



## **Third Sunday of Lent**



**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

St John's Kidlington, 10am

Web site: [www.kidhp.org.uk](http://www.kidhp.org.uk)

Facebook: Kidlington Anglican Churches

## Hymn

For the healing of the nations,  
Lord, we pray with one accord;  
For a just and equal sharing  
Of the things that earth affords.  
To a life of love in action  
Help us rise and pledge our word.

Lead us, Father, into freedom,  
From despair the world release;  
That, redeemed from war and hatred,  
Men may come and go in peace.  
Show us how through care and goodness  
Fear will die and hope increase.

All that kills abundant living,  
Let it from the earth be banned;  
Pride of status, race or schooling,  
Dogmas keeping man from man.  
In our common quest for justice  
May we hallow life's brief span.

You Creator-God have written  
Your great Name on all mankind;  
For our growing in Your likeness  
Bring the life of Christ to mind;  
That, by our response and service  
Earth its destiny may find.

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## Greeting

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you  
**and also with you**

## Prayers of Penitence

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 from temptation into sin.  
Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness  
and cleanse me from my sin:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Make me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me:  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Cast me not away from your presence  
and take not your holy spirit from me:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

## Absolution

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.**

## The Collect

Eternal God,  
give us insight  
to discern your will for us,  
to give up what harms us,  
and to seek the perfection we are promised  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen**

## The Liturgy of the Word

### Old Testament Reading: Exodus 17. 1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, 'Give us water to drink.' Moses said to them, 'Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?' But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?' So Moses cried out to the Lord, 'What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.' The Lord said to Moses, 'Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.' Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the Lord, saying, 'Is the Lord among us or not?'

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Hymn

As pants the hart for cooling streams  
when heated in the chase,  
so longs my soul, O God, for thee  
and thy refreshing grace.

For thee, my God, the living God,  
my thirsty soul doth pine;  
oh when shall I behold thy face,  
thou majesty divine?

Why restless, why cast down, my soul?  
Trust God, who will employ  
sure aid for thee, and change these sighs  
to thankful hymns of joy.

Why restless, why cast down, my soul?  
Hope still, and thou shalt sing  
praise to thy God, the living God,  
thy health's eternal spring.

## Gospel Reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to  
John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink'. (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?' (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink", you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?' Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.'

Jesus said to her, 'Go, call your husband, and come back.' The woman answered him, 'I have no husband.' Jesus said to her, 'You are right in saying, "I have no husband"; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!' The woman said to him, 'Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.' Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on

this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.' The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah is coming' (who is called Christ). 'When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.' Jesus said to her, 'I am he, the one who is speaking to you.'

Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, 'What do you want?' or, 'Why are you speaking with her?' Then the woman left her water-jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, 'Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?' They left the city and were on their way to him.

Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, 'Rabbi, eat something.' But he said to them, 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.' So the disciples said to one another, 'Surely no one has brought him something to eat?' Jesus said to them, 'My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, "Four months more, then comes the harvest"? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, "One sows and another reaps." I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour.'

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, 'He told me everything I have ever done.' So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there for two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, 'It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ**

Sermon: 'Giving to Grow 2' : The Second in a Series of Three talks for our Lent focus on Stewardship.

*Last time:*

*Who are we? What do we Do? Are We Worth Funding?  
We brought the elephant into the room.  
And saw how few, if any, of us experience every aspect  
of our parish's ministry.*

*This Week:*

*What Does it all Cost?  
Do We Have Enough Money to Fund this Ministry?*

Felicity is not very good at accounting and has got the figures for each item of annual expenditure mixed up. Can you sort her out and link each item with the correct numbers?

<i>£160</i>	<i>candles</i>
<i>£460</i>	<i>gas (3 churches)</i>
<i>£1620</i>	<i>toilet rolls</i>
<i>£360</i>	<i>web site and payroll software</i>
<i>£4350</i>	<i>wafers</i>
<i>£100</i>	<i>electricity (3 churches)</i>
<i>£13800</i>	<i>paper towels</i>
<i>£200</i>	<i>altar wine</i>
<i>£650</i>	<i>soap</i>

And a question:

- If we were in France, who would maintain St Mary's, St John's, and Hampton Poyle?
- And what would happen in Italy?

There are costs that we can't avoid:

Before we do anything we have to pay the parish share, insurance, heat and light: £145,000

Just to pay this basic figure demands £18.80 per week from each of the 149 people in planned giving.

60% of our income comes from the 149 people who are on a planned giving scheme. Adding 14.5% of Gift Aid to this =75%

Of course, if more people joined the planned giving scheme this amount would go down by being shared across more people. We have 250 people on our electoral roll.

But remember that this only pays the parish share, insurance, and utilities - it doesn't fund any building repairs, organ maintenance, children's work, candles, office expenses, or other things we wrote on the elephant. These things can't happen if we don't have the basics in place.

A few useful facts:

- Our 3 Community Projects (*Kidlinks*, *Parentlinks* (Parent Support Groups) and *Martin's Garden*) are self funding. We apply for grants and sponsorship for these, although ultimately the PCC is responsible for them.
- It is a myth that churches receive help from government or the National Church of England to maintain their buildings. European churches all have some form of help from the state but in England church buildings are maintained solely by their congregations!
- After April 2026 listed church buildings will no longer be able to reclaim the VAT paid on any repairs. Grants for repairs are few and far between.

## How Much are We Short?

This year's budget shows a £20,000 gap between what we spend and what we expect to receive from all sources.

Raising an extra £20,000 allows us to stand still but does not allow us to do anything extra. That is why our target is to raise £40,000 extra through this campaign.

Next time our topic is: How can you Help?

Prayers of Intercession      *These responses may be used*  
Lord, in your mercy **Receive our prayer.**

*And at the end:*

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

## The 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 always with you  
**and also with you.**  
Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

## Hymn

God is here! As we his people  
Meet to offer praise and prayer,  
May we find in fuller measure  
What it is in Christ we share.  
Here, as in the world around us,  
All our varied skills and arts  
Wait the coming of his Spirit  
Into open minds and hearts.

Here are symbols to remind us  
Of our lifelong need of grace;  
Here are table, font and pulpit,  
Here the cross has central place.  
Here in honesty of preaching,  
Here in silence, as in speech,  
Here in newness and renewal  
God the Spirit comes to each.

Here our children find a welcome  
In the Shepherd's flock and fold;  
Here, as bread and wine are taken,  
Christ sustains us as of old.  
Here the servants of the Servant  
Seek in worship to explore  
What it means in daily living  
To believe and to adore.

Lord of all, of church and kingdom,  
In an age of change and doubt,  
Keep us faithful to the gospel,  
Help us work your purpose out.  
Here, in this day's dedication,  
All we have to give, receive;  
We who cannot live without  
you, We adore you! We believe!

*F. Pratt Green*

## Preparation of the Table

*The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.*

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.**

## Eucharistic Prayer E

The Lord be with you **and also with you.**  
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 saints and angels  
for ever praising you and singing:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and 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.**

We praise and bless you, loving Father,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
and as we obey his command,  
send your Holy Spirit,  
that broken bread and wine outpoured  
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends  
and, taking bread, he praised you.  
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.  
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:  
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.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,  
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice  
made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of  
salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection  
until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.**

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day  
when your kingdom comes  
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the  
earth. Look with favour on your people,  
gather us in your loving arms  
and bring us with St John, St Mary, and all the saints  
to feast at your table in heaven.  
Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,  
for ever and ever. **Amen**

## The Lord's Prayer

Believing the promises of God,  
let us pray with confidence 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.**

## Breaking of the Bread

Jesus says, I am the bread of life,  
whoever eats this bread will live forever.  
**Feed us, and give us this bread always.**

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus  
Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for  
you. Eat and drink in remembrance that Christ died for you,  
and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

## Giving of Communion

### Hymn

Just as I am, without one plea,  
but that thy blood was shed for me,  
and that thou bidst me come to thee,  
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about  
with many a conflict, many a doubt;  
fightings and fears within, without,  
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;  
sight, riches, healing of the mind,  
yea, all I need, in thee to find,  
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, thou wilt receive;  
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve,  
because thy promise I believe,  
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am (thy love unknown  
has broken every barrier down),  
now to be thine, yea, thine alone,  
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, of that free love  
the breadth, length, depth, and height to prove,  
here for a season, then above:  
O Lamb of God, I come.

## Prayer after Communion

Merciful Lord,  
grant your people grace to withstand the temptations  
of the world, the flesh and the devil,  
and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God:  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

**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 children shall be free,  
and the whole earth live to praise your name;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## Notices

### The Blessing

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness,  
to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

### The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**In the name of Christ.**

**Amen.**

## Hymn

Glorious things of thee are spoken,  
Zion, city of our God;  
he whose word cannot be broken  
formed thee for his own abode;  
on the Rock of Ages founded,  
what can shake thy sure repose?  
With salvation's walls surrounded,  
thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

See, the streams of living waters,  
springing from eternal love,  
well supply thy sons and daughters,  
and all fear of want remove.  
Who can faint, while such a river  
ever flows their thirst to assuage:  
Grace which, like the Lord, the Giver,  
never fails from age to age?

Round each habitation hovering,  
see the cloud and fire appear  
for a glory and a covering,  
showing that the Lord is near.  
Thus they march, the pillar leading,  
light by night, and shade by day;  
daily on the manna feeding  
which he gives them when they pray.

Saviour, if of Zion's city,  
I through grace a member am,  
let the world deride or pity,  
I will glory in thy name.  
Fading is the worldling's pleasure,  
all his boasted pomp and show;  
solid joys and lasting treasure  
none but Zion's children know.

***Please stay for refreshments at the back  
of the church. There is no charge and you  
are most welcome.***

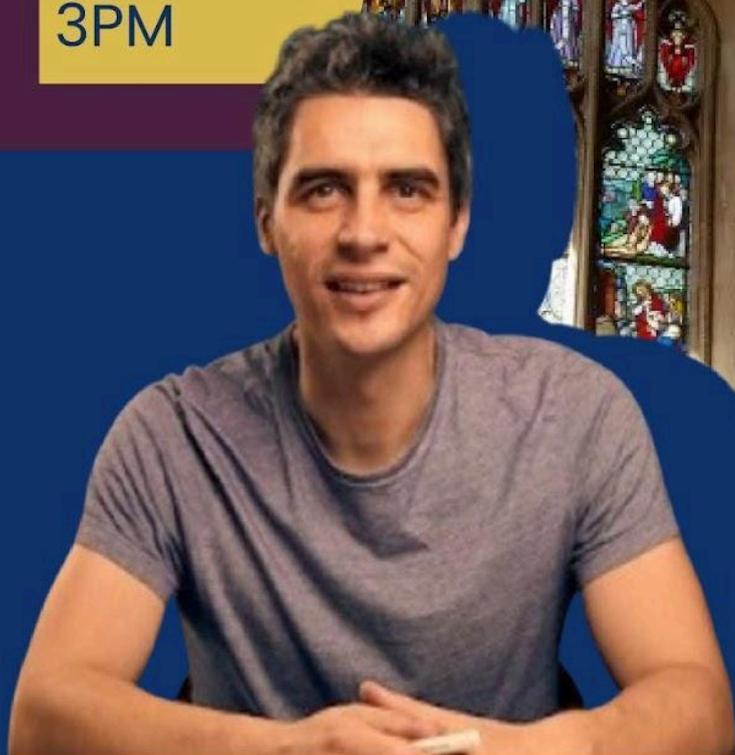
# TEA TALK AT ST MARY'S CHURCH

Church St, Kidlington,  
OX5 2BA

## DAVID HEWETT

Professor of Mathematics at  
UCL and Director of Music at St  
Mary's Kidlington

SUNDAY  
8TH MARCH  
2026 AT  
3PM



**FREE ENTRY**

In this talk, which will feature live musical demonstrations, David will explore some of the many connections between mathematics and music, sharing some insights into his academic research into the mathematics of acoustics and his maths-music collaboration with a professional percussionist.

Tea follows the  
talk – Donations  
in aid of Church  
Funds