

# The First Sunday in Lent



Lent 2021

Abounding  
in  
Steadfast Love

Holy Eucharist  
February 21, 2021 10:30 am

**WELCOME TO ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

Our mission is to be a community of Christian worship, well-being and service.

We hope you will experience God's own welcome in this place and through  
our online ministry.

Worship and join us online at [www.smcportsmouth.org](http://www.smcportsmouth.org)  
or find us on [facebook@smcportsmouth](https://www.facebook.com/smcportsmouth).

## Welcome and Announcements

*All may stand at the ringing of the church bell.*

**Opening Hymn:** Return to God

Angotti

## Opening Acclamation

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

## The Great Commandment

Mark 12:29-31

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

## Confession

*Celebrant* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*All may bow or kneel as you are able. Silence is kept.*

*Celebrant and People*

**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.**

**Kyrie**

Angotti

## The Word of God

### Collect of the Day

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*The people may be seated.*

### First Reading: Genesis 9:8-17

God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

### Psalm 25:1-9

**To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;  
my God, I put my trust in you; \*  
let me not be humiliated,  
nor let my enemies triumph over me.  
Let none who look to you be put to shame; \*  
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.**

Show me your ways, O Lord, \*  
and teach me your paths.  
Lead me in your truth and teach me, \*  
for you are the God of my salvation;  
in you have I trusted all the day long.

Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, \*  
for they are from everlasting.  
Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; \*  
remember me according to your love  
and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.

Gracious and upright is the Lord; \*  
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.  
He guides the humble in doing right \*  
and teaches his way to the lowly.  
All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness \*  
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

**Second Reading:** 1 Peter 3:18-22

Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you-- not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.  
*People*            **Thanks be to God.**

*All may stand for the Gospel Procession*

Sequence Hymn            Return to the Lord, your God            Karin Larsen

Verse: Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.

## **Holy Gospel: Mark 1:9-15**

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

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

*Gospeller*     The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People*         **Praise to you, Lord Christ**

## **Sermon**

The Rev. Jennifer Pedrick

*All may stand for the Nicene Creed.*

## **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

*Leader* Holy God, we pray for the church. May she drink deeply from living springs and be tended by angels in the wilderness. We pray for our church as we travel the deserts in trust and hope.

*Response* **For you are gracious and merciful slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

*Leader* Holy God, we pray for the healing of the world. May we remember that we are all interconnected, that the well-being of some depends on the well-being of the whole. Guide us in peace, that we may stand against violence, injustice and terrorism in all their forms.

*Response* **For you are gracious and merciful slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

*Leader* Holy God, we pray for this nation. May we be healed from the sins of divisive politics, nationalism, and white supremacy. Restore our common life, that we may shine like a lamp on a hill.

*Response* **For you are gracious and merciful slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

*Leader* Holy God, we pray for all who suffer, including those on our prayer list Priscilla, Judith, Marilyn, David, residents and staff of Blenheim Newport, Ned, Casey, Mary, Kathy, and those people or situations we name aloud.

*The people may offer their own prayers.*

May every sadness find you at its heart, and may there be grace when we suffer.

*Response* **For you are gracious and merciful slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

*Leader* Holy God, we pray for the departed, remembering especially David Clark and Joseph DeSilvia who died this week, those who have died of Covid-19 and those beloved whom we name aloud...

*Response* **For you are gracious and merciful slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

*Celebrant* God of mercy and grace, lead us to new life in your steadfast love. Change our hearts, mend our brokenness, and lead us to any who need us, for the sake of Jesus, your beloved Son, our Savior. **Amen.**

### **The Peace**

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

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

**Offertory:** Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days  
#142

Hymnal 1982

### **The Holy Communion**

*If you would like to make an offering, please do so on line or when you come for drive through Holy Communion*

*The people may stand for the Eucharistic Prayer.*

#### **Eucharistic Prayer**

*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 our thanks and praise.**

*The celebrant continues...*

...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:

**Sanctus and Benedictus: #858**

WLP

*The celebrant continues...*

*Celebrant* Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*People* **Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

*The celebrant continues...*

...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.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

*Celebrant* 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**

*A period of silence is kept.*

**Fraction:** We Come to You

Blakesley

**Communion Music:** In You, O Lord

Bolduc

### **Prayer after Communion**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

**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.**

### **Solemn Prayer over the People**

Grant, Almighty God, that your people may recognize their weakness and put their whole trust in your strength, so that they may rejoice forever in the protection of your loving providence; through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**Dismissal**

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

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

**Closing Song:** Into the Desert

Stephan

**The Worship Team**

The Rev. Jennifer Pedrick, Michael Templeton, Julie Zecher, Jennie Nestlerode,  
Sheila Benevides, John Corbishley

**Production Team**

David Brierley, Marlo Pratt

**Set up/Break down:** Jon Walker

*Permission to podcast/stream the music is this service obtained from ONE LICENSE, License  
#A-722357. All rights reserved*

**St. Mary's Episcopal Church**

324 East Main Road, Portsmouth, RI 02871  
(401) 846-9700 ♦ [www.smcportsmouth.org](http://www.smcportsmouth.org)

The Reverend Jennifer L. Pedrick, *Rector*  
Karen Laroche, *Parish Administrator*

Michael Templeton, *Pastoral Musician*  
Jon Walker, *Property Manager*