

# Season of Lent

22nd March 2026

Led by Andrew Owens & Mike Holroyd

## Welcome & Gathering

### Call to worship

One: We are on a Lenten journey;  
ALL: From a wilderness to a garden,  
One: From longing to discovering,  
ALL: From waiting to birthing.  
One: God of transformation and new life,  
ALL: We offer you our worship & praise.

### Hymn: Here in this place CH4 623

Here in this place new light is streaming,  
now is the darkness vanished away,  
see in this space our fears and our dreamings,  
brought here to you in the light of this day.  
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken,  
gather us in, all burdened with shame,  
call to us now, and we shall awaken,  
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a mystery,  
we are the old who yearn for your face,  
we have been sung throughout all of history,  
called to be light to the whole human race.  
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty,  
gather us in, the proud and the strong;  
give us a heart so meek and so lowly,  
give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and the water,  
here we will take the bread of new birth,  
here you shall call your children together,  
call us anew to be salt for the earth.  
Give us to drink the wine of compassion,  
give us to eat the bread that is you;  
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion  
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.



*Into the seed*  
by  
*Jan*  
*Richardson*

Not in the dark of buildings confining,  
not in some heaven, light years away,  
but here in this place the new light is shining,  
now is the Kingdom, now is the day.  
Gather us in and hold us for ever,  
gather us in and make us your own;  
gather us in, all peoples together,  
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

CH4 623 Marty Haugen (b. 1950)  
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### **Opening Prayer with movement**

One: Holy One

In times of wilderness and uncertainty

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

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

One: In times of abundance and clarity

**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 for ever. Amen

**Time for all ages:**

## **Hymn: Behold, behold...**

Behold, behold  
I make something new  
Beginning with you  
And starting from today.  
Behold, behold,  
I make something new  
My Promise is true  
For I am Christ the Way.

*JL Bell & G Maule  
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## **Readings read by Moira Holmes**

### **Romans 5:12-21**

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one person, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned— <sup>13</sup>sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. <sup>14</sup>Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come. <sup>15</sup>But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one person's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one person, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. <sup>16</sup>And the free gift is not like the effect of the one person's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. <sup>17</sup>If, because of the one person's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one person, Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>Therefore just as one person's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one person's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. <sup>19</sup>For just as by the one person's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one person's obedience the many will be made righteous. <sup>20</sup>But law came in, with the result that the trespass multiplied; but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, <sup>21</sup>so that, just as sin exercised dominion in death, so grace might also exercise dominion through justification leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **Matthew 4:1-11**

4Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. 2He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. 3The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." 4But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" 5Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, 6saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" 7Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" 8Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; 9and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." 10Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" 11Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

## **Sermon by Mike Holroyd**

## **Meditation**

## **Prayers of the People by Alex Peden**

## **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*

## **Notices**

## **Hymn: We sing a love CH4 622**

We sing a love that sets all people free,  
that blows like wind, that burns like scorching flame,  
enfolds like earth, springs up like water clear:  
come, living love, live in our hearts today.

We sing a love, unflinching, unafraid  
to be itself, despite another's wrath,  
a love that stands alone and undismayed:  
come, strengthening love, live in our hearts today.

We sing a love, that, wandering, will not rest  
until it finds its way, its home, its source,

through joy and sadness pressing on refreshed:  
come, pilgrim love, live in our hearts today.

*CH4 622 June Boyce-Tillman.  
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**Blessing & Sung Amen**

## What's on @ AUC this week?

Event	Date	Time	Location	Notes
Sunday Worship	Sun 22 <sup>nd</sup> Mar	11am	AUC & Online	Andrew is leading and Mike is preaching
Post Service Zoom Social	Sun 22 <sup>nd</sup> Mar	12 noon	Online	
Rota volunteer get together	Sun 22 <sup>nd</sup> Mar	1pm- 3pm	AUC	
Contextual Bible Study	Wed 25 <sup>th</sup> Mar	7.30- 8.30 pm	Online	<i>John 11:1-45</i> Email <a href="mailto:centre.manager@augustine.org.uk">centre.manager@augustine.org.uk</a> for the Zoom link
Contextual Bible Study	Thu 26 <sup>th</sup> Mar	12- 1pm	Online	<i>John 11:1-45</i> Email <a href="mailto:centre.manager@augustine.org.uk">centre.manager@augustine.org.uk</a> for the Zoom link
Trans Visibility Day Celebration	Fri 27 <sup>th</sup> Mar	5:30- 8:30p m	AUC	Everyone is welcome for: zine workshop, social time, placard making, storytelling, arts and craft, refreshments. Contact: Maxwell on <a href="mailto:ourtribe@augustine.org.uk">ourtribe@augustine.org.uk</a>
Sunday Worship	Sun 29 <sup>th</sup> Mar	11am	AUC & Online	Sian is leading and Andrew is preaching
Post Service Zoom Social	Sun 29 <sup>th</sup> Mar	12 noon	Online	
Coffee Social: Come OUT with Our Tribe (LGBTQI+)	Sun 29 <sup>th</sup> Mar	1:30- 3pm	Coffee Saints Little King St, Edinburgh EH1 3AR (Opposite the side entrance of John Lewis)	Chance to meet, chat and get to know each other over a cuppa. New people always very welcome. Look out for the Rainbow flag on our table

**Zoom ID for worship: 84317815003**

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

**Password: 1861AUC**

**Zoom Telephone number: 0131 4601196**