

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

**The Second Sunday in Lent**

**March 16, 2025**  
**9:00 am**



*Hearken to my voice, O Lord, when I call;  
have mercy on me and answer me.*

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

## Prelude

## Welcome

## Opening Acclamation

*Celebrant* 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."

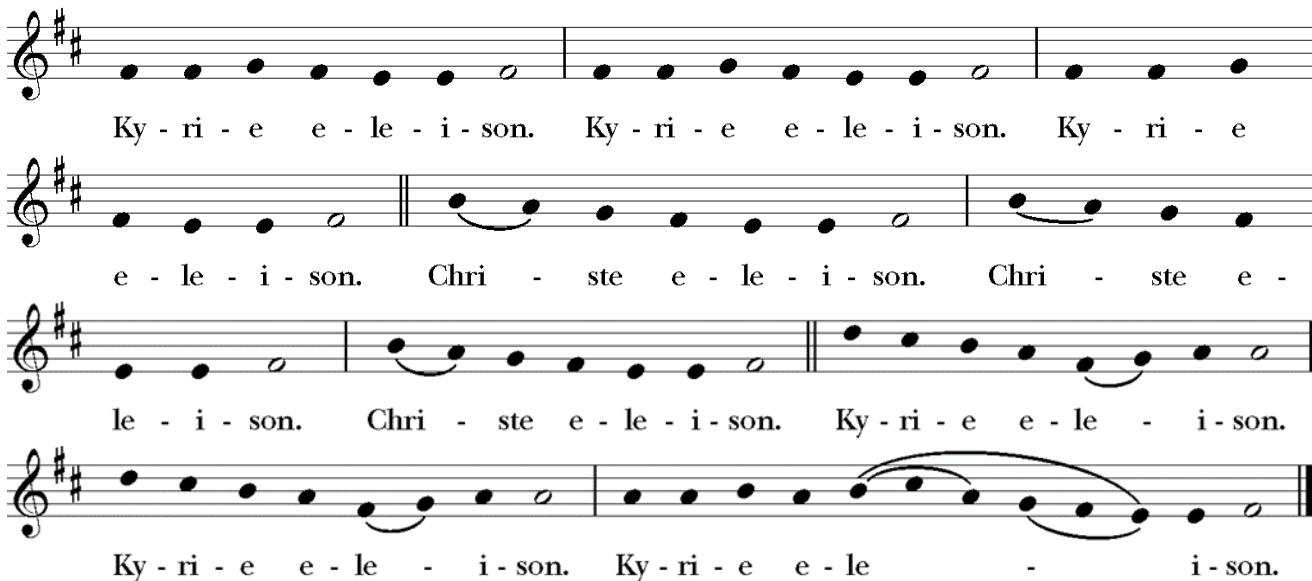
*Mark 12:29-31*

## Confession of Sin

*Celebrant* 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.***

*Celebrant* 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.***



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## The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* ***And also with you.***

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

## The Lessons

### A Reading from the Book of Genesis

Genesis 15: 1-12, 17-18

The word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, “Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” But Abram said, “O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.” But the word of the Lord came to him, “This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.” He brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your descendants be.” And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Then he said to him, “I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.” But he said, “O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?” He said to him, “Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.” He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.”

The Word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God***

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?

***the Lord is the strength of my life;  
of whom then shall I be afraid?***

Though an army should encamp against me,

***yet my heart shall not be afraid;***

And though war should rise up against me,

***yet will I put my trust in him.***

One thing have I asked of the Lord; one thing I seek;

***that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life;***

To behold the fair beauty of the Lord

***and to seek him in his temple.***

Even now he lifts up my head

***above my enemies round about me.***

Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation with sounds of great gladness;

***I will sing and make music to the Lord.***

Hearken to my voice, O Lord, when I call;

***have mercy on me and answer me.***

You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face."

***Your face, Lord, will I seek.***

You have been my helper; cast me not away;

***do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.***

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

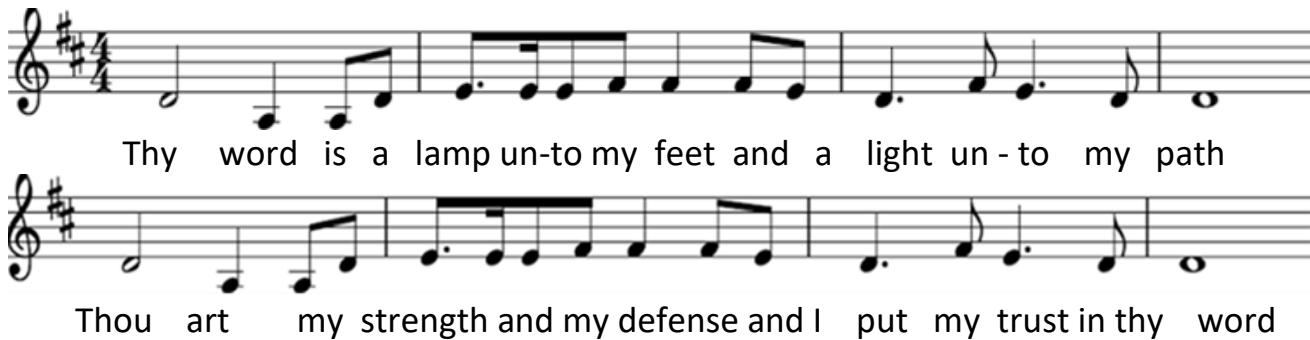
Philippians 3:17-4:1

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things.

But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

The Word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God.***

**Gradual*****Thy Word***

Thy word is a lamp un-to my feet and a light un - to my path  
Thou art my strength and my defense and I put my trust in thy word

**The Gospel**

Luke 13:31-35

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke*People* ***Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

Some Pharisees came and said to Jesus, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

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.*

## **The Prayers of the People**

*Celebrant*      Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. Lord, in your mercy

***Hear our prayer.***

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. Lord, in your mercy

***Hear our prayer.***

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. Lord, in your mercy

***Hear our prayer.***

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. Lord, in your mercy

***Hear our prayer.***

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. Lord, in your mercy

***Hear our prayer.***

We commend to your mercy, and all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy

***Hear our prayer.***

Together let us pray for those who risk their lives to ensure our freedom, to heal, protect, comfort, and keep us safe,

***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.***

*Celebrant*      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**

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

## **Birthday, Anniversary and Traveler Prayers**

## **The Offertory**

*Your generous offering helps us to continue the mission and ministry of the parish.  
You may also give 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 Great Thanksgiving**

*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.  
*People*            ***And also with you.***  
                      Lift up your hearts.  
                      ***We lift them to the Lord.***  
                      Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
                      ***It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace, we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, hea-ven and  
 earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
 Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

***Christ has died.***

***Christ is risen.***

***Christ will come again***

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him.

Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

***Amen.***

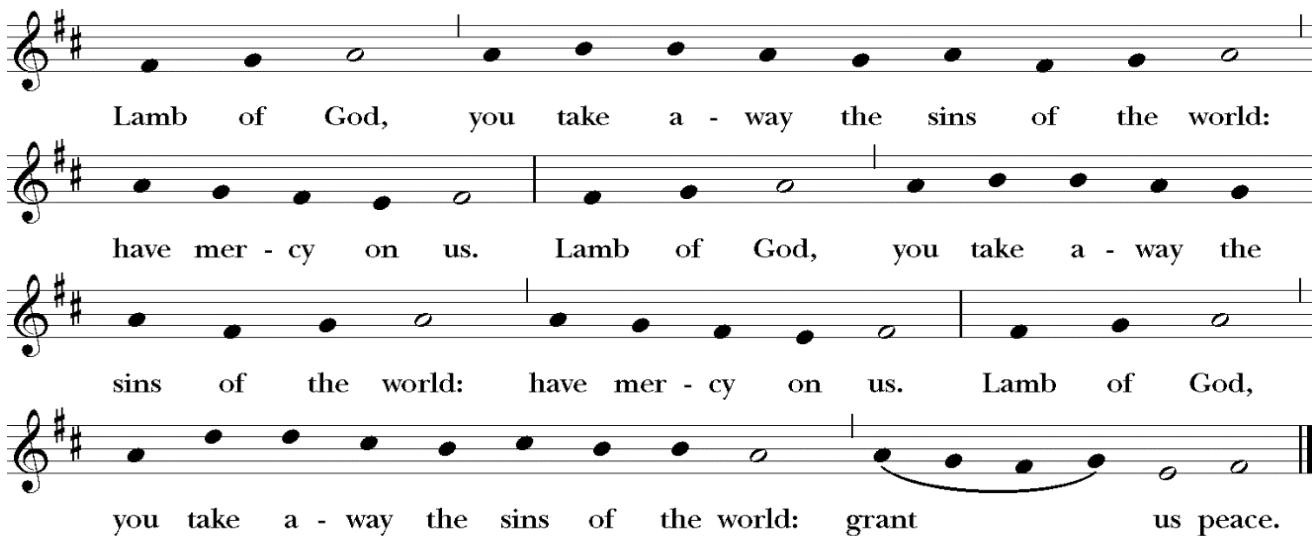
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

***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.***

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

*Celebrant* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*People* ***therefore let us keep the feast.***



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

*Celebrant* The Gifts of God for the People of God

### **Communion**

*You are invited to come forward to receive Holy Communion. We offer Holy Communion under both forms of bread and wine. After receiving the bread, indicate to the Chalice Bearer if you prefer drinking from the cup or intinction by the Chalice Bearer (dipping the bread into the wine). If you do not want to receive Holy Communion, you are invited to come forward for a blessing, indicated by crossing your arms over your chest.*

## Spiritual Communion

I invite all who are watching our liturgy online to receive Christ spiritually. Let us pray together:

***Lord Jesus, we believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. We are grateful to know there are many ways to experience your presence, but in whatever way we do, we know you come into our hearts, minds and souls. Unite my heart with those of my family of faith gathered to celebrate the great meal 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.***

## Prayer After Communion

*Celebrant* Let us pray

*People* ***Eternal God, heavenly Father,  
you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.  
Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage  
to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.***

## The Blessing

*Celebrant* 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.***

## The Dismissal

*Celebrant* Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

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

**Closing Hymn***The God of Abraham Praise*

Hymnal #401

1. The God of Abraham praise, who reigns en-throned a - bove;  
2. He by him - self hath sworn: we on his oath de - pend;  
3. There dwells the Lord, our King, the Lord, our Right - eous - ness,  
  
1. An - cient of ev - er - last - ing days, and God of love;  
2. we shall, on ea - gle - wings up - borne, to heaven a - scand:  
3. tri - um - phant o'er the world and sin, the Prince of Peace;  
  
1. the Lord, the great I AM, by earth and heaven con - fessed:  
2. we shall be - hold his face, we shall his power a - dore,  
3. on Zi - on's sa - cred height his king - dom he main - tains,  
  
we bow and bless the sa - cred Name for ev - er blest.  
and sing the won - ders of his grace for ev - er - more.  
and, glo - rious with his saints in light, for ev - er reigns.

**Postlude****Liturgical Ministers****Celebrant/Preacher**

Rev. Roger Haenke

**Reader/Prayers**

Joe Love, David Dennehy

**Psalmist/Vocalists**

St. John's Choir: Jeff Bates, Bob Dunn, Alice Burnham,  
Pamela Brittain, Denise Eddleman, Jane Ferguson,  
Frank Hafner, Don Lamar, Joe and Maria Love,  
Marge Moore, Nancy Painter,  
Leslie Parker, Tom Welch

**Organist**

Cheryl Seppala

**Acolytes**

Malia Attaway, Scott Bricknell, Marge Moore,  
Lynn Naranjo

**Ushers**

Bill and Irene Cheney

**Eucharistic Minister**

Iris Atkins, Debbie Lothspeich, Alex Valdez-Beer

**Livestream**

Cliff Berkowitz, Jamie Attaway

## **Lent Forum: Becoming Beloved Community**

**10:30 am in Nale Hall**

**Presented by: Rev. Susanna DesMarais**

Join us for a 40-minute conversation as we explore what it means to be Beloved Community and let love be our guide. Grab a cup of coffee, a donut or sweet and let's talk.

### **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, Devon Strunk, Taylor Harrold, Jorge Zuazua, Roberto Chavez, Ryan Lothspeich, Andrew C. Dugger, Dan and Chelsey Nyaradi, Gen. G.C. Heinrich, Pedro Bonilla, Patrick King, Connor Feeny, and Sebastian Morales and the crew of the USS Nimitz.

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

Steve Magill, Gary and Shirley McCarren, the McClure family, Alec Hauer, Karen Polk, Bob Milam, Bill Rogers, James Kellogg Burnham III, Mike Gollihur, Linda Longoria-Neff, Helena Livingston, Diane Gustafson, Casey Brown, Fr. George Keith, Ted Owens, Michael and La Donna Dwyer, Jamie Attaway, and the family of Tom and Cindy Brosche.

*Names are kept on the Prayers List for 4 weeks.*

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

### **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.



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