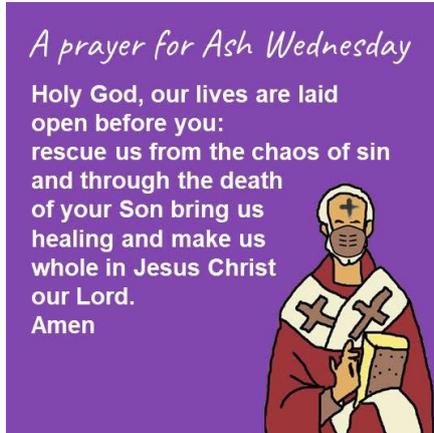


**Worship at St. Nicholas, Sutton**  
**For 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent, 28 February 2021**  
**Collect, hymns & readings**



**Collect** (prayer of the week)

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,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**Hymns**

Opening *At the name of Jesus*  
Gradual *I, the Lord of sea and sky*

**Readings**

**Genesis 17.1-7, 15-16**

*The Sign of the Covenant*

17When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, 'I am God Almighty;\* walk before me, and be blameless. 2And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.' 3Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, 4As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor

of a multitude of nations. <sup>5</sup>No longer shall your name be Abram,\* but your name shall be Abraham;\* for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. <sup>6</sup>I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. <sup>7</sup>I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring\* after you.

15 God said to Abraham, 'As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. <sup>16</sup>I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations;

### **Romans 4.13-end**

### *God's Promise Realized through Faith*

13 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. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

16 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, <sup>17</sup>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. <sup>18</sup>Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become 'the father of many nations', according to what was said, 'So numerous shall your descendants be.' <sup>19</sup>He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already\* as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. <sup>20</sup>No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, <sup>21</sup>being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. <sup>22</sup>Therefore his faith\* 'was reckoned to him as righteousness.' <sup>23</sup>Now the words, 'it was reckoned to him', were written not for his sake alone, <sup>24</sup>but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, <sup>25</sup>who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

## **Mark 8.31-end**

## *Jesus Foretells His Death and Resurrection*

31 Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup>He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup>But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'

34 He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>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. <sup>36</sup>For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? <sup>37</sup>Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? <sup>38</sup>Those who are ashamed of me and of my words\* in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

### **Praying as a milestone is passed**

The UK tragically passed 100,000 COVID-19 deaths on Tuesday 26 January.

Our hearts and prayers go out to all those affected and grieving.

The Archbishops of Canterbury and York have issued an open letter to the nation.

They are calling on the nation to come together to pray from **1 February at 6pm**

Here is a link to the statement: <https://www.churchofengland.org/news-and-media/news-and-statements/coronavirus-archbishops-invite-nation-pause-pray-and-remember>

The Dean of Southwark, the Very Revd Andrew Nunn has provided a prayer (Revelation 7.13, 14)

God of love,  
who hold us in life as in death,  
as we commend each one of those who have died  
to your eternal and tender care  
comfort all who grieve,  
hold us in our sorrow  
and give us that sense of hope  
which brings us all  
to resurrection life  
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

I encourage you to make a habit of daily prayer, whether *A Way of Daily Prayer* (attached, or on website under Useful Information-Service Sheets); Common Worship *Daily Prayer* <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer>; or *Book of Common Prayer*.

Bible readings for Morning and Evening Prayer:

**Sunday 28 February** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent

MP Isaiah 51.1-11, Galatians 3.1-9, 23-end

EP Genesis 12.1-9, Hebrews 11.1-3, 8-16

**Monday 1 March** *David, bishop, patron of Wales, c.601*

MP Jeremiah 7.21-end, John 6.41-51

EP Genesis, 43.16-end, Hebrews 1

**Tuesday 2 March** *Chad, bishop, missionary, 672*

MP Jeremiah 58.1-15, John 6.52-59

EP Genesis 44.1-17, Hebrews 2.1-9

**Wednesday 3 March**

MP Jeremiah 8.18-9.11, John 6.60-end

EP Genesis 44.18-end, Hebrews 2.10-end

**Thursday 4 March**

MP Jeremiah 9.12-24, John 7.1-13

EP Genesis 45: 1-15, Hebrews 3.1-6

**Friday 5 March**

MP Jeremiah 10.1-16, John 7.14-24

EP Genesis 45.16-end, Hebrews 3.7-end

**Saturday 6 March**

MP Jeremiah 10.17-24, John 7.25-36

EP Genesis 46.1-7, 28-end, Hebrews 4.1-13