

Welcome to the Parish Church of St Mark
Serving the people of Broomhill & Broomhall



The Feast of our Renewing

*A Service of Christian Hospitality
for the Season of Lent*

Sunday 6 April 2014 at 10.00 am
Fifth Sunday of Lent

WELCOME, especially if you are new to St Mark's. May you soon discover what you are seeking and find companions for life's journey. This communion is more complete with you being a part of it.



To use the *Induction Loop*, please select the *T Setting* on your hearing aid. We ask that *mobile phones* and *paggers* be switched off or set to silent mode. **LARGE PRINT** versions of worship materials are available.

Preparing for Worship

Traditionally, Lent is the liturgical season when we are encouraged to take ourselves seriously – to acknowledge that what we think, do and say matters because none of us lives in a vacuum and, like it or not, the consequences of our choices will be felt well beyond us.

Such truthful confrontation is not intended to be a recipe for despair, but a catalyst for change in terms of renewed personal resolve, as well as heightened awareness of both our frailty and dependence upon God.

This year, the focus for our Lenten discipline is our impact upon planet earth, as well as those communities and eco-systems which will suffer most if we fail to live up to our responsibilities as God's co-creators and stewards.

*God of the image imprinted upon my soul,
imagine within us a world where hands sowing
outnumber hands reaping – yielding blessing for all.*

Gathering

Organ Voluntary: Prelude on 'Rockingham,' – C H H Parry (1848-1918).

Welcome

Hymn

WHEN I SURVEY the wondrous cross,
on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
save in the death of Christ, my God:
all the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.

See from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingling down:
did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were an offering far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.

Isaac Watts (1674-1748).

Tune: Rockingham.

Prayers of Approach

May God be with you.

And also with you.

**Ever-beckoning God,
you call us to leave behind falsehood
and to seek our integrity in you:
open our hearts to your love
and our minds to your truth,
that we may learn to worship what is worthy
and to serve what is good,
in Jesus' name. Amen.**

We remain standing until after 'Journeying together in Faith'; if you would be more comfortable, please feel free to sit down.

The Summons of Christ

Hear the teaching of Christ:

If any want to become my followers,

let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.

For those who want to save their life will lose it,

and those who lose their life for my sake,

and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.

Mark 8.34-35.

Spirit of God, search our hearts.

Collect

Let us pray. *(please remain standing)*

Ever-beckoning God,

calling us to life from time's beginning 'til eternity's end:

shatter our tombs of fear and complacency

that we may embrace your future in faith, hope and love;

through Jesus Christ, resurrection's voice. **Amen.**

Journeying together in Faith

As young members prepare to leave for their groups, a prayer is offered.

**May God guide each of us,
whatever our age or experience,
in the way of Christ –
the love of God go with you. Amen.**

Young people and group leaders set off. Please sit.

Attending

Reading – John 11. 1 – 29, read by Hazel Elliott-Kemp

A reading from the Gospel according to John.

NOW A CERTAIN MAN was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with

perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³ So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, 'Lord, he whom you love is ill.' ⁴ But 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.' ⁵ Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶ after 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.' ⁸ The disciples said to him, 'Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?' ⁹ Jesus 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. ¹⁰ But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.' ¹¹ After saying this, he told them, 'Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.' ¹² The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.' ¹³ Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. ¹⁴ Then Jesus told them plainly, 'Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵ For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.' ¹⁶ Thomas, 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 four days. ¹⁸ Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹ and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹ Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.' ²³ Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' ²⁴ Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' ²⁵ Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' ²⁷ She 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.

Let us listen for the word of the Lord.

A time of quietness for reflection (approximately 1 minute).

Hymn

SING, MY SOUL, when hope is sleeping,
sing when faith gives way to fears;
sing to melt the ice of sadness,
making way for joy through tears.

Sing, my soul, when sickness lingers,
sing to dull the sharpest pain;
sing to set the spirit leaping:
healing needs a glad refrain.

Sing, my soul, of him who shaped me,
let me wander far away,
ran with open arms to greet me,
brought me home again to stay.

Sing, my soul, when light seems darkest,
sing when night refuses rest,
sing though death should mock the future:
what's to come by God is blessed.

John L Bell (b 1949) & Graham Maule (b 1958). Tune: Cross of Jesus.

Gospel – John 11. 30 – 45.

The good news is proclaimed from the heart of the worshipping community.

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

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 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 upward 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 – The Vicar.

The sermon is followed by a time of quietness for reflection (approximately 1 minute).

Responding

Affirmation

Let us give voice to our convictions
and substance to our hopes. *(please stand)*

**WE BELIEVE that the earth is the Lord's
and all that dwells therein;**

**we believe that living gratefully
and giving generously are marks of faith;**

**we believe that all human beings
should have access to the earth's resources
and share fairly in its bounty;**

**we believe that every person has a part to play
in ensuring what has been entrusted to our generation
will be sustained for the next;**

**we commit ourselves
to thinking globally,
to trading fairly,
to consuming responsibly,
to living respectfully,
to loving the world as God loves it,
who, in Christ, became part of all creation
and for ever leads the way. Amen.**

Wild Goose Resource Group (adapted).

Prayers of Solidarity & Concern, led by Eve Saunders

Let us pray (*please sit or kneel*).

One of these or another set of biddings and responses is used.

Your kingdom come.
Your will be done.

God of our yearning.
We seek you.

God of justice, truth and love.
**Inspire us with your Spirit
to let your Kingdom come. Amen.**

Ever-beckoning God.
**We seek your presence
and will serve you. Amen.**

Prayers of Penitence & Renewal

Jesus said,
Are grapes gathered from thorns, or figs from thistles?
In the same way, every good tree bears good fruit,
but the bad tree bears bad fruit.
Thus you will know them by their fruits.

Matthew 7.16-17, 20.

Let us measure our lives against the rule of Christ.

Silence for preparation.

The 'Kyries,' an ancient penitential chant, are sung.

P
Lord, have mer-cy. Lord, have mer-cy. Lord, have mer-cy.

8 *mf*
Christ, have mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy.

14 *P*
Lord, have mer-cy. Lord, have mer-cy. Lord, have mer-cy.

**God of undying life,
we confess our part
in the disordering of creation:
we have exploited the earth's resources,
acting without thought for tomorrow;
we have been uncaring towards one another,
practising self-interest rather than love;
free us from the grip of wrongdoing
that we may serve your loving purposes
in the company of Christ. Amen.**

God has chosen you
to be stewards of the earth
and ministers of grace:
choose life rather than death.
We choose life. Amen.

Greeting of Peace

Christ is our peace,
creating in himself a new humanity,
reconciling all people to one another and to God. *cf Eph 2.14-16.*

We meet in Christ's name and share in his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

We share Christ's peace with one another, especially with those who are unfamiliar or from whom we are estranged.

Hymn

A collection is taken for the ministry of St Mark's. If you are a taxpayer and are not currently a member of the church's planned giving scheme, please place your gift in one of the envelopes provided, writing your name and address on the front. Thank you.

COME DOWN, O Love divine,
seek thou this soul of mine,
and visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

O let it freely burn,
till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes, in its heat consuming;
and let thy glorious light
shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

Let holy charity
mine outward vesture be,
and lowliness become mine inner clothing;
true lowliness of heart,
which takes the humbler part,
and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.

And so the yearning strong,
with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the power of human telling;
for none can guess its grace,
till he become the place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.

*Bianco da Siena (d 1434), tr R F Littledale (1833-90).
Tune: Down Ampney.*

Abiding

Preparation

*Tokens of our response to God, bread and wine,
and the collection, are offered.*

God of humility,
humbly we seek you,
bearing the offering of our lives,
needful of your grace.

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Let us pray. *(please sit or kneel)*

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.

Mysterious God,
we discern your wisdom
in the ordering of the universe
and the rhythm of the seasons;
in the purposefulness of creation
and the pattern of our days.

From the origins of our species,
you called us into covenant to cultivate Paradise
and make manifest the beauty of the earth.

When we made gods of ourselves
and abused our freedoms,
you inspired prophets and sages
to challenge our pretensions
and guide us in your ways.

With unceasing kindness
you beckon us to Eden
to discover our integrity
in communion with you
and all your creatures.

Therefore, with all who bear the breath of life
and animate your glory
we voice creation's praise.

21 *mp* Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of truth and love,

26 *mf* Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. *f* Ho - san - na in the high - est

30 *mp* Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the

34 *f* Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est

Especially, we praise you
for coming among us in Jesus,
who sowed seeds of faith within yielding souls –
spreading forgiveness across arid landscapes,
causing justice to blossom where oppression thrived.

From a bountiful earth,
he prepared a banquet of blessing;
from a broken humanity,
he gathered a people to be blessed.

On the eve before he gave himself up,
Jesus anticipated the feast of your kingdom one final time.

Among companions,
taking bread,
he gave thanks,
broke it and offered it to them,
saying, This is my body –
the vision within me, the vocation we share –
I entrust it to you.

Later, he took a cup of wine,
gave thanks and offered it to them, saying,
With this cup we celebrate
our new relationship with God,
sealed with my blood.
This is how you will remember me.

Come, Spirit of Jesus,
come, Breath of Life,
stir within us
and rest upon this bread and wine
that, sharing in communion,
we may be united in Christ
and restored to covenant
with all who bear the image of their creator
and long for the day
when healing shall rise up with the dawn
and justice roll down like an ever-flowing stream. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer & Communion

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 for ever. **Amen.**

The bread is broken.

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.**

Words of invitation follow.

All Christ once was and continues to be
is offered to us around this table,
in bread and wine;
so come, let us celebrate the feast.

*Everyone is invited to share in the communion through receiving the bread
and wine or if preferred, a prayer of blessing. Please approach the altar
rail with those around you. Gluten-free bread rolls are used.*

During administration, we sing together:

Mon âme se repose en paix sur Dieu seul:
de lui vient mon salut.
Oui, sur Dieu seul mon âme se repose,
se repose en paix.

*In God alone my soul can find rest and peace,
in God my peace and joy.
Only in God my soul can find rest,
find its rest and peace.*

Taizé.

*Afterwards, the choir will sing, 'O Taste and See,'
Ralph Vaughan-Williams (1872-1958).*

At the conclusion, silence is shared.

Venturing

Prayers of Commitment

Let us pray.

**GOD of undying love,
you have fed our minds,
inspired our faith,
and revived our spirits,
send us out to serve you
in a bruised and disordered world.
May the offerings of our lives
be channels of your grace,
in Jesus's name. Amen.**

Announcements

Blessing

May the God of abundant life
envision your hope,
embolden your faith
and enrich your love;

and the blessing of God,
Creator, Christ and Sacred Spirit
rest upon you and all whom you love,
both living and departed,
now and always. **Amen.**

Hymn

WE DO NOT HOPE to ease our minds
by simple answers, shifted blame,
while Christ is homeless, hungry, poor,
and we are rich who bear his name.
As long as justice is a dream
and human dignity denied,
we stand with Christ; disturb us still
till every need is satisfied.

We cannot ask to live at peace
in comfort and security
while Christ is tried in Pilate's hall
and drags his cross to Calvary.
As long as hatred stifles truth
and freedom is betrayed by fear,
we stand with Christ; give us no peace
till his peace reigns in triumph here.

We will not pray to be preserved
from any depths of agony
while Christ's despairing cry rings out:
God, why have you abandoned me?
As long as we have hope to share
of life renewed beyond the pain,
we stand with Christ all through the night
till Easter morning dawns again.

Marnie Barrell (b.1952).
Tune: Ye banks and braes.

Closing Responses

Christ's food in our souls,
Our food shared like his.

Christ's life in our hands,
Our lives shaped by his.

Christ's love in our hearts,
Our love warmed by his.

Christ's peace on our path,
Our path following his.

Iona Community.

Organ voluntary: Prelude on 'Herzlich thut mich verlangen'
(Passion Chorale), Johannes Brahms (1833-97).



*Sharing in the hospitality of Christ
continues after this service with refreshments,
on Wednesdays at Lunch Club, on Fridays at Broomhall Breakfast,
on Saturdays at Soup Run, and wherever and whenever
food and friendship are offered in Christ's name.*



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