

St Thomas Wells, with the Horringtons

Second Sunday of Lent

Sunday March 1st 2026

Hymn (Tune Camberwell)

**At the name of Jesus
every knee shall bow,
every tongue confess him
King of glory now;
'tis the Father's pleasure
we should call him Lord,
who from the beginning
was the mighty Word.**

**At his voice creation
sprang at once to sight,
all the angels' faces,
all the hosts of light,
thrones and dominations,
stars upon their way,
all the heavenly orders,
in their great array.**

**Humbled for a season,
to receive a name
from the lips of sinners,
unto whom he came,
faithfully he bore it
spotless to the last,
brought it back victorious,
when from death he passed.**

**Bore it up triumphant,
with its human light,
through all ranks of creatures
to the central height,
to the throne of Godhead,
to the Father's breast;
filled it with the glory
of that perfect rest.**

**In your hearts enthrone him;
there let him subdue
all that is not holy,
all that is not true.
He is God the Saviour,
he is Christ the Lord,
ever to be worshiped,
trusted, and adored.**

**Truly, this Lord Jesus
shall return again,
with his Father's glory
with his angel train;
for all wreaths of empire
meet upon his brow,
and our hearts confess him
King of glory now.**

Prayer for the Day

Almighty God,
by the prayer and discipline of Lent
may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings,
and by following in his Way come to share in his glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The First Reading

Genesis 12.1-4a

A reading from the book of Genesis

The Lord said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.'

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Second Reading

Romans 4.1-5; 13-17

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? 'Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.' Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, ‘I have made you the father of many nations’)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Hymn (Tune: Gonfalon Royal)

**From the deep places, hear my cry,
those hidden depths of guilt within;
O God of mercy, God Most High,
keep no account of all my sin.**

**Before your glory none can stand,
no mortal eye behold your face:
extend to me your kingly hand,
the sovereign touch of saving grace.**

**O Lord, in whom all needs are met,
draw near in love to me, I pray;
for on your word my hopes are set,
as watchmen wait for coming day.**

**As watchmen wait till dawn appears,
so God’s redeeming love is shown;
to shed, unending through the years,
the dew of blessing on his own.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John
Glory to you, O Lord.

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?' Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above." The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.' Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these things be?' Jesus answered him, 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

'Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

‘For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

‘Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you O Christ

Hymn

(Tune: Cruger)

**Light of the minds that know him:
may Christ be light to mine;
my sun in risen splendour,
my light of truth divine;
my guide in doubt and darkness,
my true and living way,
my clear light ever shining,
my dawn of heaven's day.**

**Life of the souls that love him:
may Christ be ours indeed;
the living Bread from heaven
on whom our spirits feed;
who died for love of sinners
to bear our guilty load,
and make of life's journey
a new Emmaus road.**

**Strength of the wills that serve him:
may Christ be strength to me,
who stilled the storm and tempest,
who calmed the tossing sea;
his spirit's power to move me,
his will to master mine,
his cross to carry daily
and conquer in his sign.**

**May it be ours to know him
that we may truly love,
and loving, fully serve him
as serve the saints above;
till in that home of glory
with fadeless splendour bright,
we serve in perfect freedom
our strength, our life, our light.**

Post-Communion Prayer

Almighty God,

you see that we have no power

of ourselves to help ourselves:

keep us both outwardly in our bodies,

and inwardly in our souls;

that we may be defended from all adversities

which may happen to the body,

and from all evil thoughts

which may assault and hurt the soul;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Hymn

(Tune: 10,000 Reasons)

*Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul;
worship his holy name,
sing like never before, oh my soul.
I'll worship your holy name.*

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning.
It's time to sing your song again.
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me,
let me be singing when the evening comes.

You're rich in love and you're slow to anger;
your name is great and your heart is kind.
For all your goodness, I will keep on singing,
ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

And on that day when my strength is failing,
the end draws near and my time has come;
still my soul will sing your praise unending
ten thousand years and then forevermore.