



DURHAM
CATHEDRAL

Evensong

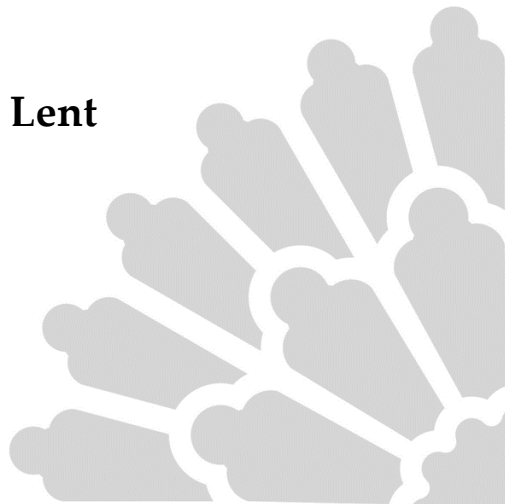
on

The Third Sunday before Lent

Septuagesima

Sunday 16 February 2025

3.30 p.m.



Welcome to Durham Cathedral

*Inspired by our saints, Cuthbert and Bede,
the mission of Durham Cathedral
is to offer everyone the opportunity
to encounter God and know God's love in Jesus Christ.*

*Flowers are an important part of our adorning of the Cathedral Church
for divine service on many occasions during the year.*

*We are very grateful to Hargreaves Services plc
for their support of our provision of flowers at Durham Cathedral
www.hsgplc.co.uk*

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Voluntary

Please stand at the entry of the choir and ministers

Hymn O Strength and Stay upholding all creation,
 Who ever dost thyself unmoved abide,
Yet day by day the light in due gradation
 From hour to hour through all its changes guide;

Grant to life's day a calm unclouded ending,
An eve untouched by shadows of decay,
The brightness of a holy death-bed blending
With dawning glories of the eternal day.

Hear us, O Father, gracious and forgiving,
Through Jesus Christ thy co-eternal Word,
Who, with the Holy Ghost, by all things living
Now and to endless ages art adored. Amen.

Latin, St Ambrose
translated by John Ellerton and F J A Hort

STRENGTH AND STAY
John Bacchus Dykes

Welcome and Introduction

The Reverend Kathryn Tiernan

Minister Let us humbly confess our sins to almighty God.

Please kneel

All **Almighty and most merciful Father;**
We have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep.
We have followed too much
the devices and desires of our own hearts.
We have offended against thy holy laws.
We have left undone those things
which we ought to have done;
And we have done those things
which we ought not to have done;
And there is no health in us.

But thou, O Lord,
have mercy upon us, miserable offenders.
Spare thou them, O God, which confess their faults.
Restore thou them that are penitent;
According to thy promises declared unto mankind
in Christ Jesu our Lord.
And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake;
That we may hereafter
live a godly, righteous, and sober life,
To the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

Minister The almighty and merciful Lord
grant unto you pardon and remission of all your sins,
time for amendment of life,
and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

All Our Father, which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive them that trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:
for thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Please stand

Preces

Kenneth Leighton

Cantor O Lord, open thou our lips.
Choir And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us.
O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son:
and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:
world without end. Amen.

Praise ye the Lord.
The Lord's name be praised.

Please sit

Psalm 6

sung by the Choir

O Lord, rebuke me not in thine indignation :
neither chasten me in thy displeasure.
Have mercy upon me, O Lord, for I am weak :
O Lord, heal me, for my bones are vexed.
My soul also is sore troubled :
but, Lord, how long wilt thou punish me?
Turn thee, O Lord, and deliver my soul :
O save me for thy mercy's sake.
For in death no man remembereth thee :
and who will give thee thanks in the pit?
I am weary of my groaning; every night wash I my bed :
and water my couch with my tears.
My beauty is gone for very trouble :
and worn away because of all mine enemies.
Away from me, all ye that work vanity :
for the Lord hath heard the voice of my weeping.
The Lord hath heard my petition :
the Lord will receive my prayer.
All mine enemies shall be confounded, and sore vexed :
they shall be turned back, and put to shame suddenly.

Please stand

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son:
and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:
world without end. Amen.

First Lesson

Wisdom 11: 21 – 12: 11

For it is always in your power to show great strength,
and who can withstand the might of your arm?
Because the whole world before you is like a speck that tips the scales,
and like a drop of morning dew that falls on the ground.
But you are merciful to all, for you can do all things,
and you overlook people's sins, so that they may repent.
For you love all things that exist,
and detest none of the things that you have made,
for you would not have made anything if you had hated it.
How would anything have endured if you had not willed it?
Or how would anything not called forth by you have been preserved?
You spare all things, for they are yours, O Lord, you who love the living.

For your immortal spirit is in all things.
Therefore you correct little by little those who trespass,
and you remind and warn them of the things through which they sin,
so that they may be freed from wickedness and put their trust in you, O Lord.

Those who lived long ago in your holy land
you hated for their detestable practices,
their works of sorcery and unholy rites,
their merciless slaughter of children,
and their sacrificial feasting on human flesh and blood.
These initiates from the midst of a heathen cult,
these parents who murder helpless lives,
you willed to destroy by the hands of our ancestors,
so that the land most precious of all to you
might receive a worthy colony of the servants of God.
But even these you spared, since they were but mortals,
and sent wasps as forerunners of your army
to destroy them little by little,
though you were not unable to give the ungodly
into the hands of the righteous in battle,
or to destroy them at one blow by dread wild animals or your stern word.

But judging them little by little you gave them an opportunity to repent,
though you were not unaware that their origin was evil
and their wickedness inborn,
and that their way of thinking would never change.
For they were an accursed race from the beginning,
and it was not through fear of anyone that you left them unpunished for
their sins.

After a short silence, all stand with the Choir

Magnificat

Herbert Howells: Worcester Service

My soul doth magnify the Lord :
And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
For he hath regarded :
the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold, from henceforth :
all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me :
and holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him :
throughout all generations.
He hath showed strength with his arm :
he hath scattered the proud
in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat :
and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things :
and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy
hath holpen his servant Israel :
as he promised to our forefathers,
Abraham and his seed for ever.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son:
and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:
world without end. Amen.

Please sit

Formerly, when you did not know God, you were enslaved to beings that by nature are not gods. Now, however, that you have come to know God, or rather to be known by God, how can you turn back again to the weak and beggarly elemental spirits? How can you want to be enslaved to them again? You are observing special days, and months, and seasons, and years. I am afraid that my work for you may have been wasted.

Friends, I beg you, become as I am, for I also have become as you are. You have done me no wrong. You know that it was because of a physical infirmity that I first announced the gospel to you; though my condition put you to the test, you did not scorn or despise me, but welcomed me as an angel of God, as Christ Jesus. What has become of the goodwill you felt? For I testify that, had it been possible, you would have torn out your eyes and given them to me. Have I now become your enemy by telling you the truth? They make much of you, but for no good purpose; they want to exclude you, so that you may make much of them. It is good to be made much of for a good purpose at all times, and not only when I am present with you. My little children, for whom I am again in the pain of childbirth until Christ is formed in you, I wish I were present with you now and could change my tone, for I am perplexed about you.

After a short silence, all stand with the Choir

Nunc dimittis

Herbert Howells: Worcester Service

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace :
 according to thy word.
 For mine eyes have seen thy salvation :
 which thou hast prepared before the face of all people.
 To be a light to lighten the Gentiles :
 and to be the glory of thy people Israel.
 Glory be to the Father, and to the Son :
 and to the Holy Ghost;
 As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :
 world without end. Amen.

Please face east

The Apostles' Creed

All **I believe in God the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth:
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried:
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from thence he shall come
to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic Church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

The Lesser Litany, Responses and Collects

Kenneth Leighton

Cantor **The Lord be with you.**

Choir **And with thy spirit.**

Please kneel

Cantor **Let us pray.**

Choir **Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father,
which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive them that trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
Amen.

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.
And grant us thy salvation.

O Lord, save the King.
And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Endue thy ministers with righteousness.
And make thy chosen people joyful.

O Lord, save thy people.
And bless thine inheritance.

Give peace in our time, O Lord.
Because there is none other that fighteth for us,
but only thou, O God.

O God, make clean our hearts within us.
And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

The Collect for the Third Sunday before Lent (Septuagesima)

O Lord, we beseech thee
favourably to hear the prayers of thy people;
that we, who are justly punished for our offences,
may be mercifully delivered by thy goodness,
for the glory of thy Name;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour,
who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost,
ever one God, world without end.
Amen.

The Collect for peace

O God, from whom all holy desires,
all good counsels, and all just works do proceed:
give unto thy servants that peace
which the world cannot give;
that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments,
and also that by thee
we being defended from the fear of our enemies
may pass our time in rest and quietness;
through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour.
Amen.

The Collect for aid against all perils

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee O Lord;
and by thy great mercy
defend us from all perils and dangers of this night;
for the love of thy only Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Please sit

Lass dich nur nichts dauren
mit Trauren
Sei stille, wie Gott es fügt,
So sei vergnügt mein Wille!

Was willst du heute sorgen auf morgen,
auf morgen?
Der Eine steht allem für,
Der gibt auch dir das Deine.

Sei nur in allem Handel
ohn' Wandel,
Steh' fetste, was Gott beschleuß,
Das ist und heißt das Beste. Amen.

*Let no sad thought oppress thee,
distress thee;
Fear nothing, trust God's own will,
And be thou still, my spirit.*

*Heed not with care and sorrow
the morrow:
Our Father, who all doth see
Shall give to thee thy portion.*

*From righteous paths then range not,
and change not;
Be steadfast, for God is just;
Give him thy trust for ever. Amen.*

*Paul Flemming,
English version by John Rutter*

Johannes Brahms

The prayers conclude with the Grace

All **The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all evermore. Amen.**

Please stand to sing the hymn

Hymn Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
Does his successive journeys run;
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.

People and realms of every tongue
Dwell on his love with sweetest song,
And infant voices shall proclaim
Their early blessings on his name.

Blessings abound where'er he reigns;
The prisoner leaps to lose his chains;
The weary find eternal rest,
And all the sons of want are blest.

Let every creature rise and bring
Peculiar honours to our King;
Angels descend with songs again,
And earth repeat the long Amen.

Philip Armes

TRURO, Isaac Watt

The Blessing

Dean The peace of God, which passeth all understanding,
 keep your hearts and minds
 in the knowledge and love of God,
 and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;
 and the blessing of God almighty,
 the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
 be among you and remain with you always.

Choir Amen.

Voluntary

At 5.00 p.m., there is a recital given by the Northern Spirit Singers in aid of Durham Cathedral Choral Association.

Daily services this week

*At 8.30 a.m., **Morning Prayer** (live-streamed) is said in the Feretory from Monday to Saturday.*

*At 12.30 p.m., **Holy Communion** is celebrated each weekday in the North Transept. These services are not live-streamed.*

*At 5.30 p.m., **Evensong** is sung in the Quire from Monday to Saturday (live-streamed Monday to Friday). On Monday, Evensong is sung by the Chapel Choir of St Chad's College, Durham University.*

***Compline** is said on Monday at 8.45 p.m. (live-streamed only).*

*Next Sunday—The Second Sunday before Lent (Sexagesima): **Holy Communion** (BCP) is celebrated at 8.00 a.m., the **Sung Eucharist with Holy Baptism** is celebrated at 10.00 a.m., **Morning Prayer with Address** is said at 11.30 a.m., and **Evensong** is sung at 3.30 p.m.*

Student Tuesday

Students are always welcome at Durham Cathedral, but we extend a particular welcome at Evensong on Tuesdays during term-time, after which we gather for food and fellowship in the Deanery. The next Student Tuesday is on 18 February. We gather after Evensong in the South Transept.

The Scott Screen

The Scott Screen at the entrance to the Quire will soon undergo conservation work. In preparation for that work, scaffolding will be erected on both sides of the Screen, starting in the week beginning Monday 10 February. The work will last until at least the end of March. The work will look a little unsightly especially on Sunday mornings. Access to the Quire will not be impeded given that access (and egress) is always via the North Quire Aisle. Please bear with us during this special and much-needed work.

Vision Update for the Worshipping Community in the Prior's Hall

Wednesday 19 February from 6.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.

Members of the worshipping community are all invited to a meeting when Philip and members of the team will share an update on the Vision 2033 journey we are on at Durham Cathedral. There will be information about new work planned and the chance to contribute to new projects being considered. Come for Choral Evensong at 5.30 p.m. and stay on (or join us) for drinks and nibbles at 6.15 p.m. in the Priors Hall. The meeting will start shortly after 6.30 p.m.

Make a gift to Durham Cathedral

If you already support the Cathedral, thank you!

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advancing our mission as a place of prayer, pilgrimage and proclamation,
conserving heritage, and providing welcome.

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- Visit www.stewardship.org.uk/partners/20041776
- Use the tap and give machines near the exits
- Drop cash into the collecting boxes or baskets
- Contact development@durhamcathedral.co.uk

Thank you!



Lent Talks 2025

Let Us Pray: Learning and Living the Prayers of the Church

This Lent you are warmly invited to Durham Cathedral for our series of Sunday afternoon Lent Talks. Speakers from a range of traditions will introduce a special prayer which has helped them pray over the years. Talks take place in the Quire of Durham Cathedral on Sundays after Evensong and will conclude with silence as all are invited to use the prayer for ourselves in a time of quiet meditation.

Sunday 9 March – Encountering Joy:

The Prayer of Simeon in the Nunc Dimittis

The Reverend Canon Charlie Allen

Canon Chancellor, Durham Cathedral

Sunday 16 March – Inspiration, Motivation and Blessing: Psalm 84

Canon Jeffrey Hewitt

former Head Verger and Lay Canon Emeritus, Durham Cathedral

Sunday 23 March – Prostrating with Humility, Repenting in the Heart:

The Lenten Prayer of St Ephrem the Syrian

Fr Justin Mihoc

Priest in the Romanian Orthodox Patriarchate

and Rector of the Parish of St Cuthbert and St Bede, Durham

Sunday 30 March – Faith, Love, Vision – and Dogged Determination

Mrs Sue Snowdon, *HM Lord Lieutenant of County Durham*

Sunday 6 April – All hearts are open, all desires known:

The Collect for Purity

The Right Reverend Sarah Clark, *Bishop of Jarrow*

Sunday 13 April (Palm Sunday*) – Inestimable Love:

The General Thanksgiving from the Book of Common Prayer

The Very Reverend Dr Philip Plyming, *Dean of Durham*

Where and when? 4.30 p.m. to 5.00 p.m., the Quire, Durham Cathedral (*entry via main door*). The talks will follow on from Evensong which starts at 3.30 p.m. However, all are welcome whether or not you attend Evensong. The talks are free and no tickets are required. The talks will be livestreamed on the Cathedral's YouTube page. **Note: Palm Sunday's talk will start at 5.00 p.m. in the Galilee Chapel, prior to Bach's St John's Passion being sung at 6.00 p.m. in the Cathedral.*

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