

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH AND SCHOOL  
& AFRICAN PALMS USA

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 22, 2020

Online Morning Prayer



3427 Olney Laytonsville Rd. Olney, MD 20832

Phone: (301) 774-6999 Fax: (301) 774-1346

Website: [www.stjec.org](http://www.stjec.org)

**DAILY MORNING PRAYER  
22 MARCH 2020**

**Rite Two**

**BCP Page 75**

Rend your hearts and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and repents of evil. *Joel 2:13*

***Confession of Sin***

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

**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.**

*The Celebrant says*

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 Invitatory and Psalter*

*Officiant*    Lord, open our lips.

*People*      **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

*Officiant and People*

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

**The Lord is full of compassion and mercy: Come let us adore him.**

*Venite* *Psalm 95:1-7*

**Come, let us sing to the Lord; \***  
**let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.**

**Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \***  
**and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.**

**For the Lord is a great God, \***  
**and a great King above all gods.**

**In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \***  
**and the heights of the hills are his also.**

**The sea is his, for he made it, \***  
**and his hands have molded the dry land.**

**Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \***  
**and kneel before the Lord our Maker.**

**For he is our God,**  
**and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. \***  
**Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!**

## *Psalm 23*

**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 for ever.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

**The Lord is full of compassion and mercy: Come let us adore him.**

## *The Lessons*

### **A reading from Paul's letter to the 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.”

**Canticle 14 A Song of Penitence Kyrie Pantokrator  
Prayer of Manasseh 1-2, 4, 6-7, 11-15**

O Lord and Ruler of the hosts of heaven, \*  
God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob,  
and of all their righteous offspring:  
You made the heavens and the earth, \*  
with all their vast array.  
All things quake with fear at your presence; \*  
they tremble because of your power.  
But your merciful promise is beyond all measure; \*  
it surpasses all that our minds can fathom.  
O Lord, you are full of compassion, \*  
long-suffering, and abounding in mercy.  
You hold back your hand; \*  
you do not punish as we deserve.  
In your great goodness, Lord,  
you have promised forgiveness to sinners, \*  
that they may repent of their sin and be saved.  
And now, O Lord, I bend the knee of my heart, \*  
and make my appeal, sure of your gracious goodness.  
I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned, \*  
and I know my wickedness only too well.  
Therefore I make this prayer to you: \*  
Forgive me, Lord, forgive me.  
Do not let me perish in my sin, \*  
nor condemn me to the depths of the earth.  
For you, O Lord, are the God of those who repent, \*  
and in me you will show forth your goodness.  
Unworthy as I am, you will save me,  
in accordance with your great mercy, \*  
and I will praise you without ceasing all the days of my life.  
For all the powers of heaven sing your praises, \*  
and yours is the glory to ages of ages. Amen.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

**A reading from the Gospel according to Saint John (9:1-41)**

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." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed

that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

The Word of the Lord.

*People*

**Thanks be to God.**

*Canticle I*      *A Song of Jonah*  
(Jonah 2:2-7,9)

**'I called to you, O God, out of my distress, and you answered me;  
out of the belly of Sheol I cried, and you heard my voice.**

You cast me into the deep, into the heart of the seas,  
and the flood surrounded me;  
all your waves and your billows passed over me.  
Then I said, "I am driven away from your sight;  
how shall I look again upon your holy temple?"  
The waters closed in over me; the deep was round about me;  
weeds were wrapped around my head at the roots of the mountains.  
I went down to the land beneath the earth;  
yet you brought up my life from the depths, O God.  
As my life was ebbing away, I remembered you, O God;  
and my prayer came to you, into your holy temple.  
With the voice of thanksgiving, I will sacrifice to you;  
what I have vowed I will pay, for deliverance belongs to the Lord!"

*The Apostles' Creed*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth;  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

## *The Prayers*

*Officiant*      The Lord be with you.  
*People*        **And also with you.**

*Officiant*      **Let us pray.**

*Officiant and People*

**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.**

### Suffrages B

- V. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;
- R. **Govern and uphold them, now and always.**
- V. Day by day we bless you;
- R. **We praise your name for ever.**
- V. Lord, keep us from all sin today;
- R. **Have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy.**
- V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;
- R. **For we put our trust in you.**
- V. In you, Lord, is our hope;
- R. **And we shall never hope in vain.**

*The Collect of the Day*

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.**

*A Collect for Sundays*

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*A Collect for Mission*

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Prayers for those on our hearts and minds will be offered silently or aloud.*

*A Prayer of St. Chrysostom*

**Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

## DAILY DEVOTIONS

---

*Use this list to pray and to show your love and concern for the sick, shut-in, bereaved, or those merely in need of prayer. In case of pastoral emergency, please call 301-774-3619 or email [rector@stjec.org](mailto:rector@stjec.org) or [associate@stjec.org](mailto:associate@stjec.org).*

Ellen Dunn  
Walter Oesch  
Students stuck Overseas  
Phil Cushman  
Pam Brekke  
The Williams Family  
Catherine Cant  
Joanne Brine  
Melissa Bank  
Craig Schumpert  
Lori Billings  
Jane Nicholson  
June Thompson  
Mary Almasi  
Edith Pangisa  
Lois Taylor  
Mary Lou McMaster  
Dorcas Taylor  
Frances Hunt  
Marilyn Lee