

**Service of Morning Prayer.** Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March.  
Fourth Sunday of Lent.

**All Saints at all times and in all seasons,  
committed to being a church  
of Up (worship & prayer),  
In (deep community & lifelong discipleship),  
and Out, (service of others & evangelism).**

### The Gathering of God's People

Brief Welcome by Revd Grant

*Pause to be still, as I re-center my scattered  
senses upon the presence of God...*

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

**All** and also with you.

**Opening Prayer...**

**All** Loving God

**We have come to worship you.**

**Help us to pray to you in faith**

**To sing your praise with gratitude**

**And to listen to your word with eagerness;**

**Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Opening Song: Overcome**

**Prayer...**

God of our days and years,

we set this time apart for you.

Form us in the likeness of Christ

so that our lives may glorify you.

**Amen.**

**Prayers of Penitence**

This Lent we are reminded of the Beatitudes.

Let us hear the characteristics and witness of the  
kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are the poor in spirit,

**for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

Blessed are those who mourn,

**for they shall be comforted.**

Blessed are the meek,  
**for they shall inherit the earth.**

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after  
righteousness,  
**for they shall be satisfied.**

Blessed are the merciful,  
**for they shall obtain mercy.**

Blessed are the pure in heart,  
**for they shall see God.**

Blessed are the peacemakers,  
**for they shall be called children of God.**

Blessed are those who suffer persecution for  
righteousness' sake,  
**for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

Let us confess our failures to keep this way of  
truth and life.

*Silence to reflect...*

**All** Almighty God, our 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.  
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

**Absolution.**

May the Father of all mercies

cleanse you from your sins,

and restore you in his image

to the praise and glory of his name,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessed is the Lord,  
**All for he has heard the voice of our prayer;**

therefore shall our hearts dance for joy  
**All and in our song will we praise our God.**

*Prayer of thanksgiving*

Blessed are you, Lord God of our salvation,  
To you be glory and praise forever.  
In the darkness of our sin,  
you have shone in our hearts  
to give the light of the  
knowledge of the glory of God  
in the face of Jesus Christ.  
Open our eyes to acknowledge your presence,  
that freed from the misery of sin and shame,  
we may grow into your likeness  
from glory to glory.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:  
**All Blessed be God for ever.**

**Proclaiming and Receiving the Word**

<sup>1-3</sup> Oh, thank GOD—he's so good!  
His love never runs out.  
All of you set free by GOD, tell the world!  
Tell how he freed you from oppression,  
Then rounded you up from all over the place,  
from the four winds, from the seven seas.

<sup>4-9</sup> Some of you wandered for years in the desert,  
looking but not finding a good place to live,  
Half-starved and parched with thirst,  
staggering and stumbling, on the brink of  
exhaustion.

Then, in your desperate condition, you called out  
to GOD.  
He got you out in the nick of time;  
He put your feet on a wonderful road  
that took you straight to a good place to live.  
So thank GOD for his marvelous love,  
for his miracle mercy to the children he loves.

He poured great drafts of water down parched  
throats;  
the starved and hungry got plenty to eat.

<sup>10-16</sup> Some of you were locked in a dark cell,  
cruelly confined behind bars,  
Punished for defying God's Word,  
for turning your back on the High God's  
counsel—  
A hard sentence, and your hearts so heavy,  
and not a soul in sight to help.

Then you called out to GOD in your desperate  
condition;  
he got you out in the nick of time.  
He led you out of your dark, dark cell,  
broke open the jail and led you out.

So thank GOD for his marvelous love,  
for his miracle mercy to the children he loves;  
He shattered the heavy jailhouse doors,  
he snapped the prison bars like matchsticks!

<sup>17-22</sup> Some of you were sick because you'd lived a  
bad life,  
your bodies feeling the effects of your sin;  
You couldn't stand the sight of food,  
so miserable you thought you'd be better off  
dead.

Then you called out to GOD in your desperate  
condition;  
he got you out in the nick of time.  
He spoke the word that healed you,  
that pulled you back from the brink of death.

So thank GOD for his marvelous love,  
for his miracle mercy to the children he loves;  
Offer thanksgiving sacrifices,  
tell the world what he's done—sing it out!

<sup>23-32</sup> Some of you set sail in big ships;  
you put to sea to do business in faraway ports.  
Out at sea you saw God in action,  
saw his breathtaking ways with the ocean:  
With a word he called up the wind—  
an ocean storm, towering waves!  
You shot high in the sky, then the bottom  
dropped out;  
your hearts were stuck in your throats.  
You were spun like a top, you reeled like a drunk,  
you didn't know which end was up.

Then you called out to God in your desperate  
condition;  
he got you out in the nick of time.  
He quieted the wind down to a whisper,  
put a muzzle on all the big waves.  
And you were so glad when the storm died down,  
and he led you safely back to harbor.

So thank God for his marvelous love,  
for his miracle mercy to the children he loves.  
Lift high your praises when the people assemble,  
shout Hallelujah when the elders meet!

<sup>33-41</sup> God turned rivers into wasteland,  
springs of water into sunbaked mud;  
Luscious orchards became alkali flats  
because of the evil of the people who lived  
there.

Then he changed wasteland into fresh pools of  
water,  
arid earth into springs of water,  
Brought in the hungry and settled them there;  
they moved in—what a great place to live!  
They sowed the fields, they planted vineyards,  
they reaped a bountiful harvest.  
He blessed them and they prospered greatly;  
their herds of cattle never decreased.  
But abuse and evil and trouble declined  
as he heaped scorn on princes and sent them  
away.  
He gave the poor a safe place to live,  
treated their clans like well-cared-for sheep.

<sup>42-43</sup> Good people see this and are glad;  
bad people are speechless, stopped in their  
tracks.  
If you are really wise, you'll think this over—  
it's time you appreciated God's deep love.

**All Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now,  
and ever shall be, world without end.  
Amen.**

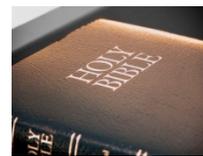
#### **Scripture Readings**

Old Testament : Ephesians 2:1-10 (Patrick)

This is the word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

**Song : Faithful One**



Gospel: John 3:14-21

This is the word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

**Canticle A Song of Christ the Servant (Lent)**

1 Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example,  
that you should follow in his steps.

**2 He committed no sin,  
no guile was found on his lips,  
when he was reviled, he did not revile in turn.**

3 When he suffered, he did not threaten,  
but he trusted himself to God who judges justly.

**4 Christ himself bore our sins  
in his body on the tree,  
that we might die to sin and live to  
righteousness.**

5 By his wounds, you have been healed,  
for you were straying like sheep,  
but have now returned  
to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

1 Peter 2.21b-25

**All Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now,  
and ever shall be, world without end.**

**Amen.**

**Sermon :**

**Post Sermon Hymn: Guardian**

**The Apostles Creed**

We declare our faith.

**All I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 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**

Intercessions (Andrew)

*Response:*

Lord in your mercy

**Hear our Prayer.**



Merciful Father,

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

## Which includes some regular prayers we will pray through Lent...

### Collect Prayers

Generous God,  
creator, redeemer, sustainer,  
to you we present our financial gifts,  
symbol of the work you have given us to do;  
use it, use us,  
in the service of your world  
to the glory of your name. **Amen.**

Merciful Lord,  
you know our struggle to serve you:  
when sin spoils our lives  
and overshadows our hearts,  
come to our aid  
and turn us back to you again;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

O Lord my God do not be far from me.  
My God have regard to help me.  
I have many thoughts and great fears afflicting  
my soul. How will I pass through unhurt?  
How will I break them to pieces?

This is my hope, my one only consolation,  
to flee to you in every tribulation, to trust in You,  
to call on You from my inmost heart,  
and to wait patiently for your consolation. **Amen.**

Holy Spirit, when I feel alone, I am comforted,  
because You pray *with* me.  
When I silenced by suffering, I am grateful that  
You pray *through* me.  
And Jesus when I feel helpless, I am strengthened  
because You're with the Father right now,  
praying *for* me.  
**Amen.** (Romans 8:34)

Let's pray to our Father...

**All** Our Father,  
who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power, and the glory  
for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

### Going out as God's People

#### Announcement

##### **Our charitable giving in March.**

To support the Bishop of Europe's Lent Appeal. It is to help reestablish ordained ministry in the city of Liege in Belgium. There is a chaplaincy which has gone through difficult times. A new chaplain has been appointed. The appeal focuses on the costs involved, esp as that chaplaincy cannot afford the accommodation for the new chaplain. I invite you to consider giving.

More information in the email newsletter.

**Lenten Morning Prayer** every Wednesday morning in Lent, via Zoom, at 0730 for 25 minutes or so. Info in the email newsletter.

**March 20<sup>th</sup> Psalms teaching morning.** 10-12 via Zoom. This coming Saturday – invited to join. For folks from other churches who watch us, please let me know if you'd like to participate.

**Final Song: And can it be**

### **The Peace...**

We invite you to not only share the Peace with whom you are gathered but to message someone in the church community 'Peace be with you'.

### **Blessing**

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

### **The Peace.**

May the Peace of God  
which passes all understanding  
Keep our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

The Peace of the Lord be always with you

**All: and also with you.**

### **Let us offer one another a sign of peace. God's seal on our prayer...**

We invite you to not only share the Peace with whom you are gathered but to message someone in the church community 'Peace be with you'.

### **More information...**

To know more about All Saints, please visit  
[www.allsaintsamersfoort.nl](http://www.allsaintsamersfoort.nl)

You can also follow us on our Facebook page '[All Saints Anglican Church](#)' or on Twitter  
[@CofEAmersfoort](#).

Thank you for all that you have given to All Saints.  
If you would like to donate, our financial details are on our website. For any further questions, please contact our treasurer of All Saints (treasurer@allsaintsamersfoort.nl)

To find out more about the other Anglican Churches in the Netherlands. <http://anglican.nl/>

To know more about the Church of England here in Europe - the Diocese in Europe website is - <https://europe.anglican.org/>



## DIOCESE IN EUROPE

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THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND

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