



The One who is Passionate

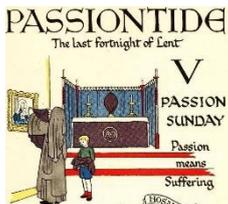
**Worshipping, Caring, Pioneering
'Growing God's Kingdom'**



**Sunday worship and weekly news
21 March 2021**

LENT 5

**Welcome everyone
As the Rev Canon Dr Sandra Millar
leads our Video Service**



Jesus impressed wherever He went. His specific mission was to the people of Israel, yet here we read some Greeks asked to see Him. We could read into this event, that Jesus now focused His attention on offering His body as a sacrifice not only to save the lost sheep of Israel, but the Gentiles too.

Today, for two weeks, we enter the season we call 'Passiontide'.

It's wonderful to reflect on the fact Jesus is so 'Passionate' about us He was prepared to fully obey His Father and go to the cross for us. No wonder the writer to the Hebrews called Him 'a priest for ever'. I pray you agree, He is worthy of our worship.

Pete Best

Today's service on YouTube

The service can be accessed from the church website www.glos-stm-stg.org.uk
Click on the blue banner at the bottom of the page. Enjoy, and sing aloud to your hearts content.

When will our churches re-open?

We are pleased to announce our churches will be re-opening. **St Margaret's will be open for Communion on Thursday 25th March; then both churches will re-open for Sunday worship from 28 March onwards.**

Will there be restrictions?

Sadly.... Yes! The same rules that applied pre lockdown will be in place i.e.

- Wear a face mask.
- Sanitise your hands.
- No singing (except from the heart),
- Observe Social Distancing – the 2m rule.
- No mixing or socialising, either before or after the service.

Processional Hymn

Lift high the cross

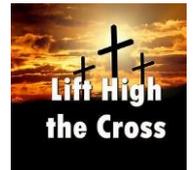
*The love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore his sacred name.*

Come, let us follow where our Captain trod,
Our King victorious, Christ the Son of God.

Let every race and every language tell
Of him who saves our souls from death and hell.

Set up thy throne, that earth's despair may cease
Beneath the shadow of its healing peace.

For thy blest cross which doth for all atone
Creation's praises rise before thy throne.



THE GREETING

Minister. We meet in the name of the father and of the son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

The Lord be with you **And also with you.**

Prayer of preparation for worship

Minister. Let us pray

Almighty God to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ, our Lord. Amen

Prayer of penitence

Our Lord Jesus Christ said:

The first commandment is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord, Our God, is the only Lord. You shall love the Lord, Your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.'

The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Amen, Lord, have mercy.

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil.

Let us confess our sins remembering before God the times when we have fallen short from temptation into sin.

Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen**

Prayer for Today

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

Hebrews 5 Qualifications for High Priesthood

Read by Sarah Kingscote

⁵ So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, 'You are my Son,

today I have begotten you';

⁶ as he says also in another place,

'You are a priest for ever,

according to the order of Melchizedek.'

⁷ In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸ Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he

suffered; ⁹ and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, ¹⁰ having been designated by God a high

priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Prayer: Lord Jesus Christ our Great High Priest, thank you for being willing to suffer, and for your tears of intercession, all for us. Amen

Psalms 119:9-16

Meditation on the excellence of God's Word

Read by Roger & Brenda Meadows

9 How shall young people cleanse their way
to keep themselves according to your word?

10 With my whole heart have I sought you;

○ let me not go astray from your commandments.

11 Your words have I hidden within my heart
that I should not sin against you.

12 Blessed are you, O Lord;

○ teach me your statutes.

13 With my lips have I been telling
of all the judgements of your mouth.

14 I have taken greater delight in the way of your testimonies

than in all manner of riches.

15 I will meditate on your commandments
and contemplate your ways.

16 My delight shall be in your statutes
and I will not forget your word.

Prayer: Faithful God, let your Word be the treasure of our hearts, that we may delight in your truth and walk in the glorious liberty of your Son Jesus Christ. Amen

John 12 Some Greeks Wish to See Jesus

Read by David Westcott

²⁰ Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹ They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, 'Sir, we wish to see Jesus.' ²² Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³ Jesus answered them, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴ Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵ Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶ Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour.

Jesus Speaks about His Death

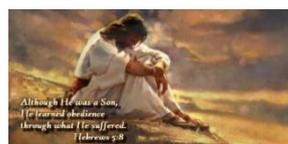
²⁷ 'Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say "Father, save me from this hour"? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. ²⁸ Father, glorify your name.' Then a voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.' ²⁹ The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, 'An angel has spoken to him.' ³⁰ Jesus answered, 'This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹ Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³² And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.' ³³ He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

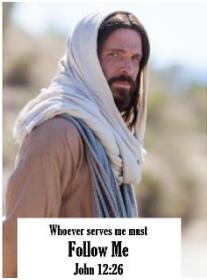
Prayer: Lord help us to be dead to the pull of selfish love, and alive to the pull of Your love, whatever it takes. Amen

Reflection from Helen McGeoch

I had my vaccination this week, so I join the majority of you in being saved from the most severe consequences of Covid 19 should I be unfortunate enough to catch it. But we are so aware that it came too late for too many. We have had a year of news of death. So sad.

Our passage this week speaks also of death, taking place during the lead up to Jesus' own death. Gladly, the passage also speaks of death giving way to new life and bearing fruit. We know that this can only be because of Jesus and we are thankful.





Verse 26 speaks about how we should be living our lives now. It tells us that in order to serve Jesus we must follow him. 'Follow me' was a first instruction he gave to his disciples. It was because they followed him that they were known as the disciples. What does being a disciple mean?

It means to constantly pay attention to and stay with someone, learning from them. It does not mean that we pop by occasionally to ask what they are up to. Nor does it mean to attend a seminar every now and then to go a bit deeper with something they might have said. To 'constantly pay attention to' means to be always aware of what is going on, to be watching for the next move, to not take breaks when we get tired or something becomes too difficult and to be valuing every opportunity to learn.

The disciples we hear of in the Gospels did just that – they lived at the side of Jesus, they went where he went, they watched his behaviour and listened to his words. So how do we follow him? Like the disciples, we need to sit close to him, listening for his voice (rather than do all the talking), becoming aware of his presence around us. And read the Bible - such a precious gift for learning God's heart for his people. We should cherish his word and treasure it in our hearts, letting it seep into our souls, affecting our behaviours and attitudes.

Then we will be his disciples.

Then we will be his followers.

Then we will know the transforming love of Jesus that took him suffering through death to resurrection as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

Then, we will not fear our own death because we know we will be with Him.

Thank you Jesus!

We declare together our commitment to faith:

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made; of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again, in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory, to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life who proceeds from the Father and the Son who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.

Intercessions from Susan Scothern



Father God, we pray for our churches, for St George's and St Margaret's, and for our witness to the community in Tuffley and Whaddon. We know that while we cannot meet it can feel as

though our contact is limited, but help us to continue to share your love to all those around in whatever ways are currently possible. We pray too for our fellow churches in Tuffley, that as we seek to reach out together we will work in harmony. And we think of the new vicar who you are calling to work among us, that you will prepare them to share your good news with all around.

We think of our nation, and those who have the responsibility for leading us forward. Grant them wisdom and discernment in all the decisions that they make, seeking for the good of all those within the nation and not just one section. We bring before you all nations, especially those who were already faced with poverty and natural disaster before the pandemic struck. We ask that richer nations will aid those who are poorer, that all may share in the benefits of vaccination.

We pray for ourselves in the coming week. We bring before you our doubts and concerns, decisions we need to make, actions we know we must take despite the wish to not do so. May we be always conscious of your presence as you guide us forwards. We name those of our friends and family who are in any form of need, whether illness or other, and ask that they will be assured that your arms are around them, and that when they cannot feel our arms, then your arms will feel even closer. We ask these things in the name of your son whom you glorified.

Merciful father,

accept these prayers, for the sake of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

We share God's Peace

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us access to his grace.

The peace of the Lord be with you. **And also with you**

Offertory Hymn

From Heaven You Came (Servant King)

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*

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

Chorus

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.

Chorus

Graham Kendrick © 1983 Thankyou Music



THE SACRAMENT

The Table is prepared

Minister: God of our journey, as we walk with you on your path of obedience, sustain us on our way and lead us to your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour, and their majesty; for everything in heaven, and on earth, is yours. All things come from you, and of your own do we give you. **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer

Minister: The Lord is here. **His spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise, almighty God and everlasting Father, through Jesus Christ your Son.

For in these forty days you lead us into the desert of repentance that through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline we may grow in grace and learn to be your people once again.

Through fasting, prayer and acts of service you bring us back to your generous heart. Through study of your holy word you open our eyes to your presence in the world and free our hands to welcome others into the radiant splendour of your love.

As we prepare to celebrate the Easter feast with joyful hearts and minds we bless you for your mercy and join with the saints and angels for ever praising you and saying.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven on earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

All glory be to you, our heavenly Father, who, in your tender mercy, gave your only Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there by his one oblation of himself once offered a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice, oblation and satisfaction for the sins of the whole world; he instituted, and in his holy gospel commanded us to continue, a perpetual memory of his precious death until he comes again.

Hear us, merciful Father, we humbly pray, and grant that, by the power of your Holy Spirit, we receiving these gifts of your creation, this bread and this wine, according to your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed body and blood; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me. In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying; Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Jesus Christ is Lord: **Lord, by your cross and resurrection you have set us free, You are the saviour of the world.** Therefore, Lord and heavenly Father, in remembrance of the precious death and passion, the mighty resurrection and glorious ascension of your dear Son Jesus Christ, we offer you through him this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.

Grant that by his merits and death, and through faith in his blood, we and all your Church may receive forgiveness of our sins and all other benefits of his passion. Although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer you any sacrifice, yet we pray that you will accept this the duty and service that we owe. Do not weigh our merits, but pardon our offences, and fill us all who share in this holy communion with your grace and heavenly blessing; through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray for the coming of gods kingdom, as our saviour has taught us.

Our father who art in heaven hallowed be thy name thy Kingdom come thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven give us this day Our Daily Bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who 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.

We break the bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. (repeat)

Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

We share in Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the whole world. Blessed are those who are called to his supper. **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

Most merciful Lord, your love compels us to come in. Our hands were unclean, our hearts were unprepared; we were not fit even to eat the crumbs from under your table. But you, Lord, are the God of our salvation, and share your bread with sinners. So cleanse and feed us with the precious body and blood of your Son, that he may live in us and we in him; and that we, with the whole company of Christ, may sit and eat in your kingdom. **Amen**

Prayers

Father of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.

May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your people shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Final Hymn Requested by Pat Mitchell

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!
Stuart Townend (born 1963) and Keith Getty (born 1974)
© 2001 Thankyou Music!

News 21 – 28 March

The March 100 Club draw was made.

1st Prize - £30 to Sarah Kingscote
2nd Prize - £20 to Neil Stevens
3rd Prize - £10 to Mike Clift

Congratulations to the winners and many thanks to those who support this fundraiser for St George's Church. Any outstanding monies can be handed into Glenda on a Friday morning in the Church Office or you can contact me. Many thanks Darrell

EASTER AUCTION

Our baking chef Sue has offered to make an Easter Cake to be auctioned on 28 March 2021. If you would like to bid for the cake please contact Glenda on 01452 410507 leaving your details by Sunday, 28 March and arrangements will be made with the winner for collection or delivery.

In Memoriam:

Margaret Price RIP

We pray for all who are ill or in need at this time mentioning by name:

Margaret, Angela, Susan, Mike and Laura, Lynne, Bill, Sarah, Pat, Christine, June, Daphne, Ginnie, Veronica, Darren and family, Hedley and Rosemary, Carol, Christopher and Christine, David and Angela, Richard, Tony and Jean.

Anniversaries of Death:

David Rogers, Carla Wilson, Donald Barber, Phyllis Mitchell, Albert Woodcock, Barbara Russell, Nigella Greening (priest), Jill Harrison, Brian Lane, Margaret Durham,

Birthdays and Anniversaries:Ann Mayo 23rd, Mark Barber celebrates a special birthday on 24th Mike Mumby celebrates a special birthday on 25th and David & Kim Westcott celebrate a wedding anniversary on 27th.**DIARY DATES – 21 - 28 March**

Sun 21			No Service Today
Mon 22 to Fri 26	10.00am 12 noon	St G's	Food Parcels – each day Monday – Friday
Mon 22	7.00pm	Z	Lent Group
Tue 23	4.00pm		Vacancy Standing Committee
Wed 24	8.15am	Z	Morning Prayer
	10.00am	Z	Mission Group
Thu 25	10.30am	St M's	Parish Communion
Fri 26	10.30am	Z	Lent Group
Sun 28			PALM SUNDAY No processions but Palm Crosses will be available
	9.00am	St M's	Parish Communion
	10.30am	St M's	Family Praise
	10.30am	St G's	Parish Communion

St G's = St George's St M's = St Margaret's
Z = Zoom

EASTER EGG HUNT

Following the success of Tuffley Christmas Windows we are decorating windows for Easter. Sign up on our Facebook Page, **Tuffley Easter Egg Hunt**, to appear on the map, or just decorate your window anyway. Window decorations will be up from Friday 2 April to Friday 16 April. Make sure you include an Easter Egg. The map will be available on the **Tuffley Easter Egg Hunt** and our own church Facebook pages very soon. See how many you can find.

For further details contact Helen McGeoch 07729615993.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Come and spend some time in prayer and reflection at our **Stations of the Cross event in St George's Church 1st & 2nd April**. Stations will be set up around the church with Bible readings, prayers and around the church with Bible readings, prayers and something visual to accompany the reflection. The church will be open between 12 and 3 pm for private prayer and reflection. Please adhere to the social distancing guidelines.

FOOD PARCELS: St George's Church, Grange Road, is now open for Food Parcel collections from Monday to Friday; 10.00am until 12.00noon **Anyone requiring help outside of these times please phone Sylvia on 01452 416184**. All parcels are FREE OF CHARGE Please be aware of social distancing guidelines.

WHAT TO DO for THIS WEEK:

❖ Keep bringing items for the **Foodbank**; **new collection point is the Church Centre hallway on a Friday morning from 9.30am – 11.30am. Toiletries now accepted at the foodbank, in addition long life milk and tinned carrots and EASTER EGGS are needed.**

Thank you!

Know someone who:

- ❖ is stuck at home without support?
- ❖ can't make ends meet?
- ❖ Just wants to talk?

Then **Contact Gloucestershire Community Help Hub on 01452 583519**

Keep picking up the phone!

People are finding phone calls with friends invaluable to combat loneliness. Thank you everyone; please keep up the good work!

**CONTACTING US:**

Vicar: Vacancy (please pray for new appointment)

Reader: Jonathan MacKechnie-Jarvis 01452 502174

Pioneer: Helen McGeoch 07729 615993

Email: tuffleypioneer@gmail.com

Website: www.glos-stg-stm.org.uk

Facebook: St. George's, Tuffley and St Margaret's Whaddon

Administrator: Glenda Stevens 01452 307456

Email: stgeorgeschurch1@gmail.com

The Administration office is open on Friday mornings from 9.30am until 11.30am until further notice. Please contact the Church Administrator by email or leave a message on the office telephone and our Administrator will get back to you.

We are part of the **Church in Tuffley**, working in partnership with English Martyrs (Roman Catholic), Grange (Baptist) and St Barnabas (Anglican).





28 March 2021

PALM SUNDAY

No processions, but Palm Crosses will be available

9.00am Parish Communion at St Margaret's

10.30am Parish Communion at St George's

10.30am Family Praise at St Margaret's

1 April 2021

MAUNDY THURSDAY

10.30am Parish Communion at St Margaret's

**12.00noon St George's will be open for individual
Stations of the Cross. Open until 3.00pm**

2 April 2021

GOOD FRIDAY

**12.00noon St George's will be open for individual
Stations of the Cross. Open until 3.00pm**

4 April 2021

EASTER DAY

9.00am Parish Communion at St Margaret's

10.30am Parish Communion at St George's

10.30am Family Praise at St Margaret's

VACANCY STANDING COMMITTEE

on ZOOM

4.00pm Tuesday 23 March

4.00pm Tuesday 13 April

BENEFICE STANDING COMMITTEE

on ZOOM

7.00pm Tuesday 30 March