

## PARISHES OF TETBURY, BEVERSTON, SHIPTON MOYNE AND LONG NEWNTON

### Readings and Hymns for Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> February - Second Sunday before Lent

#### Gathering Prayer

Almighty God, you have created the heavens and the earth and made us in your own image: teach us to discern your hand in all your works and your likeness in all your children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things, now and for ever. **Amen.**

#### Post Communion Prayer

God our creator, by your gift the tree of life was set at the heart of the earthly paradise, and the bread of life at the heart of your Church: may we who have been nourished at your table on earth be transformed by the glory of the Saviour's cross and enjoy the delights of eternity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

#### New Testament Reading: Colossians 1.15-20

Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers – all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

#### Gospel: John 1.1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

#### All creatures of our God and King

1. All creatures of our God and King,  
lift up your voice and with us sing  
alleluia, alleluia!  
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
2. Thou rushing wind that art so strong,  
ye clouds that sail in heaven along,  
O praise him, alleluia!  
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,

thou silver moon with softer gleam:  
*O praise him, O praise him,  
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

3. Thou flowing water, pure and clear,  
make music for thy Lord to hear,  
alleluia, alleluia!  
Thou fire, so masterful and bright,  
that givest us both warmth and light:  
*O praise him, O praise him,  
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

5. Let all things their Creator bless,  
and worship him in humbleness,  
O praise him, alleluia!  
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,  
and praise the Spirit, Three in One.  
*O praise him, O praise him,  
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

ye lights of evening, find a voice:  
*O praise him, O praise him,  
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

4. Dear mother earth, who day by day  
unfoldest blessings on our way,  
O praise him, Alleluia!  
The flowers and fruits that in thee grow,  
let them his glory also show:  
*O praise him, O praise him,  
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

*William Henry Draper (1855-1933) based on St  
Francis of Assisi (1182-1226)*

### **Lord for the years**

1. Lord for the years  
your love has kept and guided,  
urged and inspired us,  
cheered us on our way,  
sought us and saved us,  
pardoned and provided:  
Lord of the years,  
we bring our thanks today.
2. Lord, for that word,  
the word of life which fires us,  
speaks to our hearts  
and sets our souls ablaze,  
teaches and trains,  
rebukes us and inspires us:  
Lord of the word,  
receive your people's praise.
3. Lord, for our land  
in this our generation,  
spirits oppressed by pleasure,  
wealth and care:  
for young and old,  
for commonwealth and nation,  
Lord of our land,  
be pleased to hear our prayer.
4. Lord, for our world;  
when we disown and doubt you,  
loveless in strength,  
and comfortless in pain,  
hungry and helpless,  
lost indeed without you:  
Lord of the world,  
we pray that Christ may reign.
5. Lord for ourselves;  
in living power remake us -  
self on the cross  
and Christ upon the throne,  
past put behind us,  
for the future take us:  
Lord of our lives,  
to live for Christ alone.

Timothy Dudley-Smith (b.1926).

### **Jesus, good above all other**

1. Jesus, good above all other,  
gentle child of gentle mother,  
in a stable born our brother,  
give us grace to persevere.
2. Jesus, cradled in a manger,  
for us facing every danger,  
living as a homeless stranger,  
make we thee our King most dear.
3. Jesus, for thy people dying,  
risen Master, death defying,  
Lord in heaven thy grace supplying,  
keep us to thy presence near.
4. Jesus, who our sorrows bearest,  
all our thoughts and hopes thou sharest,  
thou to us the truth declarest;  
help us all thy truth to hear.
5. Lord, in all our doings guide us;  
pride and hate shall ne'er divide us;  
we'll go on with thee beside us,  
and with joy we'll persevere.

*Percy Dearmer (1867-1936) after  
John Mason Neale (1818-1866) alt.*

### **Guide me, O thou great Redeemer**

1. Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,  
pilgrim through this barren land;  
I am weak, but thou art mighty;  
hold me with thy powerful hand:  
bread of heaven, bread of heaven,  
feed me now and evermore,  
feed me now and evermore.
2. Open now the crystal fountain,  
whence the healing stream doth flow;  
let the fiery cloudy pillar  
lead me all my journey through:  
strong deliverer, strong deliverer,  
be thou still my strength and shield,  
be thou still my strength and shield.
3. When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
bid my anxious fears subside;  
death of death, and hell's destruction,  
land me safe on Canaan's side:  
songs of praises, songs of praises,  
I will ever give to thee,  
I will ever give to thee.

*William Williams (1717-1791) trans. William and Peter Williams (1727-1796)  
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