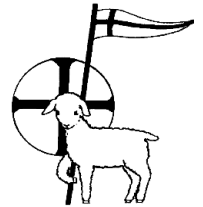


# St John the Baptist Church, Tisbury

reflecting Jesus Christ



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

**The Third Sunday of Lent**

## Today's Service

9.30am Parish Communion

President and Preacher: The Revd Michael Camp

Setting: The Brecon Service *Philip Moore*

Hymns: 333 All my hope on God is founded; Gradual Psalm 95.1-7 *words overleaf*

Gospel Acclamation and sentence for Lent *Stuart Robinson*

65 Christian, dost thou see them During Communion: View me Lord, a work of thine *Richard Lloyd*

137 Come down O love divine Organ Voluntary: Ciacona *Dietrich Buxtehude*

## Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March

10.00am Holy Communion St Andrew's Chapel

4.00pm Service of Healing and Wholeness St Andrew's Chapel

## Next Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> March

## Mothering Sunday



9.30am StarFest Service for Mothering Sunday

Led by Canon Judy Anderson

A special service, suitable for all ages, combining the theme of StarFest with the traditional celebration of Mothering Sunday. Children will be invited to make something for their mothers or carers. Do come!



This will be a non-Eucharistic service. There will be an All-Age Communion service at St Peter, Swallowcliffe, at 11.15am.

6.00pm Choral Evensong for StarFest

Our monthly service of Choral Evensong will feature music celebrating the stars and the sky. All welcome!

## In Memoriam

We were sorry to hear of the death of **Angus Menzies** earlier this week. There will be a Memorial Thanksgiving service at St John's at 11.00am this Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> March, following a private cremation. All who knew Angus are very welcome at the service – as it is a Thanksgiving service, black is not expected. Please pray for Lynn and all the family.

The funeral of **Richard Thorp** will take place at St John's at 12 noon this Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> March. All who knew Richard are very welcome to come to the service. Please pray for Helen and all the family.



## Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 12 noon-1.30pm: Lent Lunch

The Lent Lunches, with delicious home-made soup, continue between 12 noon and 1.30pm in Tisbury Methodist Church Hall on the five Wednesdays in Lent. Proceeds to Naomi House and Jackspace. The lunches are provided and served by members of the three Tisbury churches. Do come – and why not bring a friend?

## Palm Sunday Procession – Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March

We'd love to hear from anyone who would like to take part in the dramatised reading of the Passion Narrative during the Palm Sunday procession which follows the Parish Communion service. Please contact Judy (details below). We're looking for people to read both solo and group parts. There will be a short rehearsal at 5.00pm on 28<sup>th</sup> March.

John Dalton, Churchwarden  
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Canon Judy Anderson, Parish Administrator

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## The Collect for the Third Sunday of Lent

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; 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.

## The 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?'

## The Gradual Psalm: Psalm 95.1-7

- 1 O come, let us sing to the Lord : let us heartily rejoice in the rock of our salvation.
- 2 Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving : and be glad in him with psalms.
- 3 For the Lord is a great God : and a great king above all gods.
- 4 In his hand are the depths of the earth : and the heights of the mountains are his also.
- 5 The sea is his, for he made it : and his hands have moulded the dry land.
- 6 Come, let us worship and bow down : and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
- 7 For he is our God : we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.

## The Gospel: John 4.5-42

*The Gospel is printed on the next page*

## For your prayers

Prayers for our linked diocese of Cueibet, South Sudan, during Lent:

Dear Lord, help us to support the work of the Christian leaders in South Sudan with prayer. Give strength in humility to Archbishops Justin Badi and Alapayo Kuctiel, and may they soon send a new Bishop to guide your flock in Cueibet Diocese. We thank you, Lord, for the work of the Mathetes trust in training new Sunday School teachers, and for the Mothers Union: may they grow in love for your people, and during these forty days they may follow in Jesus' footsteps and know his power to save.



A prayer for the Middle East, adapted by the Dean of Salisbury from a prayer by the Archbishop of Jerusalem:

O God of all justice and peace, We cry out to you in the midst of the pain and trauma and violence and fear which prevail in the lands of the Middle East. Be with those who need you in these days of suffering. We pray for people of all faiths, Jews, Muslims and Christians, and for all the people of those lands. And while we pray to you, O Lord, for an end to violence and the establishment of peace, we also call for you to bring justice and equity to the peoples. Guide us into your kingdom, where all people are treated with dignity and honour as your children. For to all of us you are our Heavenly Father.

## Lent Boxes

Our Lent boxes this year are for Alabaré, which seeks to break the cycle of homelessness. For information about the charity, please visit <https://alabare.co.uk>

Do please take a box, if you haven't already, and bring it back, with your donation, after Easter.



## Exciting news!

Our magnificent East Window by Tom Denny has been shortlisted for this year's Art and Christianity Awards. These national awards, set up in 2003, celebrate the successes and diversity of artistic projects in religious buildings throughout Britain. The panel visited St John's at the end of February, and we heard this week that the window has been chosen as one of the five finalists.

## The Gospel: John 4.5-42

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.'