

Welcome to  
**St. John's Episcopal Church**  
**Chula Vista, CA**

**The Fourth Sunday of Lent**

**March 14, 2021**  
**9:00 am**

Livestreamed worship service

*No matter who you are or where you are on your spiritual journey,  
you are welcome here*



**For God so loved the world  
that he gave his only Son**

*John 3:16*

## Prelude

## Salutation

*Presider* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People* ***His mercy endures for ever.***

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these." *Mark 12:29-31*

## Confession of Sin

*Presider:* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

***Most merciful God,***  
***we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,***  
***by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.***  
***We have not loved you with our whole heart;***  
***we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.***  
***We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.***  
***For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,***  
***have mercy on us and forgive us;***  
***that we may delight in your will,***  
***and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.***

*Presider:* Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. ***Amen.***

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

## The Collect of the Day

*Presider*      The Lord be with you.  
*People*      ***And also with you.***  
*Presider*      Let us pray.

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

## The Lessons

### A Reading from the Book of Numbers

Numbers 21:4-9

From Mount Hor the Israelites set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

The Word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God.***

### Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

*Confitemini Domino*

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,  
***and his mercy endures for ever.***

Let all those whom the Lord has redeemed proclaim  
***that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe.***

He gathered them out of the lands;  
***from the east and from the west,  
from the north and from the south.***

Some were fools and took to rebellious ways;  
***they were afflicted because of their sins.***

They abhorred all manner of food  
***and drew near to death's door.***

Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble,  
***and he delivered them from their distress.***

He sent forth his word and healed them

***and saved them from the grave.***

Let them give thanks to the Lord for his mercy

***and the wonders he does for his children.***

Let them offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving

***and tell of his acts with shouts of joy.***

### A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians

Ephesians 2:1-10

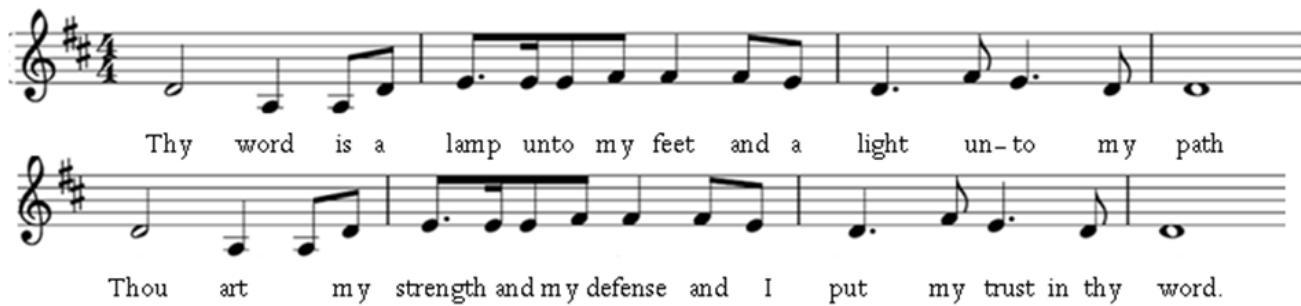
You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ-- by grace you have been saved-- and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God-- not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

The Word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God.***

### Gradual

*Thy Word*



Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path  
Thou art my strength and my defense and I put my trust in thy word.

### The Gospel

John 3:14-21

*Gospeller* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

*People* ***Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

Jesus said, "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the

world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

The Gospel of the Lord.

*Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

## Sermon

### The Nicene Creed

*We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.*

*We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God, begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.*

*For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.*

*For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.*

*On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.*

*We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come.     Amen.*

## Prayers of the People

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishop Susan; for the parish of St. John's; and for all ministers and people.

Pray for the Church.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.  
Pray for justice and peace.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.  
Pray for those in any need or trouble.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.  
Pray that they may find and be found by him.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for the departed, especially Betty Robertson.  
Pray for those who have died.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored.  
Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

*Silence*

I ask your prayer for those serving in the armed forces, first responders, medical professionals, essential workers and their families. Together, let us pray:

***Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces, first responders, medical professionals, essential workers and their families. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and challenges; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

*Presider*      Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask, help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

## The Peace

*Presider*      The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People*      **And also with you.**

*Greet one another in the Name of Christ, or name those whom you hold dear in your heart*

## Birthday and Anniversary Prayer

### The Offertory

I appeal to you by the mercies of God, to present yourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

*You may offer your gift by mail or stop by the parish office,  
Or online by using the "Give Now" button on our St. John's website: [www.saint-johns.org](http://www.saint-johns.org)*

### Offertory Anthem

### The General Thanksgiving

*Presider*      The Lord be with you.  
*People*      **And also with you.**  
*Presider*      Let us pray.

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love.

We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side.

We thank you for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us.

We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.

Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.

Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know Christ and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. **Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

***Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.***

## Spiritual Communion

*Spiritual Communion is an ancient practice of the church. It is our desire to receive Jesus in the Sacrament of Holy Communion, so even though we may not receive the presence of Christ physically, we may receive Christ spiritually. The Church offers us a prayer for Spiritual communion. Let us pray together:*

***Blessed Jesus, I believe that we are fed with the spiritual food of your Body and Blood.  
Since I cannot receive You sacramentally today, I now desire to receive you into my soul.  
Unite my heart with those of my community gathered to offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving  
and make us all one with you. May this spiritual communion strengthen my faith and grant  
me confidence in your loving care now and forever. Amen.***

## Closing Collect

Let us pray

Lord, protect us in our struggle against evil. Let the light of your truth bestow sight in the darkness of sinful eyes. May this season of repentance bring us the blessing of your forgiveness and the gift of your light.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## The Blessing

*Presider* Look with compassion, O Lord, upon this your people; that, rightly observing this holy season, they may learn to know you more fully, and to serve you with a more perfect will; And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## Closing Hymn

## *Jerusalem, My Happy Home*

Hymnal 620, vs. 1, 2, 5

1 Je - ru - sa - lem, my hap - py home, when  
2 Thy saints are crowned with glo - ry great; they  
5 Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - ru - sa - lem, God

1 shall I come to thee? When shall my sor - - rows  
2 see God face to face; they tri - umph still, they  
5 grant that I may see thine end - less joy, and

1 have an end? Thy joys when shall I see?  
2 still re - joice in that most hap - py place.  
5 of the same par - ta - ker ev - er be!

## The Dismissal

*Presider* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## Liturgical Ministers

<b>Presider</b>	Rev. Roger Haenke
<b>Reader/Prayers</b>	Jeff Bates
<b>Psalmist/Vocalists</b>	Jane Ferguson
<b>Gospeller and</b>	
<b>Spiritual Communion</b>	Rev. Cathey Dowdle
<b>Organist</b>	Cheryl Seppala
<b>Video/Livestream</b>	Cliff Berkowitz

## **St. John's Mission Statement**

St. John's is a Christian community that intentionally gathers to experience God's love through Episcopal worship, education, fellowship, and ministry to the wider community.

### **St. John's Prayer Lists**

*Today and every day include some time for prayer, for yourself, for your church family, and for those in need.*

#### **For Our Military**

Matt Jensen, Drew Shorkey, Cody Crossland, Cameron Ronie, Chariti Paden, Mark Stanfield, Sean Robinson, Jonathan Martinez, TK Nguyen, Christopher Lindshield, Timothy Lindshield, Jeremy Colton, David Sanchez, Jonathan Baldera, Nick Wyatt, Jamal Warner, Matt Hernandez, Daniel Getreu, Jocelyn Hernandez, Devon Strunk, Taylor Harrold, Jorge Zuazua, Katherine Milam, Sebastian Morales, Richie Lebron and Roberto Johnson.

#### **For Strength in Time of Need**

Scott Hunter, Steve Magill, Gary and Shirley McCarren, Don Budde, Freddie and Andrea Cletus, Ann and Jim Lindshield and Kevin Selby.

For the repose of the soul of Betty Robertson.  
May light perpetual shine on her.

*(Names are kept on the Prayers List for 4 weeks and should be submitted by Wednesday.*

*If you wish to add a name, please email Maria Love at: [maria@saint-johns.org](mailto:maria@saint-johns.org).)*

#### **We Are Available in Your Time of Need**

If you have a pastoral emergency when the parish offices are closed, please call Rev. Roger at 619-301-0724 or email [revroger@saint-johns.org](mailto:revroger@saint-johns.org)

### **St. John's Clergy**

The Rev. Roger Haenke, *Rector*  
The Rev. Cathey Dowdle, *Pastoral Assistant*

### **St. John's Vestry**

David Dennehy, *Senior Warden*  
(619) 840-9994  
[masterfrog@att.net](mailto:masterfrog@att.net)  
Lynn Young, *Junior Warden*  
208-695-7735  
[lynnyoung2786@gmail.com](mailto:lynnyoung2786@gmail.com)  
Bill Cheney, *Treasurer*  
Terry Farrelly, *Assistant Treasurer*  
Diane Gustafson, *Clerk*  
Pamela Brittain  
Tom Brzeczek  
Ray Contreras  
Jane Ferguson  
Muriel Kulikowski  
Alejandra Valdez-Beer

**St. John's Episcopal Church**  
760 First Avenue Chula Vista, CA 91910-6012  
(619) 422-4141  
Email: [maria@saint-johns.org](mailto:maria@saint-johns.org)  
[www.saint-johns.org](http://www.saint-johns.org)