

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT MARCH 14, 2021

The Service of Holy Eucharist

OPENING HYMN

Love divine all loves excelling

1. Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling,
 2. Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er,
 3. Fin - ish then your new cre - a - tion,

Joy of heav'n to earth come down!
 Let us all your life re - ceive;
 Pure and spot - less, gra - cious Lord,

Fix in us your hum - ble dwell - ing,
 Sud - den - ly re - turn and nev - er,
 Let us see your great sal - va - tion

All your faith - ful mer - cies crown.
 Nev - er more your tem - ples leave.
 Per - fect - ly in you re - stored.

Je - sus, source of all com - pas - sion,
 Lord, we would be al - ways bless - ing,
 Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

Love un - bound - ed, love all pure;
 Serve you as your hosts a - bove,
 Till in heav'n we take our place,

Vis - it us with your sal - va - tion,
 Pray, and praise you with - out ceas - ing,
 Till we sing be - fore the al - might - y

Let your love in us en - dure.
 Glo - ry in your pre - cious love.
 Lost in won - der, love and praise.

THE WORD OF GOD

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: ***His mercy endures forever.***

Celebrant: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of you Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

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

Celebrant: 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 FIRST LESSON

EPHESIANS 2: 1-10

Introduction to the Lesson

Faith is a gift from God that cannot be earned. By God's grace, our faith empowers us to do the work God intends for us.

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians:

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.

PSALM 107: 1-3, 17-22

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.


Unison.



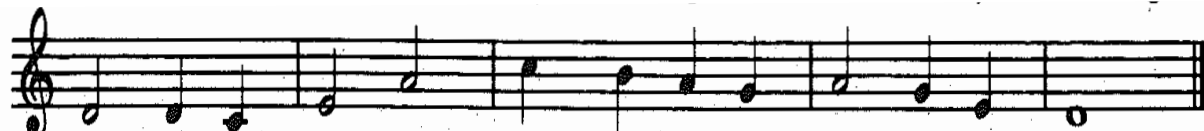
1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
 2 To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing, to
 3 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and



won-drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this that
 God and to the Lamb, I will sing. To God and to the Lamb who
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free I'll



caused the Lord of bliss to lay a - side his crown for my
 is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
 sing and joy - ful be, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, to lay a - side his crown for my soul.
 sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme I will sing.
 on, I'll sing on, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

The Mission of Holy Comforter

Love God, Love Others

Serve God, Serve Others

Introduction to the Lesson

Jesus teaches that all who place their trust in him receive forgiveness of their sins and inherit everlasting life.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John:

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

And 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.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Cynthia Taylor

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

Lector: 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.

Silence

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.

Silence

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.

Silence

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. We especially give thanks for those celebrating birthdays: *Lilly Halterman, Jonathan Redding, and Kirk Redding*. For those celebrating anniversaries: *Chris and Caitlin Martin*. For our partnership with Martinez Elementary School and The Claiborne at West Lake.

Silence

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, especially *Robbie Jarrell and The Rev. Billy Alford*.

Silence

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, especially *Austin* and for those who have died from COVID-19.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

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 CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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.***

THE PEACE

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER C

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

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

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: ***We lift them to the Lord.***

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: ***It is right to give him thanks and praise.***

Celebrant: God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

People: ***Glory to you for ever and ever.***

Celebrant: At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

People: ***By your will they were created and have their being.***

Celebrant: From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

People: ***Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.***

Celebrant: Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

People: ***By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.***

Celebrant: And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Sanctus is said:

***Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.***

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant: And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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." Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

People: ***We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.***

Celebrant: Lord God of our Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

People: ***Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.***

Celebrant: Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. ***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.

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: ***Therefore let us keep the feast.***

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Celebrant and People: ***Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom.***

And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THE BLESSING AND THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant: Always remember how short life is and how little time we have to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us. So be quick to love and make haste to be kind. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. ***Amen.***

Celebrant: Let us bless the Lord.

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

CLOSING HYMN

To God be the glory

1. To God be the glo - ry, great things he hath done, so loved he the
2. O per - fect re - demp-tion, the pur-chase of blood, to ev - ery be -
3. Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done, and great our re -

world that he gave us his Son, who yield - ed his life an a -
 liev - er the prom - ise of God; the vil - est of - fend - er who
 joic - ing through Je - sus the Son; but pur - er, and high - er and

tone-ment for sin, and o - pened the life - gate that all may go in.
 tru - ly be - lieves, that mo - ment from Je - sus a par - don re - ceives.
 great - er will be our won - der, our trans - port, when Je - sus we see.

Refrain

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice! Praise the Lord, praise the

Lord, let the peo - ple re - joice! O come to the Fa - ther through

Je - sus the Son, and give him the glo - ry, great things he hath done.

SERVING TODAY

Officiant/Preacher	The Rev. Dr. Cynthia Taylor
Lay Eucharistic Ministers	Pam Vanscoy
Reader	Linda Barger
Musician	Drs. Brad and Lucy Green
Live stream	Bill Liebel and Thomas Saunders

VESTRY

Fred Hoogland, Sr. Warden, Dave Blake, Jr. Warden

Mallory Halterman , Pam Vanscoy,

Tab Carter , Bill Liebel