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| FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT 21 March 2021 |
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*Light a candle as a symbol of Christ’s presence with you, and to remind us that we are praying as a church family.*

**HYMN** – sung by Alice Barlow  
**Angel voices ever singing**  
round thy throne of light,  
angel harps, forever ringing,  
rest not day nor night;  
thousands only live to bless thee  
and confess thee   
Lord of might.

Thou who art beyond the farthest  
mortal eye can scan,  
can it be that thou regardest  
songs of sinful man?  
Can we feel that thou art near us  
and wilt hear us?   
Yes, we can.

For we know that thou rejoicest  
o'er each work of thine;  
thou didst ears and hands and voices  
for thy praise design;  
craftsman's art and music's measure  
for thy pleasure   
all combine.

In thy house, great God, we offer  
of thine own to thee;  
and for thine acceptance proffer,  
all unworthily,  
hearts and minds and hands and voices  
in our choicest   
psalmody.

Honour, glory, might, and merit  
thine shall ever be,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
blessed Trinity.  
Of the best that thou hast given  
earth and heaven   
render thee.

**WELCOME** – Simon TaylorThe Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

**CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION** - led by Piers Brereton  
The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit;  
a broken and contrite heart God will not despise.  
Let us come to the Lord, who is full of compassion,  
and acknowledge our transgressions in penitence and faith.

**Lord our God,**

**in our sin we have avoided your call.**

**Our love for you is like a morning cloud,**

**like the dew that goes away early.**

**Have mercy on us;**

**deliver us from judgement;**

**bind up our wounds and revive us;**

**in Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

May the God of love

bring us back to himself,

forgive us our sins,

and assure us of his eternal love

in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**HYMN** – sung by Bob & Jan Croft

**Be still, for the presence of the Lord,**  
the Holy One, is here.  
Come, bow before him now,  
with reverence and fear.  
In him no sin is found,  
we stand on holy ground.  
Be still, for the presence of the Lord,  
the Holy One, is here.

Be still, for the glory of the Lord  
is shining all around;  
he burns with holy fire,  
with splendour he is crowned.  
How awesome is the sight,  
our radiant King of light!  
Be still, for the glory of the Lord  
is shining all around.

Be still, for the power of the Lord  
is moving in this place;  
he comes to cleanse and heal,  
to minister his grace.  
No work too hard for him,  
in faith receive from him.  
Be still, for the power of the Lord  
is moving in this place.

**READINGS** – read by Neil Jerram

***Jeremiah 31.33-34*33**‘This is the covenant that I will make with the people of Israel  
    after that time,’ declares the Lord.  
‘I will put my law in their minds  
    and write it on their hearts.  
I will be their God,  
    and they will be my people.  
**34**No longer will they teach their neighbour,  
    or say to one another, “Know the Lord,”  
because they will all know me,  
    from the least of them to the greatest,’  
declares the Lord.  
‘For I will forgive their wickedness  
    and will remember their sins no more.’

***John 12.20-33***  
**20**Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the festival. **21**They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. ‘Sir,’ they said, ‘we would like to see Jesus.’ **22**Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in turn told Jesus.  
**23**Jesus replied, ‘The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. **24**Very truly I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. **25**Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. **26**Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honour the one who serves me.  
**27**‘Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? “Father, save me from this hour”? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. **28**Father, glorify your name!’  
Then a voice came from heaven, ‘I have glorified it, and will glorify it again.’ **29**The crowd that was there and heard it said it had thundered; others said an angel had spoken to him.  
**30**Jesus said, ‘This voice was for your benefit, not mine. **31**Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. **32**And I, when I am lifted upfrom the earth, will draw all people to myself.’ **33**He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die.

**SERMON** – Simon Taylor

**PRAYERS** – led by Lizzie Taylor

*During the prayers, this response will be used*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

**COLLECT**

Gracious Father,

you gave up your Son

out of love for the world:

lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion,

that we may know eternal peace

through the shedding of our Saviour’s blood,

Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**LORD’S PRAYER**

**HYMN** – sung by Alison Krauss

**In Christ alone my hope is found,**  
he is my light, my strength, my song;  
this Cornerstone,   
this solid Ground,  
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace,  
when fears are stilled,   
when strivings cease!  
My Comforter, my All in All,  
here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! - who took on flesh,  
fullness of God in helpless babe.  
This gift of love   
and righteousness,  
scorned by the ones He came to save:  
till on that cross as Jesus died,  
the wrath of God was satisfied -  
for every sin on Him was laid;  
here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,  
light of the world by darkness slain:  
then bursting forth in glorious day  
up from the grave He rose again!  
And as He stands in victory  
sin's curse has lost its grip on me,  
for I am His and He is mine -  
bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,  
this is the power of Christ in me;  
From life's first cry to final breath,  
Jesus commands my destiny.  
No power of hell, no scheme of man,  
can ever pluck me from His hand:  
till He returns or calls me home,  
here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

**CONCLUSION**

The peace of God,

which passes all understanding,

keep our 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 us and remain with us always.

**Amen.**