

ST. FRANCIS-IN-THE-FIELDS
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Service of the Word: Rite II
& Penitential Order

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 22, 2020
10:00 a.m. Livestream

The Altar arrangements this Sunday are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory and thanksgiving of all whose lives have touched and blessed us.

EUCARIST: RITE II

THE WORD OF GOD

PRELUDE: There is a Fountain

arr. Brian Buda

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;
His mercy endures forever.

A PENITENTIAL ORDER

Jesus spoke this to his disciples and said:

Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

Blessed are you who are hungry now,
for you will be filled.

Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.

Blessed are you when people hate you, exclude you,
revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man,
for surely your reward is great in heaven.

But woe to you who are rich,
for you have received you consolation.

Woe to you who are full now,
for you will be hungry.

Woe to you who are laughing now,
for you will mourn and weep.

Woe to you when all speak well of you,
for so were the false prophets received.

I say to you, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold every your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you, and if anyone take away your goods, do not ask for them again.
Do to others as you would have them do to you.

CONFESSON

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.

ABSOLUTION

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

HYMN OF PRAISE

Kyrie

Hymnal S96

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy, have mercy.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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

1 Samuel 16:1-13

The Lord said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.” And the Lord said, “Take a heifer with you, and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.’ Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.” Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, “Do you come peaceably?” He said, “Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the Lord’s anointed is now before the Lord.” But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.” Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The Lord has not chosen any of these.” Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.” He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, “Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.” Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches

Thanks be to God

PSALM 23 (together)

The Lord is my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.

He revives my soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil; *
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running over.

Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

PIANO REFLECTION: Amazing Grace

Joseph M. Martin

THE SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 5:8-14

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—
for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out
what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead
expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but
everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light.
Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

Here what the Spirit is saying to the Churches
Thanks be to God

SEQUENCE HYMN: I heard the voice Hymnal 692 (Sung to KINGSFOLD)

- 1 I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Come unto me and rest;
and in your weariness lay down your head upon my breast."
I came to Jesus as I was, so weary, worn, and sad;
I found in him a resting place, and he has made me glad.
- 2 I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Behold, I freely give
the living water; thirsty one, stoop down and drink, and live."
I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in him.
- 3 I heard the voice of Jesus say, "I am this dark world's light;
look unto me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."
I looked to Jesus, and I found in him my Star, my Sun;
and in that light of life I'll walk till pilgrim days are done.

THE GOSPEL

John 9:1-11

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Kevin Dellarria

THE NICENE CREED (together)

BCP 358

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

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord, have mercy.”

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For Daniel, our Bishop, Kevin, our Priest, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For Donald, the President of the United States, and leaders of all nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For Willistown Township, our various communities, and for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, especially Hank Guckes, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

In the communion of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

To you, O Lord our God.

We give thanks for those celebrating birthdays this week: Linda, Bill, Larry, Noah, Cindy, Jennifer, Laura and Julie. In our Parish Prayer Cycle we give thanks and ask God's guidance for our Vestry and Wardens, our Parish Administrator, our Building & Grounds Committee, and our Churchyard Committee.

We pray for our own needs, and the needs of others.

Almighty God, giver of life and health, we commend to your mercy all individuals and communities who suffer in the current crisis. We pray for those who are infected, quarantined, sick, or dying; for those who are most vulnerable; for those who suffer economic distress; and for those who provide treatment and research. Lead us to make wise and compassionate choices for the health and safety of all, and guide us each to be a non-anxious presence of faith, hope and love, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS *(together)*

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A PRAYER OF COMMUNION (together)

Lord of the Feast, we thank you for gathering us as your people. We call to remembrance the many times we have been fed at your table and we lament our distance now. Be present Lord Jesus as you were present with your disciples, be known to us in the breaking of the bread, and may your Holy Spirit sustain us and all your Church until we can gather together again. We ask this for the sake of your love. Amen.

A BLESSING

Go on your way in peace. Be of good courage. Hold fast to that which is good. Render to no one evil for evil. Strengthen the faint-hearted. Support the weak. Help and cheer the sick. Honor everyone. Love and serve the Lord. And may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all, wherever we are, and forevermore. Amen.

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE: *Prelude, Gugue and Chaconne*

Dieterich Buxtehude

Music in Ministry

by Mr. Joe Perry, Music Director

Today's postlude comes from Dieterich Buxtehude. Dieterich was one of the most famous organists in Germany the generation before Bach. Buxtehude composed in the North German tradition. They were known for gigantic instruments, especially they're pedal pipes. You can always tell a Buxtehude piece because he likes to show off the pedal division. One other iconic part of Buxtehude's style is that he wrote in sections. Audiences of his time, much like ours, like a lot of variety. So even within one piece, he will switch style 3, 4, or 5 times.

Liturgical Note:

by Fr. Kevin Dellaria

During the season of Lent, Episcopal congregations often employ the use of "A Penitential Order," found on page 351 of the *Book of Common Prayer*. This rite, when used, moves the Confession and Absolution to the beginning of the service, and includes an option for reciting the Decalogue, or Ten Commandments, as a litany. This Lent, rather than using the Decalogue, we will instead use a "litanized" version of the Beatitudes of Jesus, famously found in Matthew 5:1-11 and Luke chapter 6:20-31. In particular, our version of this teaching is derived from Luke, whose language is not as softened and "spiritualized" as that of Matthew. It is Matthew's Gospel, however, in which the setting of the Beatitudes depicts Jesus as a Moses figure, speaking the word of God from the mountaintop for all to obey. The intent of the Beatitudes, that is, is to capture the *spirit* or *essence* of Decalogue, and the human character it is meant to form. This becomes even more obvious as we read the full teaching of Jesus of which these "Beatitudes" are part; that portion of Matthew's Gospel we call "The Sermon on the Mount" (Mt. 5-7).

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