

All-Age Service Sunday 5 March 2017 'Temptation'

The service is led by Revd Gareth Atha, Ben Merrell and the All-Age team

★We Gather Together

Welcome and Notices

All the ends of the earth, turn to the Lord;
all the families of the nations, worship the Lord.
For God walks among the people,
and hears the cry of our hearts.

Opening Song

1. Amazing grace! how sweet the
sound,
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found,
was blind but now I see.

3. Through many dangers, toils, and
snares,
I have already come;
'tis grace hath brought me safe thus
far,
and grace will lead me home.

2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to
fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

4. The Lord has promised good to me
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.

5. When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we first begun.

Words: John Newton

Tune: AMAZING GRACE

Bible Reading *Genesis 2.15-19; 3.1-7*

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, 'You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.'

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, 'Did God say, "You shall not eat from any tree in the garden"?' The woman said to the serpent, 'We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, "You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die."' But the serpent



said to the woman, 'You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.' So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Introduction to the theme: *Today's service is brought to you by...*

*Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path.*

When I feel afraid,
Think I've lost my way,
Still You're there right beside me.
And nothing will I fear
As long as You are near;
Please be near me to the end.

I will not forget
Your love for me, and yet
My heart forever is wandering.
Jesus, be my guide
And hold me to Your side,
And I will love You to the end.

God our Father,
we come to you in sorrow for our sins.

For turning away from you,
and ignoring your will for our lives;
Father, forgive us:
save us and help us.

For behaving just as we wish,
without thinking of you;
Father, forgive us:
save us and help us.

For failing you by what we do,
and think and say;
Father, forgive us:
save us and help us.

For letting ourselves be drawn away from you
by temptations in the world about us;
Father, forgive us:
save us and help us.

For living as if we were ashamed
to belong to your Son;
Father, forgive us:
save us and help us.

Words of forgiveness then follow.

Collect (*Prayer for the Day*)

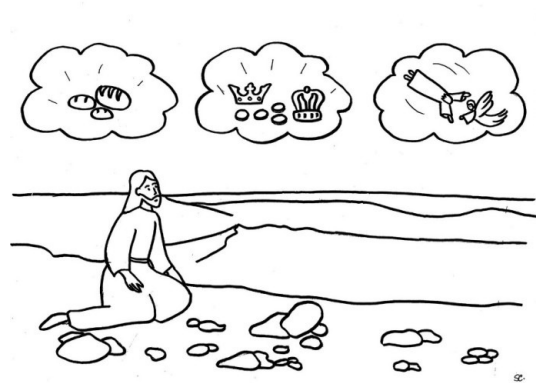
Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness,
and was tempted as we are, yet without sin:
give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit;
and, as you know our weakness,
so may we know your power to save;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Bible Reading: *Matthew 4.1-11*

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.' But he answered, 'It is written, "One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."' '

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying 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."' ' Jesus said to him, 'Again it is written, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test."' '

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour; and he said to him, 'All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.' Jesus said to him, 'Away with you, Satan! for it is written, "Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him."' '



Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Sermon: *Ben Merrell*

★ We Respond to God's Word through Praise & Worship

Blessed be your name, in the land that is plentiful
Where your streams of abundance flow
Blessed be your name.

Blessed be your name when I'm found in the desert place
Though I walk through the wilderness
Blessed Be your name

*Every blessing you pour out I'll turn back to praise.
When the darkness closes in, Lord, still I will say
Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be your name
Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be your glorious name*

Blessed be your name when the sun's shining down on me
When the world's 'all as it should be'
Blessed be your name.

Blessed be your name on the road marked with suffering
Though there's pain in the offering
Blessed be Your name

*Every blessing you pour out I'll turn back to praise.
When the darkness closes in, Lord, still I will say
Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be your name
Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be your glorious name*

You give and take away
You give and take away
My heart will choose to say
Lord, blessed be Your name

Words and Music: Matt and Beth Redman © 2002 Thankyou Music (Admin. by Integrity Music)

FAITHFUL ONE, so unchanging,
Ageless One, You're my Rock of peace.
Lord of all, I depend on You,
I call out to You again and again.
I call out to You again and again.
You are my rock in times of trouble.
You lift me up when I fall down.
All through the storm Your love is the anchor,
My hope is in You alone.

★We Affirm Our Faith & Pray Together

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us with power from on high.**

We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Led by Revd Gareth Atha

The intercessions end as we say

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread,

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**



★We Go Out Into the World

Summing Up

Offertory Hymn

1. Will you come and follow me
if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?
Will you let My love be shown,
will you let My name be known,
will you let My life be grown
in you, and you in me?

2. Will you leave yourself behind
if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare,
should your life attract or scare,
will you let me answer prayer
in you and you in me?

3. Will you let the blinded see
if I but call your name?
Will you set the pris'ners free,
and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean,
and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean
in you and you in me?

4. Will you love the 'you' you hide
if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside,
and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
to reshape the world around
through my sight and touch and sound
in you and you in me?

5. Lord, Your summons echoes true
when You but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you,
and never be the same.
In your company I'll go
where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
in you and you in me.

Words and Music: Graham Maule & John L. Bell © 1987 Iona Community

Closing Response

God of compassion,
through your Son Jesus Christ
you have reconciled your people to yourself.
As we follow his example of prayer and fasting,
may we obey you with willing hearts
and serve one another in holy love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayer of Blessing



You are invited to coffee in the South Transept after the service.

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