



4pm - Live on Zoom, 7th March 2021

Led by Revd Natasha

As we gather today you will need to have some paper, a pen or pencil and dice

Gathering Activity - God's delight

Opening prayer

O Lord, clear our hearts and minds of all unrighteous clutter.

As we seek to be your Church in our day,

drive out all that is unworthy of you.

Let us think not of human transactions – our losses and gains –

for we gather under the banner of your love

that demands no price but our love in return.

Help us to sacrifice all that we are to your service,

as Jesus sacrificed everything for us.

Amen.

Song Indescribable

Written by Chris Tomlin. Performed by Brittany Hurlbert, Tim Packer & Catriona Inglis. Words and music by Jesse Reeves and Laura Story © 2004 Laura Stories, sixsteps Music, worship.together.com song. Used with kind permission from St Nic's, Durham.

Share the Word John 2.13-22 (video)

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13 When it was almost time for the Jewish Passover, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. 14 In the temple courts he found people selling cattle, sheep and doves, and others sitting at

tables exchanging money. 15 So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple courts, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. 16 To those who sold doves he said, 'Get these out of here! Stop turning my Father's house into a market!' 17 His disciples remembered that it is written: 'Zeal for your house will consume me.'

18 The Jews then responded to him, 'What sign can you show us to prove your authority to do all this?'

19 Jesus answered them, 'Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days.'

20 They replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?' 21 But the temple he had spoken of was his body. 22 After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the Scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken.

Lent Spring Clean

Talk by Natasha

Are we temples of the Holy Spirit?

Song - Holy Spirit you are welcome here

Let's pray ...

You, dear Lord, always forgive, when in the Holy Spirit we choose to live.

And so, we lift our heads bare and humbled, casting aside thinking that was dark and jumbled. In your forgiveness we find the light to walk again in the path that is right.

Amen.

Intercessions

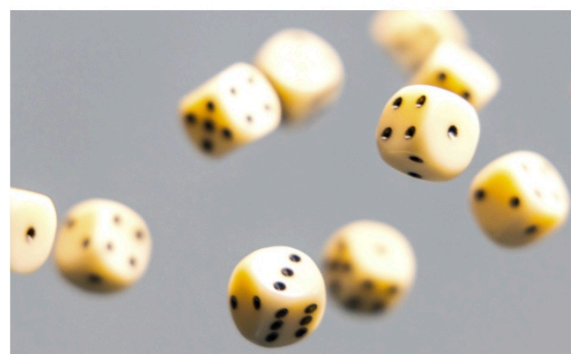


Dice prayers

Find any dice you might have kicking around in your house, perhaps borrow some from a board game. Take turns rolling the dice and pray like this (you can decide between you if prayers are to be spoken out loud, thought silently, drawn, or a mix!):

- ☐ Thank God for something in your life.
- ☐ Pray for something that you need.
- ☐ Praise God for something that he is.
- ☐ Pray for someone in your family.
- ☐ Thank God for something in creation
- ☐ Pray for a need outside of you or your family.

We sometimes end prayers with the word "Amen", which is a Hebrew word from the Bible, meaning something like "so be it" or "that's right!". Why don't you end with a big Amen?



"You must pray at all times as the Holy Spirit leads you to pray. Pray for the things that are needed. You must watch and keep on praying." (Ephesians 6:18 NLV)

TODAY: Pick one headline of today's news to pray for.

Lord's Prayer

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.

Song Build Your Kingdom Here

Songwriters: Chris Llewellyn / Gareth Gilkeson / Will Herron. Rend Collective - Integrity Music. Performed by Worship Lyric Videos, and used with permission.

Sending out prayer

We came together to worship God.

We have read God's Word.

We have prayed and sung songs.

Now we go into God's world:

to be God's people wherever we are called to go.

Let us go in Christ's name.

Amen.

Take Away Song - [A little bit of love, by Graham Kendrick & a Virtual Choir](#)

Thank you for joining today ...

Under construction

John 2.13-22

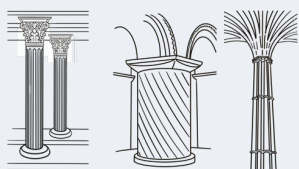
A dramatic scene of Jesus creating chaos in the Temple by driving out the money changers and animal sellers. The Jewish authorities are not pleased and demand to know who he thinks he is, at which Jesus predicts his death and resurrection in a metaphor about rebuilding the Temple.

Now read **John 2.13-22** see p.2 for text.

A note on the passage

This passage offers three ways in which we can think about the Temple: the physical space to worship God, Jesus' body as God here on earth, our own bodies to honour God. Do you find a physical place is important in your relationship with God? What does Jesus' message about his own death and resurrection mean to you today? In what way do you see yourself as a temple, built to honour God?

STONE TOWER



On stony beaches, you often see pebble towers that others have built, like natural sculptures. Gather together some suitable pebbles or stones and take some quiet moments to build a tower yourself. You might like to write a letter on each to spell 'Jesus'. Take some time to build your tower several times over, reflecting on the passage and using the images of these pillars. In what ways are you 'under construction': being shaped and moulded into something special? What might be getting in the way? What do you need to add more of, to build yourself up?



Play a game of Jenga™, where you have to remove blocks from the tower without it falling down. Each time you remove a block, read the next verse of the Bible passage and come up with a question you have about that verse. If you are playing the game with others, see if anyone can answer your question, or offer their ideas about it. If you are playing on your own, write the questions down and share them with someone from your church, next time you catch up.



At the start of the week, cut up some paper into brick-shaped pieces and clear a board or space on a wall. Towards the end of each day, find a time to reflect on some things you did that day which showed something about God or what it is to be part of the Church – God's spiritual house. If you live with others, you could talk together about the things you're writing down on the brick-shaped paper. Each time, stick your bricks onto your board or wall, and build a structure over the course of the week.



Watch the market-place scene from *Beauty and the Beast* [PG]

How does that make you feel?

Can you imagine the Temple as Jesus found it, full of people doing business?

What are the things in this environment which distract us from God?

In the light of social distancing, is the busyness as part of this passage an uncomfortable thing to imagine?

Have you missed the busyness of being and worshipping together in a physical space, or have you enjoyed the new opportunities for quietness in the space – in church or at home?

LENT GARDEN OF RESPONSES

This week, choose something to give up – just for the week. It could be meat, or sugar, playing video games, or anything else. During the week, whenever you think about or want that thing, let it remind you that you too are 'under construction' and God is at work in you. Ask God to show you more about what you can be, and what the Church can be, too. Place a reminder of what you gave up in your garden tray or on your garden page (that you've been progressing throughout Lent). Try to place or draw the items so that you make the tray or page begin to look like a sculpture garden.

Name _____

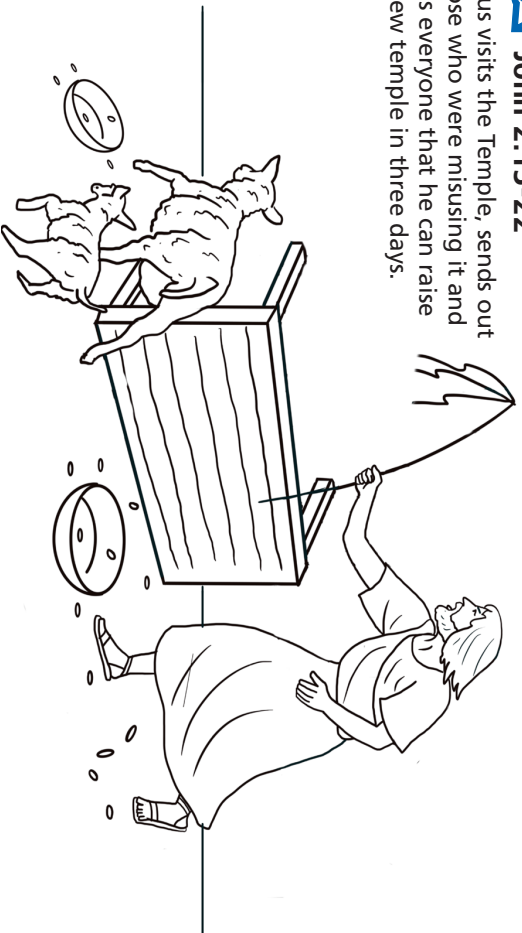
Roots Activity Sheet

7-13 March 2021
Lent 3



John 2.13-22

Jesus visits the Temple, sends out those who were misusing it and tells everyone that he can raise a new temple in three days.



Jesus visits the Temple and says that some of the things happening there are wrong.



Write a short newspaper report describing what happened in the Temple when Jesus visited.

Temple Times



The Temple was one of the most important buildings in Jesus' time. Draw what you think it might have looked like.



Can you help the animals find their way out of the Temple?

