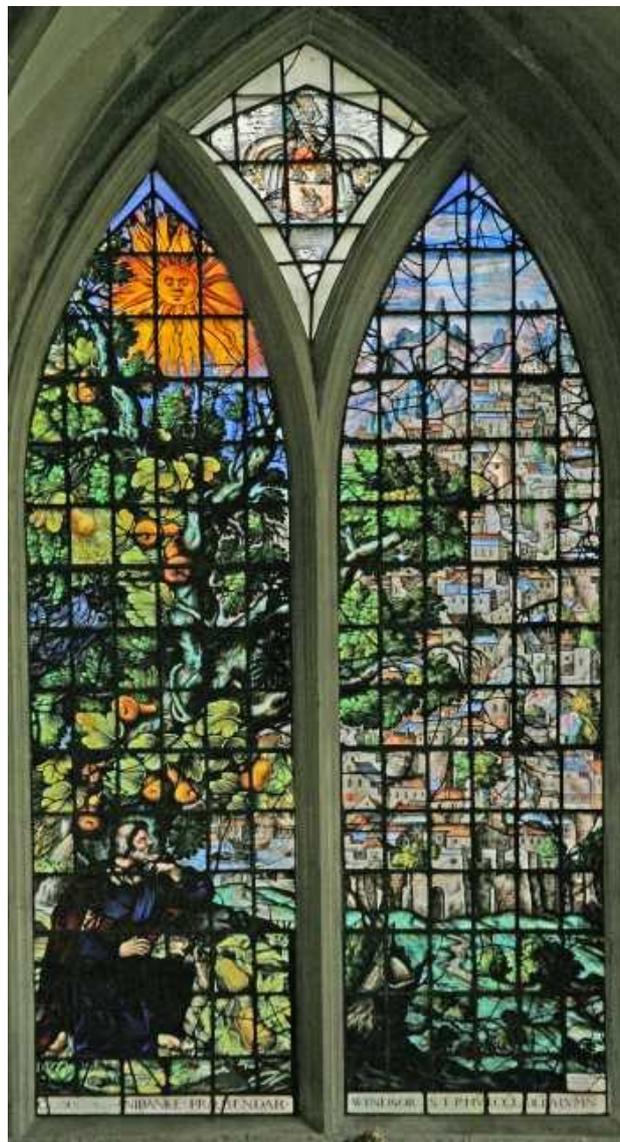




*St* NICOLAS' CHURCH  
ABINGDON-ON-THAMES

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**THIRD SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT**  
**Morning Prayer**



**Officiant: the Revd Paul Smith**  
**Sunday 7 November 2021**

**Image:**

The prophet Jonah looking over the city of Nineveh.

From the west end of the north aisle, Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford.

The glass is by Abraham Van Linge and is a rare window that dates from the period of Laudian Reform (1633).

The blue and red areas are made of glass that is stained but, in the rest of the window, the clear rectangles of glass have been painted

## **The Officiant gives any Notices and Welcomes the congregation**

*Please stand:*

*The officiant says*

**A sentence from Scripture**

**Will you come and follow me;**

**CP 622**

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?

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?

Will you let the blinded see  
if I but call your name?

Will you set the prisoners 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?

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?

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.

*John L. Bell (b. 1949) and Graham Maule (b. 1958)*

*The Minister leads the*

## **Invitation to Confession**

Dearly beloved brethren,  
the Scripture moveth us in sundry places to acknowledge and confess  
our manifold sins and wickedness; and that we should not dissemble  
nor cloke them before the face of Almighty God our heavenly Father;  
but confess them with an humble, lowly, penitent, and obedient  
heart; to the end that we may obtain forgiveness of the same, by his  
infinite goodness and mercy. And although we ought at all times  
humbly to acknowledge our sins before God; yet ought we most  
chiefly so to do, when we assemble and meet together to render  
thanks for the great benefits that we have received at his hands, to set  
forth his most worthy praise, to hear his most holy Word, and to ask  
those things which are requisite and necessary, as well for the body as  
the soul. Wherefore I pray and beseech you, as many as are here  
present, to accompany me with a pure heart and humble voice unto  
the throne of the heavenly grace, saying after me:

*Please sit or kneel for*

## **The Confession**

**Almighty and most merciful Father,  
We have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep,  
We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own  
hearts,  
We have offended against thy holy laws,  
We have left undone those things which we ought to have done,  
And we have done those things which we ought not to have done,  
And there is no health in us:  
But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us miserable offenders;  
Spare thou them, O God, which confess their faults,  
Restore thou them that are penitent,  
According to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesu our  
Lord:  
And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,  
That we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life,  
To the glory of thy holy Name.  
Amen.**

*Remain sitting or kneeling for*

## **The Absolution**

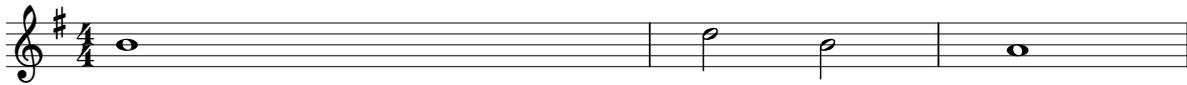
May the Almighty and merciful Lord grant unto us pardon and  
remission of all our sins, time for amendment of life, and the grace  
and comfort of the Holy Spirit  
**Amen**

O Lord, open thou our lips.  
**And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.**  
O God, make speed to save us.  
**O Lord, make haste to help us.**

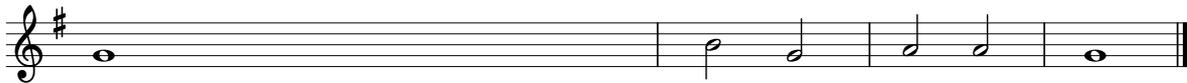
*Please stand*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
**As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without  
end. Amen.**

Praise ye the Lord.  
**The Lord's Name be praised.**



1. O come let us	sing unto	the	Lord:
2. Let us come before his	presence	with	thanksgiving:
3. For the Lord is a	great		God:
4. In his hand are all the	corners	of the	earth:
5. The sea is his and	he		made it:
6. O come let us worship and	fall		down:
7. For he is the	Lord	our	God:
Glory be to the Father, and	to	the	Son:
As it was in the beginning, is now, and	e - ver		shall be:



1. let us heartily rejoice in the	strength	of	our	sal -	vation.
2. and show ourselves	glad	in	him	with	psalms.
3. and a great	King a -	bove	all		gods.
4. And the strength of the	hills	is	his		also.
5. and his hands pre - - -	pared	the	dry		land.
6. and kneel be - - -	fore	the	Lord	our	Maker.
7. and we are the people of his pasture, and the	sheep	of	his		hand.
and	to	the	Ho -	ly	Ghost
world without	end		A -		men.

O COME, let us sing unto the Lord :  
 let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.  
 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving :  
 and show ourselves glad in him with psalms.  
 For the Lord is a great God :  
 and a great King above all gods.  
 In his hand are all the corners of the earth :  
 and the strength of the hills is his also.  
 The sea is his, and he made it :  
 and his hands prepared the dry land.  
 O come, let us worship and fall down :  
 and kneel before the Lord our Maker.  
 For he is the Lord our God :  
 and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.  
 Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the Holy Ghost;  
 As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:  
 world without end.  
 Amen.

*Please sit for*

## **First Lesson: Jonah 3: 1 - 5, 10**

The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying, 'Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.' So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, 'Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!' And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth. When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

Here endeth the first lesson

*We say together*

## **The Psalm for the Day Psalm 62 5 - 12**

5. Nevertheless my soul wait thou still upon God :  
for my hope is in him.
  6. He truly is my strength and my salvation :  
he is my defence so that I shall not fall.
  7. In God is my health and my glory :  
the rock of my might, and in God is my trust.
  8. O put your trust in him alway ye people :  
pour out your hearts before him, for God is our hope.
  9. As for the children of men they are but vanity :  
the children of men are deceitful upon the weights, they are  
altogether lighter than vanity itself.
  10. O trust not in wrong and robbery, give not yourselves unto vanity:  
if riches increase set not your heart upon them.
  11. God spake once, and twice I have also heard the same :  
that power belongeth unto God;
  12. And that thou Lord art merciful :  
for thou rewardest every man according to his work.
- Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:  
world without end.  
Amen.

*Please sit for*

**Second Lesson:  
Mark 1: 14 - 20**

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.'

As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake—for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fish for people.' And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him. Here endeth the first lesson

*Please stand to say*

***The Apostles Creed***

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth:  
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,  
Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
Born of the Virgin Mary,  
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
Was crucified, dead, and buried:  
He descended into hell;  
The third day he rose again from the dead;  
He ascended into heaven,  
And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Ghost;  
The holy Catholick Church;  
The Communion of Saints;  
The Forgiveness of sins;  
The Resurrection of the body,  
And the Life everlasting.  
Amen.**

## The Lesser Litany, Lord's Prayer & Responses

The Lord be with you.

**And with thy spirit.**

*Please sit or kneel*

Lord, have mercy upon us.

**Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Lord, have mercy upon us.

**Our Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. Amen.**

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

**And grant us thy salvation.**

O Lord, save the Queen.

**And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.**

Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.

**And make thy chosen people joyful.**

O Lord, save thy people.

**And bless thine inheritance.**

Give peace in our time, O Lord.

**Because there is none other that fighteth for us,  
but only thou, O God.**

O God, make clean our hearts within us.

**And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.**

### The Collect for the Day

O God, whose blessed Son was manifested that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant us, we beseech thee, that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves, even as he is pure, that when he shall appear again with power and great glory we may be made like unto him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where with thee, O Father, and thee, O Holy Spirit, he liveth and reigneth, one God, now and for ever.

**Amen**

### **The Second Collect, for Peace**

O God, who art the author of peace and lover of concord, in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life, whose service is perfect freedom: Defend us thy humble servants in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in thy defence, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **The Third Collect, for Grace**

O Lord, our heavenly Father, Almighty and everlasting God, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day: Defend us in the same with thy mighty power; and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger; but that all our doings may be ordered by thy governance, to do always that is righteous in thy sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **Dear Lord and Father of mankind**

**CP 411**

Dear Lord and Father of mankind  
forgive our foolish ways;  
re clothe us in our rightful mind;  
in purer lives thy service find,  
in deeper reverence, praise.

In simple trust like theirs who heard  
beside the Syrian sea  
the gracious calling of the Lord,  
let us, like them, without a word  
rise up and follow thee.

O sabbath rest by Galilee!  
O calm of hills above,  
where Jesus knelt to share with thee  
the silence of eternity,  
interpreted by love!

Drop thy still dews of quietness,  
till all our strivings cease;  
take from our souls the strain and stress,  
and let our ordered lives confess  
the beauty of thy peace.

Breathe through the heats of our desire  
thy coolness and thy balm;  
let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;  
speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,  
O still small voice of calm!

*John Greenleaf Whittier (1807–1892)*

## **The Sermon**

## **The Intercessions**

### **O Jesus I have promised**

**CP 538**

O Jesus, I have promised  
to serve thee to the end;  
be for ever near me,  
my master and my friend;  
I shall not fear the battle  
if thou art by my side,  
nor wander from the pathway  
if thou wilt be my guide.

O let me feel thee near me;  
the world is ever near;  
I see the sights that dazzle,  
the tempting sounds I hear;  
my foes are ever near me,  
around me, and within;  
but, Jesus, draw thou nearer,  
and shield my soul from sin.

O let me hear thee speaking  
in accents clear and still,  
above the storms of passion,  
the murmurs of self-will;  
O speak to reassure me,  
to hasten or control;  
O speak, and make me listen,  
thou guardian of my soul.

O Jesus, thou hast promised  
to all who follow thee,  
that where thou art in glory  
there shall thy servant be;  
and, Jesus, I have promised  
to serve thee to the end;  
O give me grace to follow  
my master and my friend.

O let me see thy footmarks,  
and in them plant mine own;  
my hope to follow duly  
is in thy strength alone;  
O guide me, call me, draw me,  
uphold me to the end;  
and then in heaven receive me,  
my Saviour and my Friend.

*John Ernest Bode (1816–1874)*

## **The Blessing**

*Acknowledgement: Some of the material in this service is used with permission and taken from Services and Prayers of the Church of England (Common Worship) 2000, Common Worship Initiation Services and Daily Prayer (Common Worship); copyright Archbishop's Council 2006.*