



St Peter's Church, Westhampnett

5th February 2023 : Third Sunday before Lent

<https://stpeterswesthampnett.uk>

The church is open daily from 9am to 4pm

Sunday 5th February

8.00am Holy Communion

9.45am Parish Eucharist

—Family Service

6th to 13th Feb Rev Rachel

is on holiday

Sunday 12th February

9.45am Parish Eucharist

Sunday 19th February

8.00am Holy Communion

9.45am Parish Eucharist

Wednesday 22nd February

6.00pm Ash Wednesday

Eucharist with Ashing

Sunday 26th February

9.45am Parish Eucharist

Stewardship : Do please prayerfully consider your giving to the church. **A card reader is available in church if you would like to donate by debit or credit card.**

Next Sunday's Readings

Genesis 1: 1-2:3

Romans 8: 18-25

Matthews 6: 25-end

Hymns During today's Eucharist

337 Morning has broken

This little light of mine (see below)

73 Brother, sister, let me serve you

571 You shall go out with joy

Organist: Alison Brown

Collect

Almighty God, who alone can bring order to the unruly wills and passions of sinful humanity: give your people grace so to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that, among the many changes of this world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; 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

Isaiah 58.1-9

Thus says the Lord: Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practised righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgements, they delight to draw near to God. 'Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?' Look, you serve your own interest on your fast-day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I

choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord?

Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rearguard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

Gradual Hymn

1) This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

2) Ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine!

Ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine!

Ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine!

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

3) Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine!

4) This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!

I Corinthians 2: 1-12

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written,

'What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the human heart conceived,

what God has prepared for those who love him'—

these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

Matthew 5: 13-20

'You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

'Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfil. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass

from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

Post Communion Prayer

Merciful Father, who gave Jesus Christ to be for us the bread of life, that those who come to him should never hunger: draw us to the Lord in faith and love, that we may eat and drink with him at his table in the kingdom, where he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. Amen

Wednesday 15th February, 10am

Scam Prevention Talk: Sussex Police

- *Want to know how to avoid scam telephone calls?*
- *How do I deal with rogue traders?*
- *What should I do about computer fraud?*

Come along to an informative talk where we will answer all of these questions and more, here at St Peter's, 10am, Wednesday 15th February

Lent Course

This will be delivered via Zoom on Mondays at 7.30pm. Five sessions starting 27th February. Email Fr Anthony on anthony.jcs@gmail.com for the link.

Face-to-face meetings will be held on Tuesdays at 2.30pm, starting on 28th February at 2, Wealden Drive. Please tell Val Edwards (Tel. 537891) if you plan to attend this session.

Saturday 25th February

You are invited to join a group from Westhampnett at **Choral Evensong in Chichester Cathedral**, followed by drink at the Duke & Rye. Meet at the West Porch at 5.15pm for the 5.30pm service. This is the first of a series of social events organised by St Peter's to raise money for **Sage House (Dementia Support)**. A suggested minimum donation of £10 will be collected on the day.

Associate Rector, St Peter's: The Reverend Rachel Hawes 07768 875590 rachel.hawes@outlook.com

Please note: Revd Rachel's day off is Friday.

Assisting: The Revd Anthony Freeman 01243 783136 anthony.jcs@gmail.com