psalm 91: 1-2. 9-end (or 91: 1-11)

Romans 10: 8b-13

Gospel Luke 4: 1-13

## 30<sup>th</sup> March – Purple

### Mothering Sunday

Exodus 2: 1-10

Samuel 1:20-end

Psalm 34:11-20

Psalm 127: 1-4

2 Corintihians 1:3-7

Colossians 3:12-17

Gospel Luke 13: 1-9

## 16<sup>th</sup> March – Purple

### Second Sunday of Lent

Genesis 15: 1-12. 17-18

Psalm 27

Phillippians 3:17-4:1

Gospel Luke 13:31-end

Photo – Plough Sunday Service, St Pancras Church, Pancrasweek



# **Notices**

## **Christians' Together**

Christians' Together have organised two events for March. Sunday 2nd for a talk on Assisted Dying and Friday 7th for World Day of Prayer. Both include generous quantities of refreshments! Please see notices below for details

## **St Peter's Monthly Jackpot Draw**

**Renewals for the 2025/26 year are now due. The price is still only £12 for the year.**

**If you would like to renew your ticket(s), please could you make payment as follows:**

<b>online payment</b>	<b>A/c name</b>	<b>PCC of Holsworthy Parish Church</b>
	<b>Sort Code</b>	<b>53 50 52</b>
	<b>A/c Number</b>	<b>05007216</b>

**Please use surname and/or ticket number(s) as a reference**

**Cheque made payable to 'PCC of Holsworthy Parish Church'**

**Please deliver cheque or cash to the Treasurer at Lyndhurst, North Road or to The Rectory, Bodmin Street.**

**If you would like more tickets or know of anyone else who might wish to support Holsworthy Parish Church in this way, please contact the Treasurer on 07790 380119.**

Sunday 2nd March: Chilsworthy Chapel at 3pm. Christians' Together have invited Peter Killingley from CARE to speak on 'Assisted dying, social and safeguarding risks from a Christian perspective'. Talk, refreshments, questions and conversations. Please support this topical conversation and find out more about the debate on assisted dying.

Tuesdays in March: Lent Course, 7-9pm: The Prayer Course at the Rectory

Wednesday 5th: Ash Wednesday 12 noon St Petroc's, Hollacombe & 7pm St Peter & Paul's

Friday 7th: World Day of Prayer, 4pm, Bodmin Street Methodist Church. Worship from the Cook Islands, followed by refreshments.

Saturday 15th: Sequence dancing, 7.30pm Pyworthy Village Hall in aid of St Bridget's funds

Sunday 16th: Leading Your Church into Growth, 3-5pm, The Rectory. Focus on developing engaging worship.

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March: Christians Together Meeting 7.15pm in Blue Rooms, Holsworthy Methodist Church Bodmin Street.

Thursday 20th: Stations of the Cross, 7pm, Hollacombe

Saturday 22nd: Bridgerule Church Tower Open Day, 11am-4pm. Bell ringing, hand-bells, try your hand at bell-ringing; refreshments.

Sunday 30th: Lent lunch, 12noon, St Peter & Paul's

# St Bridget's Church Repairs

St Bridget's PCC are delighted to announce that they have secured funding for vital repair work on the Church tower.

Built in 1448 the Church has withstood the harsh Atlantic winds for nearly 600 years, which has led to the decay of the mortar holding the stones of the tower in place. Following a successful fundraising campaign lasting nearly five years, the funds are now in place to begin the task of repointing the tower in early April.

The nature of the repairs will mean that the church bells will have to fall silent during the restoration work, and so to launch the project the bellringers will be holding an open day on 22<sup>nd</sup> March from 11 - 4.00 p.m. This will be a chance to come and see how the bells work, and even have a go at ringing them! At some point during the day there will also be handbell ringing. For further information please contact Trevor Bowden on 01288 381247.

This bellringing open day is the first of many community projects that will run alongside the repair work to the tower over the rest of this year; other activities will include a family history day where those living in the village and the wider area can explore gravestones and records to uncover their families' past, the creation of a reflective space in the Churchyard, a natural history day to explore the flora and fauna, as well as several opportunities to learn more about the restoration project.

The PCC are extremely grateful to all of the funders who have supported the project including a grant of £177,208 from The National Lottery Heritage Fund made possible thanks to National Lottery players, as well as grants from the National Churches Trust, the Garfield Weston Foundation, the Benefact Trust and the Devon Historic Churches Trust.

Claire Walker, Chief Executive of the National Churches Trust, said:

"The National Churches Trust is excited to be able to support St Bridget church to enable them to carry out repairs to their beautiful building. Not only will this protect this important heritage, but it will help to keep the church building open and serving local people."

"Whether seeking quiet reflection, access to community services or a place to worship, the National Churches Trust helps hundreds of churches each year and with the support of local people, keeps them thriving today and tomorrow."





# **Assisted Dying**

Social and safeguarding risks  
from a Christian perspective

An afternoon with Pete Killingley  
from CARE, organised by  
Christians Together in Holsworthy

Chilsworthy Methodist Church  
near Holsworthy, EX22 7BH

**Sunday 2nd March**  
**3pm**

For further information, contact Ros Watson at  
**[roswatson@gmail.com](mailto:roswatson@gmail.com)**



**CARE**  
FOR WHAT  
YOU BELIEVE



# Bridgerule Church Tower

## OPEN DAY

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2025

11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Visit the tower and find out what **bell ringing** is like:

- ❖ Great Exercise
- ❖ Make new friends
- ❖ No need to be strong
- ❖ No need to be musical

### New to Ringing?

See what it's all about -  
come and have a try

Hand Bell  
Ringing:  
Demonstration

11 a.m.

### Open Ringing:

Come as a team or  
individually

### Refreshments Available

Come and have a cuppa  
and a chat

More Information:  
01288381247

Thank you to The National  
work on our Church Tower



Heritage Lottery for supporting

# Contacts

**Revd Alison Hardy** - reverendalisonhardy@gmail.com - 07780295752

**LLM Mary Aicheler** - maryaicheler@btinternet.com - 01409478019

**Benefice Administrator** – [holsworthybenefice@icloud.com](mailto:holsworthybenefice@icloud.com)

## **Bridgerule Church Wardens**

Trevor Bowden – 01288 381247

Peter Harris – 01288 381 149

## **Bridgerule Safeguarding Lead**

Val Harris -01409 259192

## **Holsworthy Church Wardens**

Helen Young – 01409 259345

Mary Osborne – 01409 253115

## **Holsworthy Safeguarding Lead**

Libby Cullimore – 07717750198

## **Hollacombe Church Warden**

Paul Dymond – 01288 381309

## **Hollacombe Safeguarding Lead**

Libby Cullimore - 07717 750198

## **Pyworthy and Pancrasweek Church Wardens**

Adam Revitt - 01409 253993

Libby Cullimore - 07717 750198

## **Pyworthy Local Contact**

Liffy Lowes - 01409 254423

## **Pancrasweek Safeguarding Lead**

Libby Cullimore - 07717 750198

## **Pyworthy Safeguarding Lead**

Libby Cullimore – 07717750198

## **Holsworthy Foodbank**

**Samaritans**

**Age UK -**

**Domestic Abuse – Womens Aid**

**Domestic Abuse – Mens Advice Line**

**Childline**

**01271 377077**

**116 123**

**0808 055 6112**

**0808 2000 247**

**0808 8010 327**

**0800 111**

**If you wish to advertise in upcoming news sheet please contact the benefice administrator by 20th March**



## 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.

## FIRST READING Exodus 34:29-end

*A reading from the book of Exodus.*

Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. Afterwards all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; but whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

## PSALM Psalm 99

**R** *The Lord is king: let the peoples tremble.*

The Lord is king: let the peoples tremble;  
he is enthroned upon the cherubim: let  
the earth shake.

The Lord is great in Zion  
and high above all peoples. **R**

Let them praise your name, which is great  
and awesome;  
the Lord our God is holy.  
Mighty king, who loves justice, you have  
established equity;  
you have executed justice and  
righteousness in Jacob.

Exalt the Lord our God;  
bow down before his footstool, for he is  
holy. **R**

Moses and Aaron among his priests  
and Samuel among those who call upon  
his name,  
they called upon the Lord and he  
answered them.  
He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud;  
they kept his testimonies and the law that  
he gave them. **R**

You answered them, O Lord our God;  
you were a God who forgave them  
and pardoned them for their offences.  
Exalt the Lord our God and worship him  
upon his holy hill,  
for the Lord our God is holy. **R**

## SECOND READING

**2 Corinthians 3:12 – 4:2**

*A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians.*

Since we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit. Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practise cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

## GOSPEL Luke 9:28-36 [37-43a]

*Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.*

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his

clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." Peter did not know what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And the disciples kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen. [On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. Just then a man from the crowd shouted, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child. Suddenly a spirit seizes him, and all at once he shrieks. It throws him into convulsions until he foams at the mouth; it mauls him and will scarcely leave him. I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not." Jesus answered, "You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here." While he was coming, the demon dashed him to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. And all were astounded at the greatness of God. Everyone was amazed at all that he was doing.]

## POST COMMUNION

Holy God,  
we see your glory in the face of Jesus  
Christ:  
may we who are partakers at his table  
reflect his life in word and deed,  
that all the world may know his power to  
change and save.  
This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.





# Sunday

9 March 2025

First Sunday of Lent

## COLLECT

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 your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

## FIRST READING Deuteronomy 26:1-11

*A reading from the book of Deuteronomy.*

Moses spoke to the people, saying:  
When you have come into the land that  
the LORD your God is giving you as an  
inheritance to possess, and you possess  
it, and settle in it, you shall take some  
of the first of all the fruit of the ground,  
which you harvest from the land that  
the LORD your God is giving you, and  
you shall put it in a basket and go to  
the place that the LORD your God will  
choose as a dwelling for his name. You  
shall go to the priest who is in office  
at that time, and say to him, "Today I  
declare to the LORD your God that I  
have come into the land that the LORD  
swore to our ancestors to give us."  
When the priest takes the basket from  
your hand and sets it down before the  
altar of the LORD your God, you shall  
make this response before the LORD  
your God: "A wandering Aramean was  
my ancestor; he went down into Egypt  
and lived there as an alien, few in  
number, and there he became a great  
nation, mighty and populous. When  
the Egyptians treated us harshly and  
afflicted us, by imposing hard labour  
on us, we cried to the LORD, the God  
of our ancestors; the LORD heard our  
voice and saw our affliction, our toil,  
and our oppression. The LORD brought  
us out of Egypt with a mighty hand  
and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying  
display of power, and with signs and  
wonders; and he brought us into this  
place and gave us this land, a land  
flowing with milk and honey. So now I  
bring the first of the fruit of the ground  
that you, O LORD, have given me." You  
shall set it down before the LORD your  
God and bow down before the LORD

your God. Then you, together with  
the Levites and the aliens who reside  
among you, shall celebrate with all the  
bounty that the LORD your God has  
given to you and to your house.

## PSALM Psalm 91:1-2. 9-end [or 91:1-11]

**R** *Keep me as the apple of your eye.*

Whoever dwells in the shelter of the  
Most High  
and abides under the shadow of the  
Almighty,  
Shall say to the Lord, "My refuge and  
my stronghold,  
my God, in whom I put my trust." **R**

For he shall deliver you from the snare  
of the fowler  
and from the deadly pestilence.  
He shall cover you with his wings  
and you shall be safe under his  
feathers;  
his faithfulness shall be your shield and  
buckler. **R**

You shall not be afraid of any terror by  
night, nor of the arrow that flies by day;  
Of the pestilence that stalks in darkness,  
nor of the sickness that destroys at  
noonday. **R**

Though a thousand fall at your side  
and ten thousand at your right hand,  
yet it shall not come near you.  
Your eyes have only to behold to see  
the reward of the wicked. **R**

Because you have made the Lord your  
refuge  
and the Most High your stronghold,  
There shall no evil happen to you,  
neither shall any plague come near your  
tent.  
For he shall give his angels charge over  
you,  
to keep you in all your ways. **R**

## SECOND READING Romans 10:8b-13

*A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.*

What does scripture say? "The word  
is near you, on your lips and in your  
heart" (that is, the word of faith that  
we proclaim); because if you confess  
with your lips that Jesus is Lord and  
believe in your heart that God raised  
him from the dead, you will be saved.  
For one believes with the heart and so  
is justified, and one confesses with the

mouth and so is saved. The scripture  
says, "No one who believes in him  
will be put to shame." For there is no  
distinction between Jew and Greek; the  
same Lord is Lord of all and is generous  
to all who call on him. For, "Everyone  
who calls on the name of the Lord shall  
be saved."

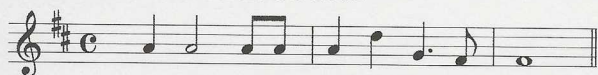
## GOSPEL Luke 4:1-13

*Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.*

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned  
from the Jordan and was led by the  
Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty  
days he was tempted by the devil.  
He ate nothing at all during those  
days, and when they were over, he  
was famished. The devil said to him,  
"If you are the Son of God, command  
this stone to become a loaf of bread."  
Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One  
does not live by bread alone.'" Then  
the devil led him up and showed him  
in an instant all the kingdoms of the  
world. And the devil said to him, "To  
you I will give their glory and all this  
authority; for it has been given over to  
me, and I give it to anyone I please.  
If you, then, will worship me, it will all  
be yours." Jesus answered him, "It is  
written, 'Worship the Lord your God,  
and serve only him.'" Then the devil  
took him to Jerusalem, and placed him  
on the pinnacle of the temple, saying  
to him, "If you are the Son of God,  
throw yourself down from here, for it  
is written, 'He will command his angels  
concerning you, to protect you,' and  
'On their hands they will bear you up,  
so that you will not dash your foot against  
a stone.'" Jesus answered him, "It is  
said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to  
the test.'" When the devil had finished  
every test, he departed from him until  
an opportune time.

## POST COMMUNION

Lord God,  
you have renewed us with the living  
bread from heaven;  
by it you nourish our faith,  
increase our hope,  
and strengthen our love:  
teach us always to hunger for him  
who is the true and living bread,  
and enable us to live by every word  
that proceeds from out of your mouth;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Keep me as the ap - ple of your eye.

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## COLLECT

Almighty God,  
you show to those who are in error the  
light of your truth,  
that they may return to the way of  
righteousness:  
grant to all those who are admitted  
into the fellowship of Christ's religion,  
that they may reject those things  
that are contrary to their profession,  
and follow all such things as are  
agreeable to the same;  
through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

## FIRST READING

**Genesis 15:1-12. 17-18**

*A reading from the book of Genesis.*

The word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look towards heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness. Then he said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." But he said, "O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtle-dove, and a young pigeon." He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him. When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire-pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates."

## PSALM Psalm 27

**R** *The Lord is my light and my salvation.*

The Lord is my light and my salvation;  
whom then shall I fear?  
The Lord is the strength of my life; of  
whom then shall I be afraid?  
When the wicked, even my enemies and my  
foes, came upon me to eat up my flesh,  
they stumbled and fell. **R**

Though a host encamp against me,  
my heart shall not be afraid,  
and though there rise up war against me,  
yet will I put my trust in him.  
One thing have I asked of the Lord and  
that alone I seek;  
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord  
all the days of my life, **R**

To behold the fair beauty of the Lord  
and to seek his will in his temple.  
For in the day of trouble he shall hide me  
in his shelter;  
in the secret place of his dwelling shall he  
hide me and set me high upon a rock. **R**

And now shall he lift up my head  
above my enemies round about me;  
Therefore will I offer in his dwelling an  
oblation with great gladness;  
I will sing and make music to the Lord.  
Hear my voice, O Lord, when I call;  
have mercy upon me and answer me. **R**

My heart tells of your word, "Seek my  
face."  
Your face, Lord, will I seek.  
Hide not your face from me,  
nor cast your servant away in displeasure.  
You have been my helper;  
leave me not, neither forsake me, O God  
of my salvation. **R**

Though my father and my mother forsake  
me,  
the Lord will take me up.  
Teach me your way, O Lord;  
lead me on a level path, because of those  
who lie in wait for me. **R**

Deliver me not into the will of my  
adversaries,  
for false witnesses have risen up against  
me, and those who breathe out violence.  
I believe that I shall see the goodness of  
the Lord  
in the land of the living.  
Wait for the Lord; be strong and he shall  
comfort your heart;  
wait patiently for the Lord. **R**

## SECOND READING

**Philippians 3:17 – 4:1**

*A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.*

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me,  
and observe those who live according to  
the example you have in us. For many live  
as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have  
often told you of them, and now I tell you  
even with tears. Their end is destruction;  
their god is the belly; and their glory is in  
their shame; their minds are set on earthly  
things. But our citizenship is in heaven,  
and it is from there that we are expecting  
a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will  
transform the body of our humiliation  
that it may be conformed to the body of  
his glory, by the power that also enables  
him to make all things subject to himself.  
Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I  
love and long for, my joy and crown, stand  
firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

## GOSPEL Luke 13:31-end

*Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.*

At that very hour some Pharisees came  
and said to him, "Get away from here, for  
Herod wants to kill you." He said to them,  
"Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am  
casting out demons and performing cures  
today and tomorrow, and on the third day  
I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow,  
and the next day I must be on my way,  
because it is impossible for a prophet to  
be killed away from Jerusalem.' Jerusalem,  
Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets  
and stones those who are sent to it!  
How often have I desired to gather your  
children together as a hen gathers her  
brood under her wings, and you were not  
willing! See, your house is left to you. And  
I tell you, you will not see me until the  
time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the  
one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

## POST COMMUNION

Almighty God,  
you see that we have no power of  
ourselves to help ourselves:  
keep us both outwardly in our bodies,  
and inwardly in our souls;  
that we may be defended from all  
adversities which may happen to the  
body,  
and from all evil thoughts  
which may assault and hurt the soul;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



The Lord is my light and my sal - va - tion.



## 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.

## FIRST READING Isaiah 55:1-9

*A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.*

The LORD says this: Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

## PSALM Psalm 63:1-9

**R** My soul is athirst for God, even for the living God.

O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you;

my soul is athirst for you.  
My flesh also faints for you,  
as in a dry and thirsty land where  
there is no water. **R**

So would I gaze upon you in your holy place,  
that I might behold your power and your glory.  
Your loving-kindness is better than life itself  
and so my lips shall praise you.  
I will bless you as long as I live  
and lift up my hands in your name. **R**

My soul shall be satisfied, as with marrow and fatness,  
and my mouth shall praise you with joyful lips,  
When I remember you upon my bed  
and meditate on you in the watches of the night. **R**

For you have been my helper  
and under the shadow of your wings  
will I rejoice.  
My soul clings to you;  
your right hand shall hold me fast. **R**

## SECOND READING

**1 Corinthians 10:1-13**

*A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.*

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptised into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness. Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to

serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

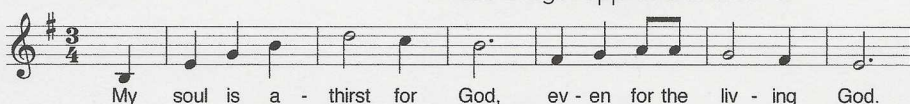
## GOSPEL Luke 13:1-9

*Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.*

There were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them – do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did." Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

## POST COMMUNION

Merciful Lord,  
grant your people grace to  
withstand the temptations of the  
world, the flesh and the devil,  
and with pure hearts and minds to  
follow you, the only God;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.





## COLLECT

God of compassion,  
whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary,  
shared the life of a home in Nazareth,  
and on the cross drew the whole human  
family to himself:  
strengthen us in our daily living  
that in joy and in sorrow  
we may know the power of your presence to  
bind together and to heal;  
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.

## FIRST READING

Either **Exodus 2:1-10**

*A reading from the book of Exodus.*

A man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him. The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. "This must be one of the Hebrews' children," she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Yes." So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, "because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."

Or **1 Samuel 1:20-end**

*A reading from the first book of Samuel.*

Hannah conceived and bore a son. She named him Samuel, for she said, 'I have asked him of the LORD.' The man Elkanah and all his household went up to offer to the LORD the yearly sacrifice, and to pay his vow. But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, 'As soon as the child is weaned, I will bring him, that he may appear in the presence of the LORD, and remain there for ever; I will offer him as a nazirite for all time.' Her husband Elkanah said to her, 'Do what seems best to you, wait until you have weaned him; only – may the LORD establish his word.' So the woman remained and nursed her son, until she weaned him. When she had weaned him, she took him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of

flour, and a skin of wine. She brought him to the house of the LORD at Shiloh; and the child was young. Then they slaughtered the bull, and they brought the child to Eli. And she said, 'Oh, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence, praying to the LORD. For this child I prayed; and the LORD has granted me the petition that I made to him. Therefore I have lent him to the LORD; as long as he lives, he is given to the LORD.' She left him there for the LORD.

## PSALM

Either **Psalm 34:11-20**

**R** *[Come, children, and listen to me:]  
I will teach you the fear of the Lord.*

Come, my children, and listen to me;  
I will teach you the fear of the Lord.  
Who is there who delights in life  
and longs for days to enjoy good things? **R**

Keep your tongue from evil  
and your lips from lying words.  
Turn from evil and do good;  
seek peace and pursue it. **R**

The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous  
and his ears are open to their cry.  
The face of the Lord is against those who do  
evil,  
to root out the remembrance of them from the  
earth. **R**

The righteous cry and the Lord hears them  
and delivers them out of all their troubles.  
The Lord is near to the brokenhearted  
and will save those who are crushed in spirit. **R**

Many are the troubles of the righteous;  
from them all will the Lord deliver them.  
He keeps all their bones,  
so that not one of them is broken. **R**

Or **Psalm 127:1-4**

**R** *The Lord shall keep watch over your  
going out and your coming in.*

Unless the Lord builds the house,  
those who build it labour in vain.  
Unless the Lord keeps the city,  
the guard keeps watch in vain. **R**

It is in vain that you hasten to rise up early  
and go so late to rest, eating the bread of toil,  
for he gives his beloved sleep.  
Children are a heritage from the Lord  
and the fruit of the womb is his gift. **R**

## SECOND READING

Either **2 Corinthians 1:3-7**

*A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians.*

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord  
Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the  
God of all consolation, who consoles us in  
all our affliction, so that we may be able to  
console those who are in any affliction with  
the consolation with which we ourselves are

consoled by God. For just as the sufferings  
of Christ are abundant for us, so also our  
consolation is abundant through Christ. If we  
are being afflicted, it is for your consolation  
and salvation; if we are being consoled, it is  
for your consolation, which you experience  
when you patiently endure the same sufferings  
that we are also suffering. Our hope for you is  
unshaken; for we know that as you share in our  
sufferings, so also you share in our consolation.

Or **Colossians 3:12-17**

*A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians.*

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

## GOSPEL

Either **Luke 2:33-35**

*Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.*

The child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about Jesus. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed – and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

Or **John 19:25b-27**

*Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.*

Standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

## POST COMMUNION

Loving God,  
as a mother feeds her children at the breast  
you feed us in this sacrament  
with the food and drink of eternal life:  
help us who have tasted your goodness  
to grow in grace within the household of faith;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

