

# Season of Lent

16th March 2025

Led by Laurence Wareing & Mike Holroyd

## Welcome & Gathering

### Call to worship

One: We are on a Lenten journey

ALL: From a wilderness to a garden.

One: A journey of pruning and planting,

ALL: of seeking and discovering.

One: God of transformation and new life, in our Lenten journey

ALL: We offer you our worship & praise.

### Hymn: Forty Days and Forty Nights CH4 337

Forty days and forty nights

You were fasting in the wild;

Forty days and forty nights

Tempted, and yet undefiled.

Sunbeams scorching all the day;

Chilly dew-drops nightly shed;

Prowling beasts about your way;

Stones your pillow; earth your bed.

Shall not we your sorrow share,

And from earthly joys abstain,

Fasting with unceasing prayer,

Glad with you to suffer pain?

And if Satan, vexing sore,

Flesh or spirit should assail,

Christ, his vanquisher before,

Grant we may not faint or fail.

So shall we have peace divine;

Holier gladness ours be due;

Round us, too, shall angels shine,

Such as ministered to you.

Keep, oh, keep us, Savior dear,

Ever constant at your side;

That we may with you appear



*Into the seed  
by Jan  
Richardson*

In your resurrection-tide.

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### **Opening Prayer with movement**

One: Holy One, In times of wilderness and certainty

**ALL: Love and hope surround us.**

*(action: \*arms circle round, cross in front of body and lower)*

One: In times of abundance and poverty

**ALL: Love and hope surround us. (action\*)**

One: In times of growth and change

**ALL: Love and hope surround us. (action\*)**

We unite our prayers together in the Lord's Prayer or Jesus Prayer, using a form of words which are worshipful for us...

Source of Life,  
Father and Mother of us all:  
Creation honours you!  
May your Realm of Justice & Joy  
Sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.  
In the hurts we absorb from one another,  
forgive us.  
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.  
From trials too great to endure, spare us.  
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.  
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. Amen

### **Time for all ages**

#### **Hymn: She Sits Like A Bird CH4 593**

She sits like a bird, brooding on the waters,  
hovering on the chaos of the world's first day;  
she sighs and she sings, mothering creation,  
waiting to give birth to all the Word will say.

She wings over earth, resting where she wishes,  
lighting close at hand or soaring through the skies;  
she nests in the womb, welcoming each wonder,  
nourishing potential hidden to our eyes.

She dances in fire, startling her spectators,  
waking tongues of ecstasy where dumbness reigned;  
she weans and inspires all whose hearts are open,  
nor can she be captured, silenced, or restrained.

For she is the Spirit, one with God in essence,  
gifted by the Saviour in eternal love;  
and she is the key opening the scriptures,  
enemy of apathy and heavenly dove.

*John L. Bell (b. 1949) and Graham Maule (b. 1958)*  
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## **Readings read by Moira Holmes**

### **Psalm 27**

*Triumphant Song of Confidence of David.*

1 The Lord is my light and my salvation;  
whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold[a] of my life;  
of whom shall I be afraid?

2 When evildoers assail me  
to devour my flesh—  
my adversaries and foes—  
they shall stumble and fall.

3 Though an army encamp against me,  
my heart shall not fear;  
though war rise up against me,  
yet I will be confident.

4 One thing I asked of the Lord,  
that will I seek after:  
to live in the house of the Lord  
all the days of my life,  
to behold the beauty of the Lord,  
and to inquire in his temple.

5 For he will hide me in his shelter  
in the day of trouble;  
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;  
he will set me high on a rock.

6 Now my head is lifted up  
 above my enemies all around me,  
 and I will offer in his tent  
 sacrifices with shouts of joy;  
 I will sing and make melody to the Lord.

7 Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud,  
 be gracious to me and answer me!  
 8 'Come,' my heart says, 'seek his face!'  
 Your face, Lord, do I seek.  
 9 Do not hide your face from me.

Do not turn your servant away in anger,  
 you who have been my help.  
 Do not cast me off, do not forsake me,  
 O God of my salvation!  
 10 If my father and mother forsake me,  
 the Lord will take me up.

11 Teach me your way, O Lord,  
 and lead me on a level path  
 because of my enemies.  
 12 Do not give me up to the will of my adversaries,  
 for false witnesses have risen against me,  
 and they are breathing out violence.

13 I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord  
 in the land of the living.  
 14 Wait for the Lord;  
 be strong, and let your heart take courage;  
 wait for the Lord!

### **Luke 13:31-35**

31 At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, 'Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.' 32 He said to them, 'Go and tell that fox for me, "Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. 33 Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed away from Jerusalem." 34 Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! 35 See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, "Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

## Sermon by Mike Holroyd

### Offering & Dedication

Praise God from whom all blessing flow  
 Praise God all creature here below  
 Praise God above, You heavenly host  
 Praise Maker Christ and Holy Ghost

*Music: Louis Bourgeois, c. 1510-1561.  
 Words: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711*

### Communion led by Laurence Wareing

#### Hymn: Come to the table of grace

Come to the table of grace  
 Come to the table of grace  
 This God's table it's not yours or mine  
 Come to table of grace.

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#### Prayer of Thanksgiving, Intercession & Blessing:

Celebrant: We unite in prayer with followers of Jesus since the earliest times  
 as we say:

God be with you

ALL: And with your spirit

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts

ALL: We lift them to God

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to God

ALL: It is right to give our thanks and praise

Celebrant: Holy Loving God,

For the universe you have crafted in all its variety and mystery

ALL: We praise and thank you

Celebrant: For the gift of Christ Jesus; vulnerable healer & guide

ALL: We praise and thank you

Celebrant: For your Salvation; love crucified and resurrected.

ALL: We praise and thank you

Celebrant: With people everywhere, past present and yet to come

ALL: We praise and thank you

#### Hymn: God bless to us our bread CH4 763

God bless to us our bread,  
 And give bread to all those who are hungry  
 and hunger for justice to all who are fed.  
 God bless to us our bread.

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#### Song: This is the body of Christ CH4 799

This is the body of Christ  
 broken that we might be whole.  
 This cup as promised by God,  
 true to God's Word,  
 cradles our Lord;  
 Food for the good of us all.

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Peace

*Closing Response*

Celebrant: Together we are nourished by Jesus' life.

ALL: We go to share his life and love.

## Notices

### **Hymn: Send us out in the power of Your Spirit**

Send us out in the power of Your Spirit  
 to shine Your light in the way we live.  
 Send us out in the power of Your Spirit  
 as we receive may we freely give.

Send us out, send us out,  
 Send us out for Your glory.  
 Let all we do be praise to you,  
 send us out for Your glory.

Send us out in the power of Your Spirit  
 to show Your love everywhere we go.  
 Send us out in the power of Your Spirit,  
 Lord fill us up so we overflow.

Send us out, send us out,  
 Send us out for Your glory.  
 Let all we do be praise to you,  
 send us out for Your glory (repeat)

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## **Blessing & Sung Amen**

### **What's on @ AUC this week?**

Event	Date	Time	Location	Notes
Sunday Worship	Sun 16 <sup>th</sup> March	11am	AUC & Online	Laurence is leading and Mike is preaching
Post Service Zoom Social	Sun 16 <sup>th</sup> March	12 noon	Online	

Contextual Bible Study	Weds 19 <sup>th</sup> March	7.30pm	Online	<i>Luke 13:31-35</i> . Email <a href="mailto:minister@augustine.org.uk">minister@augustine.org.uk</a> for the Zoom link
Contextual Bible Study	Thurs 20 <sup>th</sup> March	12 noon	Online	<i>Luke 13:31-35</i> . Email <a href="mailto:minister@augustine.org.uk">minister@augustine.org.uk</a> for the Zoom link
Sunday Worship	Sun 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	11am	AUC & Online	Carol is leading and Fiona is preaching and it's AUC's Gift Day (see Friday notices for more info)
Post Service Zoom Social	Sun 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	12 noon	Online	

**Zoom ID for worship: 84317815003**

**Zoom ID for all social events: 3140057633**

**Password: 1861AUC**

**Zoom Telephone number: 0131 4601196**