

Sunday 17th March, 2024 11.00 am

The Fifth Sunday in Lent

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Minister: Rev. Ian Taylor, A.C.I.B.S., B.D., Th.M., Dip. P.S.R.P.

Assistant Minister: Mrs. Julie Hearty, B.D.

Musical Director: Mr. Alan A. Craig. B.Mus., P.G.C.E.

Welcome & Intimations

Introit

Call to Worship

Hymn 181 For the beauty of the earth,

1 For the beauty of the earth,
for the beauty of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies:
*Christ our God, to you we raise
this our sacrifice of praise.*

2 For the beauty of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower,
sun and moon and stars of light:
Chorus

3 For the joy of ear and eye,
for the heart and brain's delight,
for the mystic harmony
linking sense to sound and sight:
Chorus

4 For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild:
Chorus

5 For each perfect gift and sign
of your love so freely given,
graces human and divine,
flowers of earth and buds of heaven:

Chorus

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Call to Prayer

Prayer of Approach and Confession

Children's Address

Hymn 349 In our lives plant seeds of hope,

*In our lives plant seeds of hope,
In our homes plant seeds of love,
In your Church plant seeds of joy,
Tell the world about God's love.
Tell the world about God's love.*

1 Jesus said 'If you have faith
small as a mustard seed,
In my name you'll do great things,
you'll do great things indeed.
Refrain

2 'If a seed falls to the ground,
lies buried like the grain'
Jesus said 'Until it dies
it cannot grow again.'
Refrain

3 Jesus told the story of
the seed the sower sows,
'Listen to my Father's words
and then your faith will grow.'
Refrain

4 'Some words fall among the thorns
and some on stony ground;
Some are carried off and lost
but others find good ground.'
Refrain

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Jeremiah 31:31-34

**Hymn 40 O God, be gracious to me in your love (Psalm
51)**

1 O God, be gracious to me in your love,
and in your mercy pardon my misdeeds;
wash me from guilt and cleanse me from my sin,
for well I know the evil I have done.

2 Against you, Lord, you only have I sinned,
and what to you is hateful have I done;
I own your righteousness in charging me,
I know you to be just should you condemn.

3 Take hyssop, sprinkle and make me clean,
wash me and make me whiter than the snow;
fill me with gladness and rejoicing, Lord,
and let my broken frame know joy once more.

4. Turn now your face, Lord God, from my misdeeds,
and blot out all the sins that sully me;
create a clean and contrite heart in me,
renew my soul in faithfulness and love.

5. Drive me not from your presence, gracious Lord,
nor keep your Holy Spirit far from me;
restore my soul with your salvation's joy,
and with a willing spirit strengthen me.

Psalm 51, vv.1-12 Ian Robertson Pitt-Watson (1923-1995)

St. John 12:20-33

Anthem

Sermon

The Offering (& Sung Doxology: Hymn 807)

Prayers of Intercession

Hymn 632 Our children, Lord, in faith and prayer,

1 Our children, Lord, in faith and prayer,
we now devote to you;
let them your covenant mercies share,
and your salvation true.

2 Such children you did once embrace,
while dwelling here below;
to us and ours, O God of grace,
the same compassion show.

3 Dear Lord, your infant feet were found
within your Father's shrine;
your years, with changeless virtue crowned,
were all alike divine.

4 Dependent on your bounteous breath,
we seek your grace alone,
in every stage of life and death,
to keep us still your own.

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The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

The Apostles' Creed

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:

For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for
ever. Amen.

Hymn 736 Give thanks for life, the measure of our days,

- 1 Give thanks for life, the measure of our days,
mortal, we pass through beauty that decays,
yet sing to God our hope, our love, our praise :
Alleluia, Alleluia!
- 2 Give thanks for those whose lives shone with a light
caught from the Christ-flame, gleaming through the night,
who touched the truth, who burned for what is right :
- 3 Give thanks for all, our living and our dead,
thanks for the love by which our life is fed,
a love not changed by time or death or dread :
- 4 Give thanks for hope that, like the seed of grain
lying in darkness, does its life retain
to rise in glory, growing green again :

Shirley Erena Murray (b. 1931)(alt.) Reproduced from CH4 CD-ROM edition, number 736
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Benediction

Choral Amen (3-fold)