

**Worship at St. Nicholas, Sutton
for 1st Sunday of Lent, 21 February 2021
Collect, hymns & readings**

A prayer for Ash Wednesday

Holy God, our lives are laid
open before you:
rescue us from the chaos of sin
and through the death
of your Son bring us
healing and make us
whole in Jesus Christ
our Lord.
Amen



Collect (prayer of the week)

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. **Amen.**

Hymns

Opening *Lead us, heav'nly Father, lead us*
Gradual *Forty days and forty nights, thou wast fasting*

Readings

Genesis 9.8-17 *The Covenant with Noah*

8 Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ⁹As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, ¹⁰and 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.* ¹¹I 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.' ¹²God 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: ¹³I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵I 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. ¹⁶When 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.' ¹⁷God said to Noah, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.'

1 Peter 3.18-end

Suffering for Doing Right

¹⁸For 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, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who 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. ²¹And 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, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Mark 1.9-15

The Baptism of Jesus, The Temptation of Jesus, The Beginning of the Galilean Ministry

9 In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And 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. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved;* with you I am well pleased.'

12 And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

14 Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news* of God,* ¹⁵and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near;* repent, and believe in the good news.'*

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 21 February 1st Sunday of Lent

MP Exodus 34.1-10, Romans 10.8b-13

EP Genesis 2.15-17; 3.1-7, Romans 5.12-19

Monday 22 February

MP Jeremiah 4.19-end, John 5.1-18

EP Genesis 41.25-45, Galatians 3.23-4.7

Tuesday 23 February *Polycarp, bishop, martyr, c.155*

MP Jeremiah 5.1-19, John 5.19-29

EP Genesis 41.46-42.5, Galatians 4.8-20

Wednesday 24 February *Ember Day*

MP Jeremiah 5.20-end, John 5.30-end

EP Genesis 42.6-17, Galatians 4.21-5.1

Thursday 25 February

MP Jeremiah 6.9-21, John 6.1-15

EP Genesis 42.18-28, Galatians 5.2-15

Friday 26 February *Ember Day*

MP Jeremiah 6.22-end, John 6.16-27

EP , Genesis 42.29-end, Galatians 5.16-end

Saturday 27 February *George Herbert, Priest, Poet, 1633, Ember Day*

MP Jeremiah 7.1-20, John 6.27-40

EP Genesis 43.1-15, Galatians 6