

# ANGLICAN CHURCH OF PAPHOS

Lent Course 2024

'People On The Edge'

Jesus: From The Edge Towards Suffering

Week 1: 20 February 2024

#### Welcome & Introduction

Song 1003 My Jesus, My Saviour

#### Self Examination & Confession

God the Father:

Have mercy on us.

God the Son:

Have mercy on us.

God the Holy Spirit:

Have mercy on us.

Holy, blessed and glorious Trinity:

Have mercy on us.

From all evil and mischief; from pride, vanity, and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred, and malice; and from all evil intent: **Good Lord, deliver us.** 

From sloth, worldliness and love of money; from hardness of heart and contempt for your word and your laws:

Good Lord, deliver us.

From sins of body and mind; from the deceits of the world, the flesh and the devil:

Good Lord, deliver us.

In all times of sorrow; in all times of joy; in the hour of death; and at the day of judgement:

Good Lord, deliver us.

By the mystery of your holy incarnation; by your birth, childhood and obedience; by your baptism, fasting and temptation:

Good Lord, deliver us.

By your ministry in word and work; by your mighty acts of power; and by your preaching of the kingdom:

Good Lord, deliver us.

By your agony and trial; by your cross and passion; and by your precious death and burial:

Good Lord, deliver us.

By your mighty resurrection; by your glorious ascension; and by your sending of the Holy Spirit:

Good Lord, deliver us.

Give us true repentance; forgive us our sins of negligence and Ignorance and our deliberate sins; and grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit to amend our lives according to your holy word.

Holy God, holy and strong, holy and immortal: have mercy upon us.

Make our hearts clean, O God:

And renew a right spirit within us.

Father eternal, giver of light and grace, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour, in what we have thought, in what we have said and done, through ignorance, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We have wounded your love, and marred your image in us. We are sorry and ashamed, and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past; and lead us out from darkness to walk as children of light. AMEN.

### Luke 4:1-13 The Temptation Of Jesus

- <sup>4</sup> Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, <sup>2</sup> where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. <sup>3</sup> The devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.' <sup>4</sup> Jesus answered him, 'It is written, "One does not live by bread alone." '
- <sup>5</sup> Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. <sup>6</sup> And the devil said to him, 'To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. <sup>7</sup> If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.' <sup>8</sup> Jesus answered him, 'It is written, "Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him." '
- <sup>9</sup> Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, <sup>10</sup> for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you", <sup>11</sup> and "On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone." '
- <sup>12</sup> Jesus answered him, 'It is said, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test." <sup>13</sup> When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

# A Few Thoughts

#### Quote

"I simply argue that the cross be raised again at the centre of the market place as well as on the steeple of the church. I am recovering the claim that Jesus was not crucified in a cathedral between two candles, but on a cross between two thieves; on the town garbage heap; at a crossroads so cosmopolitan that they had to write his title in Hebrew and in Latin and in Greek (or should we say in English, in Bantu and in Afrikaans?) at the kind of place where cynics talk smut, and thieves curse and soldiers gamble. Because that is where he died. And that is what he died about. And that is where churchmen should be and what churchmanship should be about."

# Monologue

#### **Questions for Discussion & Reflection**

- 1) Lent is traditionally a time of fasting and inward reflection. How are you planning to navigate your journey through this Lenten time?
- 2) Lent is also a time when we try to think more deeply about our faith and how we live it: Reflecting on our Gospel reading, what are the implications for our faith of following Christ and not the world?
- 3) Have you ever been in a wilderness? What kind of vulnerabilities emerged when you were there?
- 4) What kind of vulnerabilities might Jesus have experienced?

# Song 988 How Deep The Father's Love For Us

#### Closing Prayer

Liberating God, lead us into the depths of your wilderness Free us from everything that distracts from your way Free us for life with you in this wilderness place Free us to live and love and become fully what you want us to be Fix our eyes on your path: restoring every person Restoring all creation, serving others as you served us. **AMEN.** 

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