

Lent 2023 - Week 2

Poor in Spirit – Mourn

Let us Pray

please join in with words in bold

May the Lord Almighty be with us as we meet today, turning our hearts to Him, turning away from all that is wrong.

**Most merciful God, we confess to you,
before the whole company of heaven and one another,
that we have sinned in thought, word and deed
and in what we have failed to do.
Forgive us our sins, heal us by your Spirit
and raise us to new life in Christ.
Amen.**

That this evening may be holy, good and peaceful,
let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence is kept.

As our evening prayer rises before you, O God,
**so may your mercy come down upon us
to cleanse our hearts and set us free to sing your praise
now and for ever.
Amen**

Song

When The Music Fades

Matt Redman. Copyright © 1997 Kingsway's Thankyou Music.

*When the music fades, all is stripped away,
And I simply come;
Longing just to bring something that's of worth
That will bless Your heart.*

*I'll bring You more than a song, For a song in itself
Is not what You have required.
You search much deeper within Through the way things appear;
You're looking into my heart.*

*I'm coming back to the heart of worship,
And it's all about You, All about You, Jesus.
I'm sorry, Lord, for the thing I've made it,
When it's all about You, All about You, Jesus.*

*King of endless worth, no one could express How much You deserve.
Though I'm weak and poor, all I have is Yours, Every single breath.*

The Beatitudes

Jesus said:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Reflections from last week

Bible Reading: Matt 19:16-24

Jesus and the Rich Young Man

Reflection – Poor in Spirit

Our Lent Conversation – Part 1

Would you rather be poor, or rich? Why?

What is the difference between being ‘Poor in Spirit’ and being ‘Poor’?

What are the advantages of being poor?

How can we become poor? – How can we enter Kingdom of Heaven?

Reflection – Mourn

Our Lent Conversation – part 2

What are the circumstances and emotions of mourning?

How long should mourning last?

What does it mean to comfort someone who is mourning?

Is death the only reason to mourn? Do we ever mourn for anything else?

Psalm 86

- 1 Hear me, LORD, and answer me, for I am poor and needy.**
- 2 Guard my life, for I am faithful to you;
save your servant who trusts in you. You are my God;**
- 3 have mercy on me, Lord, for I call to you all day long.**
- 4 Bring joy to your servant, Lord, for I put my trust in you.**
- 6 Hear my prayer, LORD; listen to my cry for mercy.**
- 11 Teach me your way, LORD, that I may rely on your faithfulness;
give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name.**
- 12 I will praise you, Lord my God, with all my heart;
I will glorify your name forever.**
- 13 For great is your love toward me;
you have delivered me from the depths, from the realm of the dead.**
- 15 ... you, Lord, are a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger,
abounding in love and faithfulness.**
- 17 Give me a sign of your goodness,
that my enemies may see it and be put to shame,
for you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.**

Song

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

*When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of Glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.*

*Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ my God:
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.*

*See from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down;
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?*

*Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were an offering far too small.
Love so amazing, so divine
Demands my soul, my life, my all.*

Visit this place, O Lord, we pray, and drive far from it the snares of the enemy; may your holy angels dwell with us and guard us in peace, and may your blessing be always upon us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.**

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever.

Amen.

The Lord bless us and watch over us; the Lord make his face shine upon us and be gracious to us; the Lord look kindly on us and give us peace.

Amen.