

✝ ST GILES'

CHURCH, OXFORD

15 MARCH 2026 | FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

BCP: Fourth Sunday in Lent

Welcome to St Giles', especially if you are visiting or worshipping with us for the first time. Please do stay behind for refreshments after the 10:30 service, served at the back of church.

NOTICES

Read the full notices for this week at:
www.StGilesStMargarets.org

10.30am on Sundays in Lent – we are using the order for Holy Communion from the 1662 BCP, and also using Bishop Steven's suggested lectionary, which accompanies the Lent groups. Watch his reflections on the readings online.

Palm Sunday (29 March) – next week we will gather at **St Margaret's at 10am** for the *Liturgy of the Palms*, then process down to St Giles' for the *Liturgy of the Passion*.

For those who are unable to process, please come to St Giles' for **10.15am** where we will have a version of the *Liturgy of the Palms* before we are joined by the others.

If you would be willing to be one of the **readers for the Passion Gospel** on Palm Sunday, please email samantha.schad@oup.com

'Come and See' Lent groups – in-person on Fridays at 11am; online on Thursdays at 8pm, or materials available for personal reflection.

Said Holy Communion for the feast of the Annunciation, **Weds 25 March**, 12.30pm at St Giles' and 8.00pm at St Margaret's.

Benefice book group will meet on Wed 15 April, 7.15pm. We are discussing *Pearl*, by Siân Hughes.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Sick: Chris Henry, Peter Ward-Jones, Stella

Year's Mind:

22nd – Pauline Moon (2012)

24th – Yvonne Simmons (2006)

25th – Val Sillery (2009)

SUPPORT ST GILES'

You can donate via our contactless machine, during the cash collection in the service, or using the QR code or URL below (**now updated**):



bit.ly/4sxlBAA

8:00AM

HOLY COMMUNION

(1662 Book of Common Prayer, said)

The text of the collect and readings are in the brown Book of Common Prayer.

Epistle: Hebrews 9.11–15

Gospel: John 8.46–end

10:30AM

HOLY COMMUNION

(Book of Common Prayer, sung)

Opening Hymn: 498 (vv. 1, 2, 5)

Son of God, eternal saviour

Collect

Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of thy Son Jesus Christ hast delivered and saved the world: grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Kyrie Eleison:

From Missa Brevis

Arthur Wills (1926–2020)

Old Testament:

Genesis 18:1–16
1 The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. ²He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. ³He said, 'My lord, if I find favour with you, do not pass by your servant. ⁴Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. ⁵Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant.' So they said, 'Do as you have

said.' ⁶And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, 'Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes.' ⁷Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. ⁸Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

⁹ They said to him, 'Where is your wife Sarah?' And he said, 'There, in the tent.'

¹⁰Then one said, 'I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son.' And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. ¹¹Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. ¹²So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, 'After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have pleasure?'

¹³The Lord said to Abraham, 'Why did Sarah laugh, and say, "Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?" ¹⁴Is anything too wonderful for the Lord? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son.' ¹⁵But Sarah denied, saying, 'I did not laugh'; for she was afraid. He said, 'Oh yes, you did laugh.'

¹⁶ Then the men set out from there, and they looked towards Sodom; and Abraham went with them to set them on their way.

Psalm 29 (see overleaf)

Epistle:

Hebrews 12:18–28
¹⁸ You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, ¹⁹and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. ²⁰(For they could not endure the order that was given, 'If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death.' ²¹Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, 'I tremble with fear.') ²²But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the

heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, ²³and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

25 See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking; for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! ²⁶At that time his voice shook the earth; but now he has promised, 'Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven.'

²⁷This phrase 'Yet once more' indicates the removal of what is shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain. ²⁸Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe.

Gradual Anthem:

The Lamentation

Edward Bairstow (1874–1946)

Gospel: Luke 22:7-30

7 Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. ⁸So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, 'Go and prepare the Passover meal for us that we may eat it.' ⁹They asked him, 'Where do you want us to make preparations for it?' ¹⁰'Listen,' he said to them, 'when you have entered the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him into the house he enters ¹¹and say to the owner of the house, "The teacher asks you, 'Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?"' " ¹²He will show you a large room upstairs, already furnished. Make preparations for us there.' ¹³So they went and found everything as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal.

14 When the hour came, he took his place at the table, and the apostles with him. ¹⁵He said to them, 'I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; ¹⁶for I tell you, I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.' ¹⁷Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he said, 'Take this and divide it among yourselves; ¹⁸for I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.' ¹⁹Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, 'This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' ²⁰And he did the same with the cup after supper, saying, 'This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. ²¹But see, the one who betrays me is with me, and his hand is on the table. ²²For the Son of Man is going as it has been determined, but woe to that one by whom he is betrayed!' ²³Then they began to ask one another which one of them it could be who would do this.

24 A dispute also arose among them as to which one of them was to be regarded as the greatest. ²⁵But he said to them, 'The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those in authority over them are called benefactors. ²⁶But not so with you; rather the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like one who serves. ²⁷For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one at the table? But I am among you as one who serves.

28 'You are those who have stood by me in my trials; ²⁹and I confer on you, just as my Father has conferred on me, a kingdom, ³⁰so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and you will sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

Offertory Hymn: 73

My God, I love thee

Final Hymn: 385

Jesu, the very thought of thee

PSALM 29

- 1 Bring unto the Lord, O ye mighty, *
bring young | rams un-to the | Lord :
ascribe unto the | Lord — | worship · and | strength.
- 2 Give the Lord the honour | due un-to his | Name :
worship the | Lord with | ho-ly | worship.
- 3 It is the Lord that com- | mandeth · the | waters :
it is the glorious | God that | maketh · the | thunder.
- 4 It is the Lord that ruleth the sea; *
the voice of the Lord is mighty in | op-er- | ation :
the voice of the | Lord is · a | glor-ious | voice.
- 5 The voice of the Lord | breaketh · the | cedar-trees :
yea, the Lord | breaketh · the | cedars · of | Libanus.
- 6 He maketh them also to | skip · like a | calf :
Libanus also and Sirion, | like a | young — | unicorn.
- 7 The voice of the Lord divideth the flames of fire; *
the voice of the Lord | shaketh · the | wilderness:
yea, the Lord | shaketh · the | wilderness · of | Cades.
- 8 The voice of the Lord maketh the hinds to bring forth young, *
and discovereth the | thick — | bushes :
in his temple doth | every · man | speak of · his | honour.
- 9 The Lord sitteth a- | bove the | water-flood :
and the Lord re- | maineth · a | King for | ever.
- 10 The Lord shall give | strength un-to his | people :
the Lord shall give his | people · the | blessing · of | peace.
- Glory | be · to the | Father :
and to the Son, | and · to the | Ho-ly | Ghost ;
- As it | was in · the be- | ginning :
Is now and ever shall be, | world with-out | end. A- | men.

6:30PM

CHORAL EVENSONG

(1662 Book of Common Prayer, sung)

Opening Hymn: 385

Jesu, the very thought of thee

Psalm: 30 (p. 66)

Old Testament: Lamentations 3.19–33

Canticles:

Magnificat and Nunc dimittis in G Herbert
Sumsion (1899–1995)

New Testament: Matthew 20.17–end

Anthem

The king of love my shepherd is
Edward Bairstow (1874–1946)

Final Hymn: 242

As now the sun's declining rays