

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

The Third Sunday in Lent

**March 23, 2025
9:00 am**



*So will I bless you as long as I live
and lift up my hands in your Name.*

***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.

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

The Lessons

A Reading from the Book of Exodus

Exodus 3:1-15

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the Lord said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain."

But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I am who I am." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I am has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you':

This is my name forever,
and this my title for all generations."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Psalm 63:1-8

Deus, Deus meus

O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you;

***my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,
as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.***

Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place,

that I might behold your power and your glory.

For your loving-kindness is better than life itself;

my lips shall give you praise.

So will I bless you as long as I live

and lift up my hands in your Name.

My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness,

and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,

When I remember you upon my bed,

and meditate on you in the night watches.

For you have been my helper,

and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.

My soul clings to you;

your right hand holds me fast.

A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

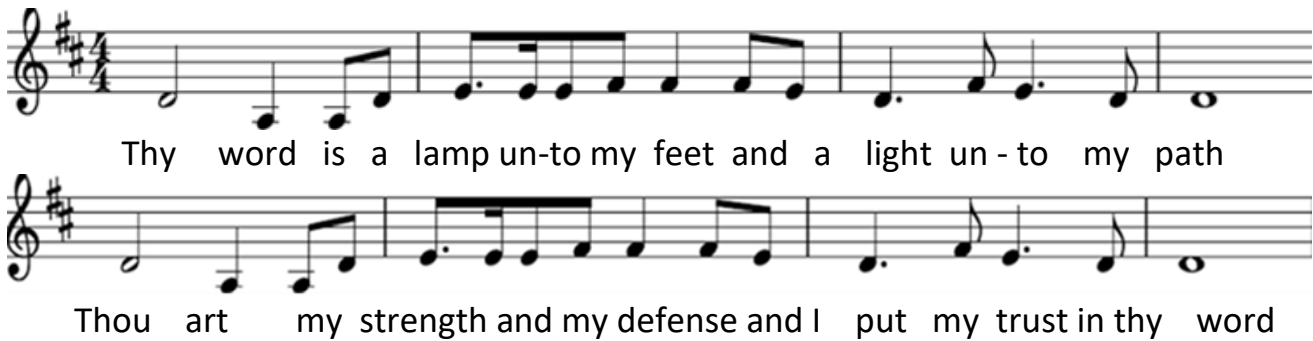
Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Thy Word



The Gospel

Luke 13:1-9

Celebrant

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

People

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them--do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

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 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*

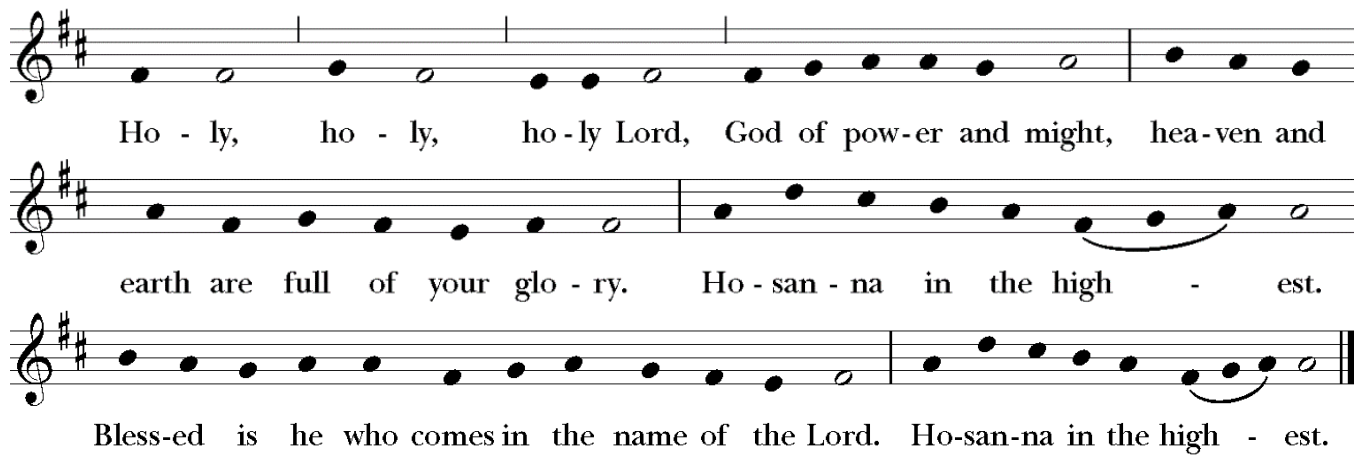
Offertory Anthem

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:



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.***



1 Kind Ma - ker of the world, O hear the fer - vent
 2 Each heart is man - i - fest to thee; thou know - est
 3 Spare us, O Lord, who now con - fess our sins and
 4 Give us the dis - ci - pline that springs from ab - sti -
 5 Grant, O thou bless - ed Trin - i - ty; grant, O un -



1 prayer, with man - y a tear poured forth by all the
 2 our in - fir - mi - ty; now we re - pent, and
 3 all our wick - ed - ness, and, for the glo - ry
 4 nence in out - ward things with in - ward fast - ing,
 5 chang - ing Un - i - ty; that this our fast of



1 pen - i - tent who keep this ho - ly fast of Lent!
 2 seek thy face; grant un - to us thy par - doning grace.
 3 of thy Name, our weak - ened souls to health re - claim.
 4 so that we in heart and soul may dwell with thee.
 5 for - ty days may work our pro - fit and thy praise!

Postlude

Liturgical Ministers

Celebrant/Preacher

Rev. Roger Haenke

Reader/Prayers

Diane Gustafson, Bill Cheney

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

Judy Butcher, Judy McKay

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, the family of Tom and Cindy Brosche, Joan Sutton, and Rosemarie Viloria.

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

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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