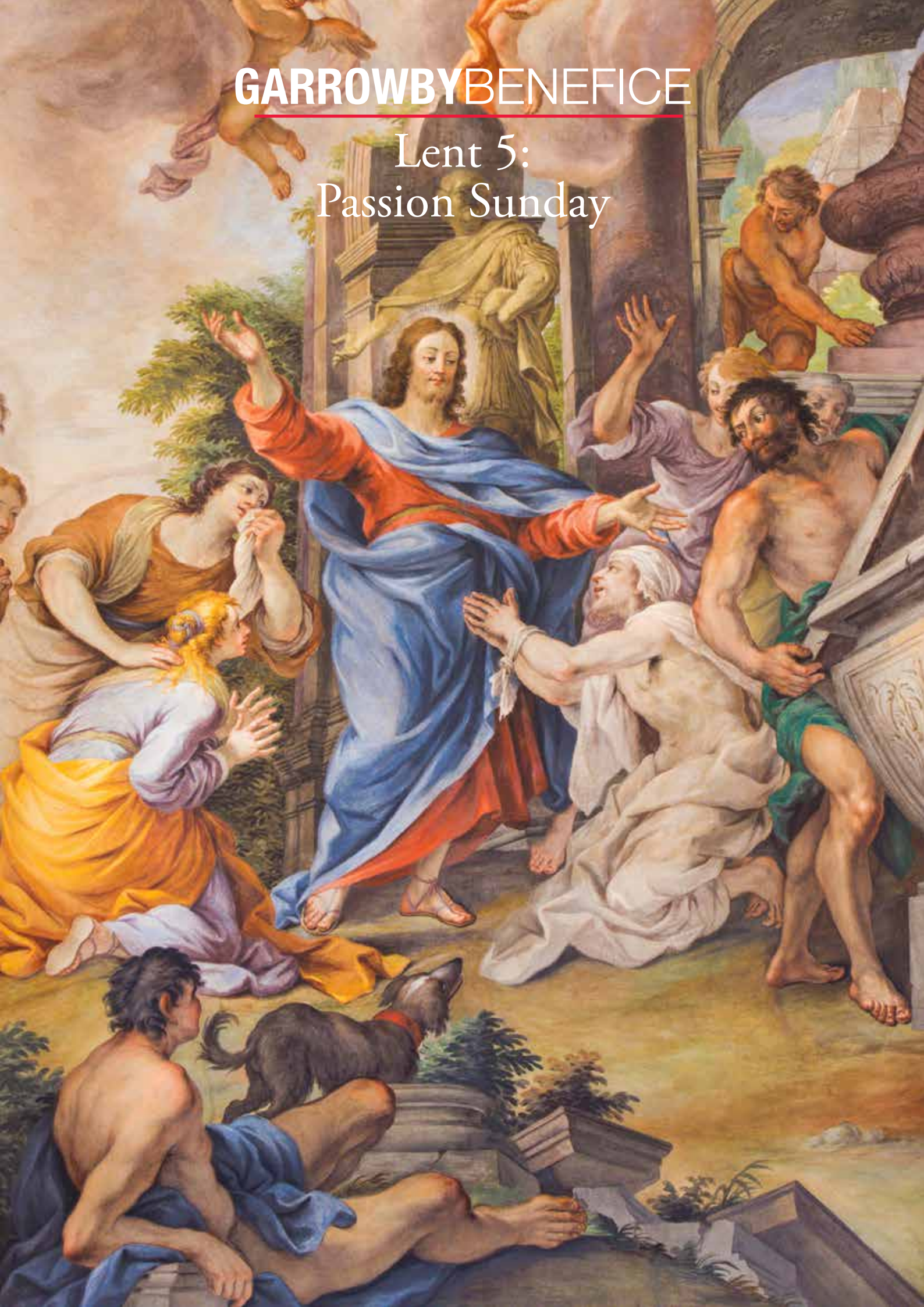


GARROWBY BENEFICE

Lent 5: Passion Sunday



Introduction

Call to worship

“Unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies it remains but a single grain. But if it dies, it yields much fruit” John 12, 24

Lord, we have joined together for common worship. Yet each of us has brought something different to this service. Some of us have come with happiness and gratitude and want to give thanks. Some have come with sadness and disappointment and need to be comforted and encouraged. Some have come with guilt and confusion and seek to be forgiven or redirected. Some have come with no particular feeling at all and need to be challenged and helped to see the truth.

**All Help us Lord to hear your voice during this time of worship that our needs may be met in the name of Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

Hymn: Be still my soul

A Passiontide Responory

Lord God you carried the cross of love up the hill to Calvary

All We are called to remember that road

We wish to have fellowship with you in your sorrow, that through your suffering we may have strength and peace

All Help us to be strong that we may never betray you as Judas did or deny you as Peter did

We remember how they spat upon you, how they mocked you and how they pierced your hands and feet

All We remember how you quietly prayed, Father forgive them for they know not what they do

During Passiontide may we too learn the meaning of forgiveness so that we may learn to love you as you love us.

All Amen

Confession and Absolution

Forgive us Lord for being afraid. We have been afraid of going the second mile. We have been afraid to return good for evil. We have been afraid to let love rule in our relationships with others. We have been afraid to surrender ourselves to your will.

All Forgive us Lord and help us to realise that we cannot truly follow you until we permit your Spirit to remove all fear from our minds, replacing it with your peace and hope through Jesus Christ our Lord.

May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by his spirit and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord

All Amen

Collect

Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world; grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen

READINGS

A reading from Romans 8 6-11

The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God.

You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ. But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness. And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.

This is the word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God

Song: I will sing of my redeemer

The Gospel

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 11 1-45

All Glory to you O Lord

Now a man named Lazarus was sick. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. *(This Mary, whose brother Lazarus now lay sick, was the same one who poured perfume on the Lord and wiped his feet with her hair.)* So the sisters sent word to Jesus, "Lord, the one you love is sick."

When he heard this, Jesus said, "This sickness will not end in death. No,

it is for God's glory so that God's Son may be glorified through it." Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed where he was two more days, and then he said to his disciples, "Let us go back to Judea."

"But Rabbi," they said, "a short while ago the Jews there tried to stone you, and yet you are going back?"

Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Anyone who walks in the daytime will not stumble, for they see by this world's light. It is when a person walks at night that they stumble, for they have no light."

After he had said this, he went on to tell them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I am going there to wake him up."

His disciples replied, "Lord, if he sleeps, he will get better." Jesus had been speaking of his death, but his disciples thought he meant natural sleep.

So then he told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead, and for your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him."

Then Thomas (*also known as Didymus*) said to the rest of the disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home.

"Lord," Martha said to Jesus, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask."

Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."

Martha answered, "I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

"Yes, Lord," she replied, "I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world."

After she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary aside.

"The Teacher is here," she said, "and is asking for you." When Mary heard this, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet entered the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. When the

Jews who had been with Mary in the house, comforting her, noticed how quickly she got up and went out, they followed her, supposing she was going to the tomb to mourn there.

When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."

When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. "Where have you laid him?" he asked.

"Come and see, Lord," they replied.

Jesus wept.

Then the Jews said, "See how he loved him!"

But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. "Take away the stone," he said.

"But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days."

Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?"

So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me."

When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face.

Jesus said to them, "Take off the grave clothes and let him go."

Therefore many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary, and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

This is the gospel of the Lord

All Praise to you O Christ

Hymn: Lord Jesus think on me

Sermon

Intercessions

Ending with the LORD'S PRAYER

All 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 trespasses,
As we forgive them that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
The power, and the glory,
For ever and ever.
Amen.

Closing Prayer

We have gathered today Lord God as your people to offer you our sacrifice of prayer and worship. We have fed on your word, been refreshed through your living water, felt the encircling of your Spirit around our gathering and our individual lives. As we live out our day may we continue to know your presence and power in the very different lives that we lead, to your praise and glory.

All Amen

Blessing

May the Father who so loved the world that he gave his only Son bring you by faith to His eternal life

May Christ who accepted the cup of sacrifice in obedience to the Father's will keep you steadfast as you walk with Him the way of His cross

May the Spirit who strengthens us to suffer with Christ that we may share His glory set your minds on life and peace

And the blessing of God Father, Son and Holy Spirit be upon you this Passiontide and always.

All Amen

Hymn: He will hold me fast