

Sunday 15th March 2026
Fourth Sunday in Lent

All are welcome

CALL TO WORSHIP

- 1: Early in the morning
2: Still getting the story straight
All: Truth is elusive.
1: In and out
2: Back and forth
All: What is Truth?
1: Religion and politics
2: Questions without answers
All: Yet Truth is here, waiting to be heard

Hymn At the name of Jesus CH4 458 /
MP 41

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.

In your hearts enthrone him;
there let him subdue
all that is not holy,
all that is not true:
let his grace support you
in temptation's hour;
and his will enfold you
in its light and power.

Brothers, sisters, name him
with love strong as death,
but with awe and wonder
and with bated breath!
He is God the Saviour,
he is Christ the Lord,
ever to be worshipped,
trusted, and adored.

In his Father's glory
Christ shall come again,
angel hosts proclaiming
his return to reign.
For all wreaths of empire
meet upon his brow,
and our hearts confess him
King of glory now.
Caroline Maria Noel (1817–1877) (alt.)

PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN CH4 356 Meekness and Mercy

Meekness and majesty,
manhood and deity,
in perfect harmony,
the Man who is God.
Lord of eternity
dwells in humanity,
kneels in humility
and washes our feet.

*O what a mystery,
meekness and majesty.
Bow down and worship
for this is your God,
this is your God.*

."

Father's pure radiance,
perfect in innocence,
yet learns obedience
to death on a cross.
Suffering to give us life,
conquering through sacrifice,
and as they crucify
prays: "Father forgive."

Wisdom unsearchable,
God the invisible,
love indestructible
in frailty appears.
Lord of infinity,
stooping so tenderly,
lifts our humanity
to the heights of His throne.

ALL AGE TIME

HYMN – 374

From heaven you came, helpless babe,
entered our world, your glory veiled;
not to be served but to serve,
and give your life that we might live.

*This is our God, the Servant King,
he calls us now to follow him,
to bring our lives as a daily offering
of worship to the Servant King.*

There in the garden of tears,
my heavy load he chose to bear;
his heart with sorrow was torn,
'Yet not my will but yours,' he said.

Come see his hands and his feet,
the scars that speak of sacrifice,
hands that flung stars into space
to cruel nails surrendered.

4 So let us learn how to serve,
and in our lives enthrone him;
each other's needs to prefer,
for it is Christ we're serving.

Graham Kendrick (b. 1950)

Scripture Reading

Psalm 145:10-13

All your works praise you, Lord;
your faithful people extol you.
They tell of the glory of your kingdom
and speak of your might,
so that all people may know of your mighty acts
and the glorious splendour of your kingdom.
Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and your dominion endures through all generations

John 18:28-40

Then the Jewish leaders took Jesus from Caiaphas to the palace of the Roman governor. By now it was early morning, and to avoid ceremonial uncleanness they did

not enter the palace, because they wanted to be able to eat the Passover. So Pilate came out to them and asked, 'What charges are you bringing against this man?' 'If he were not a criminal,' they replied, 'we would not have handed him over to you.' Pilate said, 'Take him yourselves and judge him by your own law.'

'But we have no right to execute anyone,' they objected. This took place to fulfil what Jesus had said about the kind of death he was going to die.

Pilate then went back inside the palace, summoned Jesus and asked him, 'Are you the king of the Jews?'

'Is that your own idea,' Jesus asked, 'or did others talk to you about me?'

'Am I a Jew?' Pilate replied. 'Your own people and chief priests handed you over to me. What is it you have done?'

Jesus said, 'My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jewish leaders. But now my kingdom is from another place.' 'You are a king, then!' said Pilate.

Jesus answered, 'You say that I am a king. In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world is to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.'

'What is truth?' retorted Pilate. With this he went out again to the Jews gathered there and said, 'I find no basis for a charge against him. But it is your custom for me to release to you one prisoner at the time of the Passover.

Do you want me to release "the king of the Jews"?' They shouted back, 'No, not him! Give us Barabbas!' Now Barabbas had taken part in an uprising.

Sermon

Hymn - King of Kings, Majesty

King of kings, majesty,
God of heaven living in me,
gentle Saviour, closest friend,
strong deliverer, beginning and end,
all within me falls at your throne.

*Your majesty, I can but bow,
I lay my all before you now.
In royal robes I don't deserve
I live to serve your majesty.*

Earth and heaven worship you,
love eternal, faithful and true,
who bought the nations, ransomed souls,
brought this sinner near to your throne;
all within me cries out in praise.

*Your majesty, I can but bow,
I lay my all before you now.
In royal robes I don't deserve
I live to serve your majesty.*

Announcements

Offering

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Hymn - CH4 436

Christ, triumphant, ever-reigning
Christ triumphant, ever reigning,
Saviour, Master, King!
Lord of heaven, our lives sustaining,
hear us as we sing:

*Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name!*

Word incarnate, truth revealing,
Son of Man on earth!
Power and majesty concealing
by your humble birth:.

Suffering servant, scorned, ill-treated,
victim crucified!

Death is through the cross defeated,
sinners justified:

Priestly king, enthroned for ever
high in heaven above!

Sin and death and hell shall never
stifle hymns of love:

So, our hearts and voices raising
through the ages long,
ceaselessly upon you gazing,
this shall be our song:

Michael Saward (b. 1932)

BENEDICTION