



# Service Sheet

25<sup>th</sup> February 2024 10.30am, St Mary's  
The Second Sunday of Lent  
A Long Obedience: Help!

Welcome to St Mary's Church! We are so glad you are here – whether you are in the church building or watching online. If you are here for the first time or visiting, please say hello (in the chat feature online, or to the service leader or a member of the welcome team in church). You can find out more about our church on our website ([www.denhamparish.church](http://www.denhamparish.church)) or Facebook page ([facebook.com/denhamparish.church](https://facebook.com/denhamparish.church)).

*Christoph Lindner, Rector*

## WELCOME

### OPENING RESPONSE (from Psalm 124)

Our help is in the name of the Lord  
**the Maker of heaven and earth.**

### HYMN

*I lift my eyes up to the mountains  
Where does my help come from?  
My help comes from You, maker of heaven  
Creator of the earth*

*Oh how I need You Lord  
You are my only hope  
You're my only prayer  
So I will wait for You  
To come and rescue me  
Come and give me life*

O worship the Lord  
in the beauty of holiness;  
bow down before him,  
his glory proclaim;  
with gold of obedience,  
and incense of lowliness,  
kneel and adore him:  
the Lord is his name.

Fear not to enter  
his courts in the slenderness  
of the poor wealth  
thou wouldst reckon as thine:  
truth in its beauty,  
and love in its tenderness,  
these are the off'rings  
to lay on his shrine.

These, though we bring them  
in trembling and fearfulness,  
he will accept  
for the name that is dear;  
mornings of joy give  
for ev'nings of tearfulness,  
trust for our trembling  
and hope for our fear.

*I lift my eyes up... (see above)*

### SUMMARY OF THE LAW

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.**

### CONFESSION

**God of mercy, we acknowledge that we are all sinners. We turn from the wrong that we have thought and said and done, and are mindful of all that we have failed to do. For the sake of Jesus, who died for us, forgive us for all that is past, and help us to live each day in the light of Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## ABSOLUTION

May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by his Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## COLLECT

Almighty God, by the prayer and discipline of Lent may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings, and by following in his Way come to share in his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## SONG

Na-na na-na-na-na-na na-na-na-na, ready!  
(Repeat)

I'm ready, God, ready from head to toe  
Ready to sing, to shout "Wake up my soul!"  
Wake up guitar and flute and trumpet  
and drum

Wake up – you sleepyhead sun!

I'm thanking you, God, wherever I go  
The deeper your love, the higher it goes  
Every cloud is a flag to your faithfulness, Lord  
I'm readyyyyyyyah! to sing your praise!

(Children leave for Sunday Club)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### FIRST READING: Psalm 124

<sup>1</sup> If it had not been the Lord who was on our side – let Israel now say –

<sup>2</sup> if it had not been the Lord who was on our side, when our enemies attacked us,

<sup>3</sup> then they would have swallowed us up alive, when their anger was kindled against us;

<sup>4</sup> then the flood would have swept us away, the torrent would have gone over us;

<sup>5</sup> then over us would have gone the raging waters.

<sup>6</sup> Blessed be the Lord, who has not given us as prey to their teeth.

<sup>7</sup> We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowlers; the snare is broken, and we have escaped.

<sup>8</sup> Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

*This is the word of the Lord.*

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### GOSPEL READING: Mark 8. 31-38

*Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark*

**All: Glory to you, O Lord**

<sup>31</sup> Then Jesus began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup> He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup> But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.' <sup>34</sup> He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup> For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. <sup>36</sup> For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? <sup>37</sup> Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? <sup>38</sup> Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

*This is the Gospel of the Lord.*

**All: Praise to you, O Christ**

## SERMON

## THE CREED

**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. Amen.**

## PRAYERS

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

## THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you**

### OFFERTORY HYMN

Be still, my soul:  
the Lord is at your side;  
bear patiently the cross  
of grief and pain;  
leave to your God  
to order and provide;  
in ev'ry change  
he faithful will remain.  
Be still, my soul:  
your best, your heav'nly friend,  
through thorny ways,  
leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul:  
your God will undertake  
to guide the future  
as he has the past.  
Your hope, your confidence  
let nothing shake,  
all now mysterious  
shall be clear at last.  
Be still, my soul:  
the tempests still obey  
his voice, who ruled them  
once on Galilee.

Be still, my soul:  
the hour is hastening on  
when we shall be for ever  
with the Lord,  
when disappointment,  
grief and fear are gone,  
sorrow forgotten,  
love's pure joy restored.  
Be still, my soul:  
when change and tears are past,  
all safe and blessed  
we shall meet at last.

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

Yours, Lord, is the greatness,  
the power, the glory,  
the splendour, and the majesty;  
for everything in heaven  
and on earth is yours.

**All things come from you,  
and of your own do we give you.**

## THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

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, it is our duty and our joy, at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise, holy Father, heavenly King, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

For he is your living Word; through him you have created all things from the beginning, and formed us in your own image.

Through him you have freed us from the slavery of sin, giving him to be born of a woman and to die upon the cross; you raised him from the dead and exalted him to your right hand on high.

Through him you have sent upon us your holy and life-giving Spirit, and made us a people for your own possession. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, and as we follow his example and obey his command, grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his 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.

Therefore, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross; we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; we look for the coming of your kingdom, and with this bread and this cup we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith:  
**Christ has died. Christ is risen:  
Christ will come again.**

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise, and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty, renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

**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 this bread to share  
in the body of Christ.

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

## GIVING OF COMMUNION

*Please follow the directions of our sidesteam.  
Please return to your seat through the middle aisle.*

*We take communion in both bread and wine.  
Please feel under no compulsion to receive the wine, though. **If you require a gluten-free wafer, please make this known to the minister distributing communion.***

*If you'd like to receive a blessing, please keep your hands at your sides as you come forward.*

*If you'd like to receive Holy Communion seated in the pew, please let a member of our sidesteam know.*

## DURING HOLY COMMUNION:

O God, you search me and you know me.  
All my ways lie open to your gaze.  
When I walk or lie down, you go before me:  
Ever the maker and keeper of my days.  
You know my resting and my rising.  
You discern my purpose from afar,  
and with love everlasting you besiege me:  
In ev'ry moment of life or death, you are.

Before a word is on my tongue, Lord,  
you have known its meaning  
through and through.  
You are with me beyond my understanding:  
God of my present, my past and future too.

Although your Spirit is upon me,  
still I search for shelter from your light.  
There is nowhere on earth I can escape you:  
Even the darkness is radiant in your sight.

For you created me and shaped me,  
gave me life within my mother's womb.  
For the wonder of who I am, I praise you:  
Safe in your hands, all creation is made new.

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

## HYMN

Great is Thy faithfulness,  
O God my Father;  
There is no shadow of turning with Thee,  
Thou changest not,  
thy compassions they fail not,  
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be.

*Great is Thy faithfulness!  
Great is Thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see  
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided  
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!*

Summer and winter  
and springtime and harvest,  
Sun, moon, and stars  
in their courses above;  
join with all nature in manifold witness,  
to thy great faithfulness,  
mercy, and love.

Pardon for sin  
and a peace that endureth,  
thine own dear presence  
to cheer and to guide;  
strength for today,  
and bright hope for tomorrow  
Blessings all mine,  
with ten thousand beside.

## BLESSING

Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

*Songs and Hymns reproduced under CCLI licence 61873*

## Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

28 April 2024 - Electoral Roll 2024

This year's Electoral Roll registration will be a revised version of 2023. If there are any changes to your details, please complete a new form which is available to collect from the Display Area near the main entrance of the Church.

Anyone who has been attending St Mary's for at least 6 months may apply to become a member of the Church which will enable them to vote at the APCM. Signed applications should be sent to the Electoral Roll Officer via the post/hand delivered to the Church Office by 10 March 2024.



- For all who are living through pain of bereavement and loss
- Facilitated by Sandy Wickenden & Rev Azita Jabbari
- Relaxed and welcoming atmosphere over a cuppa and light refreshments

**St Mark's House, 80 Green Tiles Lane**

**Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> February, 4pm**

Would you like to find out more? Contact the Church office [office@denhamparish.church](mailto:office@denhamparish.church) or via our church office 01895 832771

## DIARY

**WEDS 28 FEB**  
**Little Lions toddler group.** St Mark's.  
Contact: [eddalindner18@gmail.com](mailto:eddalindner18@gmail.com)

**4pm The Haven, bereavement drop in.**  
St Mark's House.

**SUN 3<sup>rd</sup> MAR**  
**9am Holy Communion**  
**10.30am Family Service**  
**3.30pm Cafe Church, St Mark's**

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**FRI 8 March, 7pm:** Concert with *Torfaen Male Welsh Choir*, St Mary's [see back page]

**SUN 10 March, 10.30am:** *Mothering Sunday*  
Family Service, St Mary's

**SUN 28 April, 10.30am:** Sunday Worship  
with *Annual Church Meeting (APCM)*  
**Please note: There will be no 9am service  
so we can all come together.**

**MON 27 May:** *Denham Village May Fayre*

**SUN 8 September:** *St Mary's Festival*

## THE HAVEN A Bereavement Drop-In

*A Place of Safety, Welcome*

*And Hope Renewed*



**Denham Fayre is back**  
**Save the date: Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2024.**

**We need help in the following areas before the Fayre:**  
**Cake bakers, donations for bottle tombola, unused gifts for tombola stall and teddies for teddy tombola. Please bring tombola items to church where we will collect them.**

**We need help on the day in various areas: set up and take down, sandwich makers, grand raffle stall, bottle tombola stall, children's activities and vestry teas. Please sign up at the back of church.**

Let's pray together....

- For those suffering the consequences of war, natural disasters and oppression. We pray especially for the conflict in Israel and Gaza, and in Ukraine.
- For those who have lost loved ones.
- For those who are persecuted for their Christian faith in North Korea, Somalia, Libya, Eritrea, Yemen, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sudan, Iran, Afghanistan, India and many other countries around the world.  
*Find out more here:*  
[www.opendoorsuk.org/persecution/world-watch-list/](http://www.opendoorsuk.org/persecution/world-watch-list/)



St Mary's Church Denham presents  
**Torfaen Male Choir**  
**A MUSICAL TASTE OF WALES**



Torfaen Male Choir were formed in 2019, by the amalgamation of two award-winning male choirs, Cwmbran & Pontypool.

Under the excellent tutelage of MD, Steve Bard, they perform a wide-ranging repertoire, encompassing all genres.

Accompanist: Penny Hughes

Soloist: Travis Smith (inset, right)

Finalist in *Britain's Got Talent* 2023



**This is a free concert.** There will be a retiring collection. Reserve your ticket online or by calling our church office (details below). During the interval refreshments will be on offer.

**Friday, 8 March 2024, 7.00pm**  
**St Mary's Church Denham**  
**[www.denhamparish.church/wales](http://www.denhamparish.church/wales)**

St Mary's Church Denham | Village Road | UB9 5BH | 01895 832771

