



*Chaplaincy of All Saints' Marseille
with Aix-en-Provence
and the Luberon*

*21st February 2021
First Sunday of Lent*

Welcome to our online service. Below you will find readings, prayers and links to music for this Sunday. The text includes a reflection by The Revd John Smith, which is also published separately on the website.

The service will be in two parts, beginning with the Ministry of the Word. After the Peace our Chaplain, The Revd Jamie Johnston, will celebrate the Eucharist and we will share in an act of Spiritual Communion, the prayer used where it is not possible for communicants physically to receive consecrated bread and wine.

The Gathering

The minister says

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

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

All **and also with you.**

Hymn

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M4BYc0EdjdU>

Forty days and forty nights
Thou was fasting in the wild;
Forty days and forty nights
Tempted, and yet undefiled.

Sunbeams scorching all the day;
Chilly dewdrops nightly shed;
Prowling beasts about thy way;
Stones thy pillow, earth thy bed.

Shall not we thy sorrows share,
And from earthly joys abstain,
Fasting with unceasing prayer,
Glad with thee to suffer pain?

And if Satan, vexing sore,
Flesh or spirit should assail,
Thou, his vanquisher before,
Grant we may not faint nor fail.

So shall we have peace divine;
Holier gladness ours shall be;
Round us too shall angels shine,
Such as ministered to thee.

Keep, O keep us, Saviour dear,
Ever constant by thy side;
That with thee we may appear
At the eternal Eastertide.

Words: George Hunt Smyttan (1822-1870) and Francis Pott (1832-1909)

Tune: Aus der Tiefe, melody by 'M.H.' in Nürnbergisches Gesangbuch

Prayer of Preparation

All **Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:**

cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Prayers of Penitence

The minister says

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit,
returned from the Jordan
and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness,
where for forty days
he was tempted by the devil.
Let us confess our sins
remembering before God the times
when we have fallen from temptation into sin.

Silence is kept.

All **Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy
forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly,
love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

Kyrie eleison

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

The celebrant says

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.

All: **Amen.**

The Collect

The minister says

Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

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.

All **Amen.**

The Ministry of the Word

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 9.8-17

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, 'As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the

waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.' God said, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.' God said to Noah, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.'

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 25.1-9

- 1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
 O my God, in you I trust; *
let me not be put to shame;
 let not my enemies triumph over me.
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame, *
but let the treacherous be shamed and frustrated.
- 3 Make me to know your ways, O Lord, *
and teach me your paths.
- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, *
for you are the God of my salvation;
 for you have I hoped all the day long.
- 5 Remember, Lord, your compassion and love, *
for they are from everlasting.
- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth
 or my transgressions, *
but think on me in your goodness, O Lord,
 according to your steadfast love.
- 7 Gracious and upright is the Lord; *
therefore shall he teach sinners in the way.
- 8 He will guide the humble in doing right *
and teach his way to the lowly.

9 All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth *
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

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

New Testament Reading

1 Peter 3.18-end

For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight people, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you — not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vAGMA8NrGmU>

Lord, who throughout these forty days
For us did fast and pray,
Teach us to overcome our sins,
And close by you to stay.

As you with Satan did contend
And did the victory win,
O give us strength in you to fight,
In you to conquer sin.

As you did hunger and did thirst,
So teach us, gracious Lord,
To die to self, and only live
By your most holy word.

And through these days of penitence,
And through your Passiontide,
For evermore, in life and death,
O Lord, with us abide.

Abide with us that, when this life
Of suffering is past,
An Easter of unending joy
We may attain at last!

*Words: Claudia F. Hernaman (1838-1898)
Tune: St Flavian, from John's Day Psalter, 1562*

Gospel Reading

Mark 1.9-15

The minister says

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.
Blessed are those who have endured temptation;
they have stood the test and will receive the crown of life.

James 1.12

All **Alleluia.**

The Lord be with you

All **and also with you.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Reflection

When I saw the gospel reading set for today, I had a sense of déjà vu all over again. Wasn't it the second Sunday of Advent when we read Mark's account of John crying in the wilderness? On the following Sunday, the third Sunday of Advent, we had John's account of the voice

crying in the wilderness. Last month we met John again in the wilderness and the last two verses of that gospel reading are part of our gospel today. John was baptizing in the wilderness but our gospel today quickly moves on to another wilderness setting where Jesus goes to prepare for his ministry to us.

After putting all this together I said 'so God, I get it, you want me to talk about the wilderness' and He said 'yes and I want you to compare it to lockdown'. I said I would give it a go: here it is.

This talk will be different to the talks that I usually give which have a challenging aspect to them; challenging us on our discipleship, our service to others or our evangelisation of others; my favourite topics. But today I want to look at what strength and comfort we can get from what God teaches us through the wilderness experiences in the Bible. A strength and comfort that not only helps us to survive the rest of the pandemic but help us to grow, flourish and prosper in the knowledge of a God who actively loves and cares for us often without us knowing it. This is not a bible study but there are lots of biblical references and I make no apologies for this, for it was not only Jesus who quoted the bible when he was in the wilderness but the devil did too.

When we think about the wilderness, some of us think of desert conditions: a dry and barren area where little precipitation occurs and conditions are hostile for plant, animal and human life. We think of places of isolation and desolation. Others may think of wilderness as natural environments on earth that have not been changed by human activity. Not being inhabited they are at least places of solitude.

In the bible the wilderness is the location for various settings. It is the setting for a time of danger – Hagar, the servant of Sarah, Abraham's wife, first alone (Genesis 16:7) then with her son Ishmael (Genesis 21:14); a setting for a time of waiting – Moses tended his father-in-law's sheep in the desert (Exodus 3:1). Most notably the wilderness is the setting for a time of wandering – the children of Israel in the desert for forty years on a journey that could have taken less than a month had they gone directly. The wilderness also is a setting for a time of hiding and hopelessness – Elijah (1 Kings 19:4); a time of witnessing – John the Baptist; and a time of testing and trial – Jesus (Mark 1:13).

And here is the comparison and the question. Have you felt the lockdown to be a time of danger, a time of waiting, a time of wandering, a time of hiding and hopelessness, a time of testing and trial; one, some, all or none of these things? Whatever your experience, I have some wonderful news for you and that is that God was present in every wilderness situation that I have mentioned. He showed up. God did not abandon the people who had these experiences. They were not left to fend for themselves. God was very active for and on their behalf.

In the first example God sent an angel to tell the bewildered Hagar what she should do. God also made an amazing promise to her that her descendants would be too numerous to count (Genesis 16:10). On the second occasion, when Hagar and her son were dying of thirst in the desert, God opened Hagar's eyes and she saw a well of water (Genesis 21:19) but God did not stop there: he continued to be with the boy Ishmael as he grew up (Genesis 21:20).

Moses' wilderness experience looking after his father in law's sheep was not only a time of waiting but it led to an encounter with God and divine revelation. God introduced Himself to Moses, told Moses His name, 'I am who I am', and told Moses what his mission would be.

Turning to the longest wilderness experience recorded in the Bible, the exodus of the children of Israel was as much about coming into a relationship with God as it was about leaving the bondage of Egypt. The people set out at the beginning of the forty years as a very rebellious people manufacturing their own god-idol whilst Moses was up Mount Sinai receiving the ten commandments. They complained about everything: about Moses' leadership, their hardships, their lack of food (the shelves were empty), and the lack of water. If they had had on-line delivery, they would probably have complained about their inability to get a delivery slot. But by the time they came into the promised land forty years later they were more willing to follow God and keep his laws. At least they said they were (Joshua 24). We can learn much from this wilderness experience.

God is always present. God told Moses that He was to dwell in the midst of His people but His desire was to manifest His presence to the children of Israel in a unique way: the cloud to guide them by day and the pillar of fire to guide them by night. These signs reminded the people that God was in their midst. In the same way God has sent us His Living Word and His Holy Spirit to guide us by day and by night. And even when we turn away from Him, He is still watching over us as He did with the rebellious children of Israel.

God doesn't always take us on what we would consider the most direct route and for our own good too. At the beginning of the Israelites' journey, God led them around danger. The direct route would have taken the Israelites past the Egyptian fortresses and with the Pharaoh's chariots coming behind they would have been trapped. Even if our journey has a few unexpected bends in the road, we should realize that this is just where we need to be. When God is our guide we can forget about the destination and concentrate on today's miles. The course He plots will grow us in His image. We just have to trust Him.

God knows what we can handle and what we can't as He did with the Israelites. He knew that, at the first sign of trouble, His chosen people would have wanted to go back to what they knew in Egypt. They said as much at the Red Sea (Exodus 14: 11-12). God knows what our futures will hold. He knows what will be easy and what won't be. Isn't it comforting to know God knows what lies ahead and can lead us around, over or through the obstacles and challenges of life if we let Him?

God meets our needs miraculously and in abundance. When Hagar needed water in the desert, God provided a well. When the children of Israel needed water, God provided it and from a rock too (Exodus 17:6). If the water they found was undrinkable God cured it (Exodus 16:25). When the Israelites were hungry, God provided them quail to eat in the evening and manna to eat in the morning (Exodus 16:13-14). Just as miraculously, during the forty years of their sojourn their clothes and their sandals did not wear out (Deuteronomy 29:5).

God shows us how and provides the means for us to have a relationship with Him. In the desert God provided the Israelites with the 'old covenant', laws and provisions that would allow them to live as His chosen people and God to have fellowship with them and live among them. God continually provides us with a solid structure for a relationship with Him. Jesus, through His death and resurrection, initiated the new covenant prophesied by Jeremiah (31:31) and to ignore or forget that is to forfeit the opportunity to have that relationship.

Lent is an excellent time for us to do some reflection and I hope you all have signed up for the Lent course we are starting on Tuesday evening and repeating on Thursday morning. This year we are reflecting on the pandemic and its consequences. The verse that has sustained me through the pandemic is from Isaiah: 'For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert' We have seen that the desert can be a place of isolation, a place of danger, of waiting, of hiding and hopelessness, a place where we may be tempted to return to our former places and ways even though we know that that is not possible. We have also seen that the desert is a place where idols can be smashed and we can discover the true God; a place that we can discover that what we thought were certainties aren't certainties after all. Above all, we have learnt that God is always present with us and that He cares and provides for us if we will only trust Him completely.

Amen.

The Revd John Smith

The Nicene Creed

**All We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,**

**begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.**

Amen.

Prayers

Taking the first steps on our Lenten journey, let us pray with trust and confidence and let us thank God for his goodness.

Heavenly Father, you have called your Church to shine as a light in the midst of a dark and needy world: guide it in its testimony for justice, truth and freedom. Cleanse it, revive it, enlighten it.

Bless its leaders, Elizabeth our Governor, our Bishops Robert and David, our Chaplain Jamie and the ministry team in Marseille, Aix and the Luberon. May they be strengthened for their work and grow in holiness and grace.

May our chaplaincy be a place where the sorrowing find comfort, the tempted find support, the lonely find fellowship, the faithful find grace. May we all, in our varied callings, advance your kingdom and bear witness to your love.

Lord, in your mercy

All **Hear our prayer.**

Creator God, your bow in the clouds proclaims your covenant with your Creation, from the very ground we live on, to all humankind and every living creature. We thank you for enabling us to explore the mysteries of creation and, especially this week, for the gift of scientific and technological minds that God has placed in those who have worked on the Mars mission. Give us the will to cherish all that you have made, and to use the riches of our own world for the good of all.

Lord, in your mercy

All **Hear our prayer.**

At this time of global pandemic, we give thanks for the work and commitment of all those who are in the frontline and pray for their safety, health, and strength. We pray for decision-makers, that they may be guided in their choices and actions. We pray for the scientific community, that they may find the way to contain this coronavirus.

May this Lent be a time of greater understanding and care towards those in need. Where human authority leads people astray and power is wrongly used, we pray you to drive away temptation and cleanse the nations.

We bring to you those orphaned, disabled or dispossessed by war, the refugees wandering this earth in search of a home, and all those who feel surrounded by the wild beasts of persecution, oppression, injustice, discrimination, exploitation or abuse and are tempted to give in to despair.

Bring comfort to all in distress and may your light break forth for all people.

Lord, in your mercy

All **Hear our prayer.**

Compassionate and loving Father, we pray for all those who are in a wilderness of pain, sorrow, doubt, fear or guilt and for those who face daily the temptation of addiction. Be with them all, destroy their fears and give them courage for the journey.

From our community, we pray for Malcolm, Peter, Alan, Gabrielle, Simon, Janet and Patrick and for those who care for them.

In a moment of silence, we bring to you those known to us who are in special need of our prayers at this time.

Bring them wholeness and healing, comfort and relief.

Lord, in your mercy

All **Hear our prayer.**

God of boundless mercy, hear us as we commend to you those who have passed through the temptations of this life and now are free from all its dangers. Welcome them into your joy and peace and give consolation to those who mourn. Grant that we may at last share with them the glories of your heavenly kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy

All **Hear our prayer.**

God of our Salvation, give us the Spirit which kept Jesus true through his forty days in the wilderness. Give us the grace to turn to you for forgiveness and renewal. Help us to pray with honesty and to live with simplicity. Make us thirsty for your life-giving presence and keep us in the eternal fellowship of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Merciful Father,

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

The Peace

The minister says

Since we are justified by faith,
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has given us access to his grace.

Romans 5.1,2

The peace of the Lord be always with you

All **and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Hymn

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C8G0fAL8kDI>

Just as I am, without one plea,
But that thy blood was shed for me,
And that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about
With many a conflict, many a doubt,
Fightings within and fears without,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;
Sight, riches, healing of the mind;
Yea, all I need, in thee to find,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
Because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, thy love unknown
Has broken every barrier down;
Now, to be thine, yea, thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, of that free love
The breadth, length, depth, and height to prove,
Here for a season, then above,
O Lamb of God, I come.

Words: Charlotte Elliott (1789-1871)

Tune: Saffron Walden, Arthur Henry Brown (1830-1926)

Preparation of the Table

The celebrant says

God of our journey,
as we walk with you on your path of obedience,
sustain us on our way and lead us to your glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here.

All **His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **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
for ever praising you and saying:

All **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.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;
who, in the same night that he was betrayed,

took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
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.

Great is the mystery of faith:

All **Christ has died:**
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.
As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Believing the promises of God,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour taught us:

**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.**

**Notre Père, qui es aux cieux,
que ton nom soit sanctifié,
que ton règne vienne,
que ta volonté soit faite,
sur la terre comme au ciel.
Donne-nous aujourd'hui notre pain de ce jour.
Pardonne-nous nos offenses,
comme nous pardonnons aussi à ceux qui nous ont offensés;
et ne nous laisse pas entrer en tentation,
mais délivre-nous du mal.
Car c'est à toi qu'appartiennent le règne, la puissance et la gloire,
pour les siècles des siècles. Amen.**

The celebrant breaks the consecrated bread, saying:

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All **Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

All **Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.**

The celebrant says

Jesus is the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

All **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

An Act of Spiritual Communion

As circumstances are such that we cannot share in the Eucharist in person, we make an Act of Spiritual Communion, in which we express our faith in Christ and in his presence in the Eucharist, and we ask him to unite himself with us.

Heavenly Father, in union with Christian people throughout the world and across the centuries gathered to make Eucharist, hearing your holy Word and receiving the precious Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, I offer you praise and thanksgiving. Even though I cannot at this time receive Communion, I pray that you will unite me with all the baptised and with your Son who gave his life for us.

Come, Lord Jesus, into my heart, dwell in me in the fullness of your strength, and send your Holy Spirit that I may be filled with your presence. Amen.

Music:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ttBvxxwO6TA>

Jesus, so lowly, child of the earth,
Christen me wholly, bring me new birth.

Jesus, so lonely, weary and sad;
Teach me that only love maketh glad.

Jesus, so broken, silent and pale;
Be this the token love will not fail.

Jesus, victorious, mighty and free;
Teach me how glorious death is to be.

*Words: Edith Williams (1889-?)
Music: Harold Friedell (1905-1958)*

Prayer after 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 true and living bread,
and enable us to live by every word
that proceeds from out of your mouth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Hymn

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gM1ijdRa7Ls>

There's a wideness in God's mercy
Like the wideness of the sea;
There's a kindness in his justice
Which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows
Are more felt than up in heaven;
There is no place where earth's failings
Have such kindly judgement given.

For the love of God is broader
Than the measures of man's mind;
And the heart of the Eternal
Is most wonderfully kind.
But we make his love too narrow
By false limits of our own;
And we magnify his strictness
With a zeal he will not own.

There is plentiful redemption
In the blood that has been shed;

There is joy for all the members
In the sorrows of the Head.
There is grace enough for thousands
Of new worlds as great as this;
There is room for fresh creations
In that upper home of bliss.

If our love were but more simple
We should take him at his word;
And our lives would be all gladness
In the joy of Christ our Lord.

*Words: John Marriott (1780-1825)
Tune: Corvedale, Maurice Bevan (1921-2006)*

Blessing

The celebrant says

God, who from the death of sin raised you to new life in Christ,
keep you from falling and set you in the presence of his glory;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

Offertory

The Diocese in Europe has a JustGiving page, making it possible for donations to be made to individual chaplaincies in a simple way. For those not already donating by standing order, we would be most grateful for any one-off donations at the following link:

<https://www.justgiving.com/diocese-ineurope>

Where you are asked if you would like to 'add a message', please include the words 'This is for the Marseille chaplaincy'. (Occasionally this box does not appear on the JustGiving page – if this happens, please let us know and we will ensure that your gift is allocated to the chaplaincy.)

Thank you for your support.

Picture: *Christ in the Wilderness* by Ivan Kramskoi (1837-1887), Tretyakov Gallery, Moscow