

20th March, 2022 Lent 3

WHERE'S THE FREEDOM?

CALL TO WORSHIP

The saving mercy of Jesus be with you all. *And also with you.*

Sometimes Christ's love is assuring and comforting.

Sometimes it disrupts and challenges.

Sometimes we feel we really have something to offer the church.

Sometimes we wonder why Christ puts up with us.

But God is always here, calling us together, excluding no one, leading us to worship in sincerity and truth. **Amen!**

PRAYER OF APPROACH

Holy Friend, lover of us all, assist us to worship you with unfeigned sincerity. Thrust aside anything counterfeit in us, and overcome any fears that may inhibit us.

Help us to trust your hospitality and to worship you as children who are loved and treasured.

Through Jesus Christ.

Amen!

PRAYER FOR FIRST PEOPLES

In this place, many people have gone before us who have honoured God by caring for the Land, in the ways they have lived and in the stories they have shared.

We give thanks for the nations and people, who have held as sacred the duty of protecting the Land and living in harmony with it. May God honour and bless them

– now and to eternity. (2017 A. Koh-Butler)

SONG

All The People Said Amen https://vimeo.com/worshipwell/download/671393869/2516e0ed24

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Most perceptive and loving God, you really know us; why we fall so far short or wide of the target set by Jesus. Even when we are most willing, we seem incapable of outwitting evil through our own wisdom and strength.

Again and again old sins hassle and trip us, and our best intentions get run over in the thick traffic of daily affairs.

We ask you, as we have so often, for forgiveness and repair. Leave nothing in our being untouched by your healing fingers. We need your touch to mend our nature and reinforce our good intentions.

Please be with us moment by moment, that silently, yet irresistibly we may be carried forward in the current of your grace, mercy and peace. Let us begin again, ready to enact your will in all the events of this next week.

This we ask in the name of our Redeemer, Christ Jesus.

Amen!

ASSURANCE

Holy Scripture says: "Return to the Lord, who will show you mercy, come back to God who will abundantly pardon."

In the name of Christ Jesus, Saviour of the world, I declare to all who turn to God in repentance and faith:
Your sins are forgiven! Go in peace.
Thanks be to God!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(take this time to pray for each other, the community and world)

SONG

Psalm 23

https://vimeo.com/worshipwell/download/577904187/cdcf80748e

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious God, your love for us is revealed in the gifts of Jesus and the Holy Spirit. You call us to make these gifts evident in our lives. Receive and bless this

offering as a symbol of our thanksgiving and as a sign of our commitment to be prophetic witnesses of your love and mercy. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen

READINGS

Isaiah 55: 1-9 Luke 13:1-9

REFLECTION

https://vimeo.com/worshipwell/download/689138290/5d62a44bff

SONG

Who You are to Me https://vimeo.com/worshipwell/download/583267818/0b4a5428f7

BLESSING

Friends, we have been called to repent, and to turn our faces to our first love, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Lord, we seek Your face.

Travel carefully but not anxiously, travel boldly but not proudly, travel happily but not flippantly, and you will achieve more than you will ever understand on earth.

Thanks be to God!

The God of love be with you all.
The Christ of grace be for you all.
The Spirit of truth be among you all.

Amen!

SONG

May the Good Lord Bless and Keep You https://vimeo.com/worshipwell/download/666375222/a4e1c4350d

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