

# St EDWARD

## KING & MARTYR

29 March 2020 / Fourth Sunday in Lent

### **Welcome to St. Edward's!**

*We hope you are blessed by your time with us and we look forward to seeing you again. There is an Induction Loop in the Nave for those using a hearing aid and wheelchair access is available at the West door. There is also a toilet available in the vestry. Children are always welcome and will find books/activities at the back of the church. There is a parent and child area in the vestry for those with infants/toddlers if needed.*

## **Hymn** 156 – Come Down O Love Divine (*We stand to sing*)

*Helen's Reflection on the Hymn: I have chosen this hymn because it refers to today's Old Testament reading (Ezekial 37 VI-14).*

## **Welcome & Greeting**

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

*(We have a moment of silence)*

## **Preparation** (*Please sit or kneel*)

Hear the words of comfort our Saviour Christ says to all who truly turn to him:

Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest (Matthew 11.28)

God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life (*John 3.16*)

Hear what Saint Paul says: This saying is true, and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners (*1 Timothy 1.15*)

Hear what Saint John says: If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins (*1 John 2.1, 2*)

## **Confession**

Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Against you, you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight.

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

## **Absolution**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **Hymn 157 – Breathe on Me, Breath of God** (*We stand to sing*)

*Helen's Reflection on the Hymn: Again, this hymn refers to the Old Testament lesson and also the Gospel. This is a prayer for renewal by God's spirit expressed in a life of love and purity and a closeness to God that heralds eternal life. "Breath of God" refers to the Holy Spirit. Our hymn book sets these words to Carlisle but personally I prefer the tune Trentham as I feel it is much simpler and more prayerful.*

## **The Collect**

**Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world: grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory; 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.**

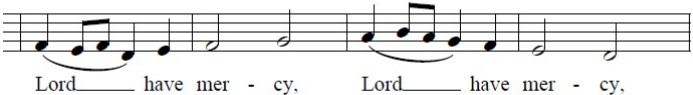
## **Old Testament Lesson** (Ezekiel 37:1-14)

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. 2He led me all round them; there were very many lying

in the valley, and they were very dry. 3He said to me, 'Mortal, can these bones live?' I answered, 'O Lord God, you know.' 4Then he said to me, 'Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. 5Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. 6I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord.' 7 So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. 8I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. 9Then he said to me, 'Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.' 10I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. 11 Then he said to me, 'Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, "Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely." 12Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. 13And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. 14I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord.'

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

David Thorne



**From Psalm 130** *(Please remain seated as the psalm is sung)*

- 1 Out of the depths have I cried to you, O Lord;  
Lord, hear my voice;  
let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.
- 2 If you, Lord, were to mark what is done amiss,  
O Lord, who could stand?
- 3 But there is forgiveness with you,  
so that you shall be feared.
- 4 I wait for the Lord; my soul waits for him;  
in his word is my hope.
- 5 My soul waits for the Lord,  
more than the night watch for the morning,  
more than the night watch for the morning.
- 6 O Israel, wait for the Lord,  
for with the Lord there is mercy;
- 7 With him is plenteous redemption  
and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning is now and shall be forever. Amen.**

**Gospel** *(We stand as we welcome the Gospel)*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (11:1-45) **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. 2Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. 3So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, 'Lord, he whom you love is ill.' 4But when Jesus heard it, he said, 'This illness does not

lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.' 5Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, 6after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. 7 Then after this he said to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judea again.' 8The disciples said to him, 'Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?' 9Jesus answered, 'Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. 10But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.' 11After saying this, he told them, 'Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.' 12The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.' 13Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. 14Then Jesus told them plainly, 'Lazarus is dead. 15For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.' 16Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow-disciples, 'Let us also go, that we may die with him.' 17 When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. 18Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, 19and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. 20When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. 21Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. 22But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.' 23Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' 24Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' 25Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, 26and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' 27She said to him, 'Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the

world.' 28 When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, 'The Teacher is here and is calling for you.' 29 And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. 30 Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. 31 The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. 32 When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' 33 When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. 34 He said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to him, 'Lord, come and see.' 35 Jesus began to weep. 36 So the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!' 37 But some of them said, 'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?' 38 Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. 39 Jesus said, 'Take away the stone.' Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, 'Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead for four days.' 40 Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?' 41 So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upwards and said, 'Father, I thank you for having heard me. 42 I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.' 43 When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' 44 The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, and let him go.' 45 Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Sermon**

### **Affirmation of Faith** *(We stand to declare our faith together)*

Though he was divine, he did not cling to equality with God, but made himself nothing. Taking the form of a slave, he was born in human likeness. He humbled himself and was obedient to death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God has raised him on high, and has given him the name above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

### **Prayers of Intercession** *(Please sit or kneel for our intercessions)*

*(Intercessor says)* Lord, in your mercy

*(We respond)* **Hear our prayer.**

*(at the end we pray together)* **Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## **The Peace**

Since we are justified by faith we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us access to his grace (Rom. 5.1, 2). The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

### **Hymn** 251 – There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

*Helen's Reflection on the Hymn: This hymn refers to verse 7 of this week's Psalm, 130.*

## **The Eucharistic Prayer**

The Lord be with you



**And also with you**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise, almighty God and everlasting Father, through Jesus Christ your Son. For in these forty days you lead us into the desert of repentance that through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline we may grow in grace and learn to be your people once again. Through fasting, prayer and acts of service you bring us back to your generous heart. Through study of your holy word you open our eyes to your presence in the world and free our hands to welcome others into the radiant splendour of your love. As we prepare to celebrate the Easter feast with joyful hearts and minds we bless you for your mercy and join with saints and angels forever praising you and singing:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you. He broke the bread, gave it to them and said: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me. When supper was ended he took the cup of wine. Again he praised you, gave it to them and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you

and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross. Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Christ is the bread of life.

**When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come in glory.**

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth. Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with all the saints to feast at your table in heaven. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

**The Lord's Prayer** *(Please sit or kneel)*

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

**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 forever. Amen.**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ. **Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on**

**us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.**

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you. Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

**We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord whose nature is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.**

*(All who regularly receive communion in their church are welcome to receive here. Those who do not receive communion are invited to come forward for a blessing, with their hands downwards on the altar rail. If you require a gluten-free wafer, please raise one finger at the altar rail.)*

## **Prayer after Communion**

**Father of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **Hymn 125 – O For A Thousand Tongues to Sing** (*We stand to sing*)

*Helen's Reflection on the Hymn: I have chosen this to go with the Gospel for today (John 11 v2-44). It was written by Charles Wesley to celebrate his first year after conversion to Christianity and inspired by a line said to him by Peter Böhler - "If I had a thousand tongues, I would praise Christ with them all." My favourite tune for this wonderful hymn is Lyngham but we would be singing it to Richmond, the tune set in our hymnbook (which is also a much easier tune to sing).*

## **Notices**

### **Blessing**

May Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

*(Please stay for coffee & refreshments just after the service,  
in the left hand chapel at the front of the church)*

## **Notices**

**Cleaning Volunteer Needed:** We are in need of a volunteer to further assist with the cleaning of the church building. This person would specifically be responsible for hoovering the church and vestry each week as well as helping with some general tidying up. If you would be able to assist in this way then please email [stedwardsassistant@gmail.com](mailto:stedwardsassistant@gmail.com)

**Toys Needed:** We are looking for some additional toys for the children's area. Specially we are looking for toys that make minimal noise (but no plush toys please). If you are able to help by donating some toys we would appreciate it. Please email [stedwardassistant@gmail.com](mailto:stedwardassistant@gmail.com) with any questions.

**Parish Giving** – We are grateful for all of your gifts! Offerings may be given during the services or for Standing Orders, via BACS **[SORT: 20-17-19 / ACCT #: 30851477 - "St Edwards Vestry Account"]**

**Services Next Week:** Sunday 11am Holy Communion

Peas Hill, Cambridge CB2 3PP  
www.stedwardscambridge.org  
Email Enquiries:  
stedwardsassistant@gmail.com

Vicar-Chaplain: Revd Dr. Mark Scarlata  
Associate Vicar: Revd Dr. Matthias Grebe  
Church Warden: Dr. Paul Anderson  
Parish Administrator: Madison Lyonhart  
Assisting Priest: Revd Roger Revell

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