

Parish of Malone

The Church of St John the Evangelist



SUNDAY FIRST

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

Sunday 5th March 2023 at 10:30am



THE PREPARATION

THE GREETING

The Lord be with you: **And also with you.**

Let us worship God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**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.**

Hymn 16

1 Like a mighty river flowing,
like a flower in beauty growing,
far beyond all human knowing
is the perfect peace of God.

2 Like the hills serene and even,
like the coursing clouds of heaven,
like the heart that's been forgiven
is the perfect peace of God.

3 Like the summer breezes playing,
like the tall trees softly swaying,
like the lips of silent praying
is the perfect peace of God.

4 Like the morning sun ascended,
like the scents of evening blended,
like a friendship never ended
is the perfect peace of God.

5 Like the azure ocean swelling,
like the jewel all-excelling,
far beyond our human telling
is the perfect peace of God.

PENITENCE

God shows his love for us in that, while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Let us then show our love for him by confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

Silence for reflection

In the wilderness we find your grace: you love us with an everlasting love.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

There is none but you to uphold our cause; our sin cries out and our guilt is great.
Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Heal us, O Lord, and we shall be healed; Restore us and we shall know your joy.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

May almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you your sins and bring you to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE COLLECT

Almighty God,
you show to those who are in error the light of your truth
that they may return to the way of righteousness:
Grant to all those who are admitted
into the fellowship of Christ's religion,
that they may reject those things
that are contrary to their profession,
and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same;
through our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**Almighty and everlasting God,
you hate nothing that you have made
and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent:
Create and make in us new and contrite hearts
that we, worthily lamenting our sins
and acknowledging our wretchedness,
may receive from you, the God of all mercy,
perfect remission and forgiveness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Psalm 121 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; ♦□
from where is my help to come?

**2 My help comes from the Lord, ♦□
the maker of heaven and earth.**

**3 He will not suffer your foot to stumble; ♦□
he who watches over you will not sleep.**

**4 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel ♦□
shall neither slumber nor sleep.**

**5 The Lord himself watches over you; ♦□
the Lord is your shade at your right hand,**

**6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day, ♦□
neither the moon by night.**

**7 The Lord shall keep you from all evil; ♦□
it is he who shall keep your soul.**

**8 The Lord shall keep watch over your going out
and your coming in, ♦□
from this time forth for evermore.**



The Reading

John 3: 1-17

3Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He 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.’ ³Jesus answered him, ‘Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.’ ⁴Nicodemus 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?’ ⁵Jesus answered, ‘Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be astonished that I said to you, “You* must be born from above.” ⁸The 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.’ ⁹Nicodemus said to him, ‘How can these things be?’ ¹⁰Jesus answered him, ‘Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

¹¹ ‘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. ¹²If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly

things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

16 '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.

17 '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 Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN 386

*Spirit of God, unseen as the wind,
gentle as is the dove;
teach us the truth and help us believe,
show us the Saviour's love.*

You spoke to us long, long ago,
gave us the written word;
we read it still, needing its truth,
through it God's voice is heard.

Without your help we fail our Lord,
we cannot live his way;
we need your power, we need your strength,
following Christ each day.

ADDRESS

THE RESPONSE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Let us declare our faith in God.

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.**

Loving God, we thank you for the family of the Church. We pray that all may find in her their true home; that the lonely, the marginalized, the rejected may be welcomed and loved in the name of Jesus.

God of love,

hear our prayer.

Loving God, as we see the brokenness of our world we pray for healing among the nations; for peace where there is war; for food where there is hunger; for freedom where there is oppression; for joy where there is pain; that your love may bring peace to all your children.

God of love,

hear our prayer.

Other Prayers are offered here.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathering up all our petitions to serve the needs of the world we pray as our Saviour Christ has taught us:

Our Father

HYMN 373

To God be the glory, great things He hath done,
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
Who yielded His life our redemption to win,
And opened the life-gate that all may go in.

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the earth hear His voice;
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the people rejoice;
Oh, come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory; great things He hath done.*

Oh, perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
To every believer the promise of God;
The vilest offender who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
But purer, and higher, and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport when Jesus we see.

THE DISMISSAL

**All: God of our pilgrimage,
you have led us to the living water:
refresh and sustain us
as we go forward on our journey,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Blessing

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourselves, and to take up your cross and follow him:

May almighty God bless you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
now and for ever. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ. Amen.

Services this week

Today: 9am Eucharist; 10:30am Sunday First; 7pm Agape Centre Lisburn Road, Joint Churches Lenten Service 2/5

Wednesday 8th 7.30pm Lent Compline with address and hymns in-person and on Zoom. Theme for Compline during Lent 'The Lord & His Prayer': First address: 'Our Father in heaven' 1/5

Thursday 9th 10.30am Eucharist (1) with intercessions for those in need.

A cup of coffee is available after this service.

Next Sunday Lent III 9:00am Eucharist; 10.30 a.m. Sung Eucharist

Notices:

- Samples of Bible Reading Fellowship BRF Notes are available in the vestibule. Please consider taking some. Lent Notes to follow. Please speak to or email to Rev. Brian Cadden if you are interested in having Lent notes or in having the quarterly BRF Notes.
- Parish Lenten Books are on sale and available there too.
- Copies of the Diocesan magazine Connor Connections are now available.

www.malone.connor.anglican.org