



**Liturgy of the Word
The Fourth Sunday in Lent
Sunday, March 14, 2021**

THE WORD OF GOD

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: His mercy endures forever.

Celebrant: Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says: "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your 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 commandment greater than these."

CONFSSION OF SIN

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

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.*

Agnus Dei

Susan Hollinger

Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world:
give us peace, give us peace.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

COLLECT FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Celebrant: 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 LESSONS

The First Lesson: Numbers 21:4-9

Reader: From Mount Hor the Israelites set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Psalm for Today: Psalm 107:1-3, 19-22

Reader: Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, *

People: and his mercy endures for ever.

Reader: Let all those whom the LORD has redeemed proclaim *

People: that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe.

Reader: He gathered them out of the lands; *

People: from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

Reader: Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, *

People: and he delivered them from their distress.

Reader: He sent forth his word and healed them *

People: and saved them from the grave.

Reader: Let them give thanks to the LORD for his mercy *

People: and the wonders he does for his children.

Reader: Let them offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving *

People: and tell of his acts with shouts of joy.

The Epistle: Ephesians 2:1-10

Reader: 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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Hymn 470 “There’s a wideness in God’s mercy”

Susan Hollinger

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

John 3:14-21

Celebrant: Jesus said, “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.”

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Laurence K. “Larry” Packard

NICENE CREED

Celebrant and People: 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

Prayers of the People, Form IV

Reader: 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.

People: Hear our prayer.

Reader: 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.

People: Hear our prayer.

Reader: 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.

People: Hear our prayer.

Reader: 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.

People: Hear our prayer.

Reader: 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.

People: Hear our prayer.

Reader: 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.

People: Hear our prayer.

Prayers for those on Our Prayer List

Reader: Let us pray for our own needs and those of others with a moment of silence.

(Moment of Silence)

Reading of Names

Prayer for the Nation

Celebrant and People: O God, the fountain of wisdom, whose will is good and gracious, and whose law is truth: We beseech you so to guide and bless our leaders and officials in our Nation and Commonwealth that they may enact such laws as shall please you, and that we as your people might respect our liberties and use them for the common good of all people, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Prayer for the Church Universal

Celebrant and People: Almighty and everlasting God, from whom comes every good and perfect gift: Send down upon your Church your Holy Spirit of grace and make us worthy to further the mission of your Son our Savior, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Prayer for the Church of Our Redeemer

Celebrant and People: Lord Jesus, we pray that you will give us ears to hear, hearts to love, and wills devoted to serve; that in the days to come this congregation may be known, not for our glory, but for yours alone – a congregation of people who know the Lord; that this place may be an oasis, a place where people come to find out about you, where lives are straightened out and made whole, where people find the peace that passes understanding. Give us, we pray, a heart to desire these things above all else. We pray through Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant 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.*

A Prayer of General Thanksgiving

Celebrant and People: Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we humbly thank you for your goodness to us and to all that you have made. We praise you for your creation, for keeping us and all things in your care, and

for all the blessings of this life. Above all, we bless you for your immeasurable love in redeeming the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

Celebrant and People: In this season of Lent, open our eyes to see the light of your mercies that with thankful hearts we praise you, not only with our lips but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to your service and by living out your gifts of holiness and righteousness as we walk in the way of the Cross through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE OFFERTORY

Celebrant: Please remember the words of the Lord Jesus and how he said it is more blessed to give than to receive.

THE BLESSING

Celebrant: Most merciful God, send your Spirit upon us as we continue our Lenten journey that we might walk in the walk in the way of the Cross and live no longer unto ourselves alone for him who died and rose again. *Amen.*

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant: We invite you to remain for our special presentation of the postlude.

Celebrant: Go in peace to walk in the way of the Cross.

People: Thanks be to God.

Postlude: "I shall not want"

Written by Audrey Assad & Bryan Brown

A Media Presentation

LET US PRAY

If you have a Prayer Request, please email your request to our Prayer Chair, Bonnie Flippo at msflip925@aol.com. You may also contact the office by email redeemeraldie@gmail.com or phone (703) 327-4060. Prayer Requests will be given to the Prayer Team so that they may pray for those in need. If you would like to include their name on our public prayer list, please let us know – only the name will appear on the public prayer list. If your request requires a more private nature, please contact Rev. Larry Packard by email l.packard@verizon.net or phone (703) 425-8315.

“For those whose concerns are known only to God”

All Those Afflicted by the Virus and
Those Who Care for Them

Barbara Wooten

Stella Waltemeire

Toni & Adrienne

The Hollinger Family

Don & Chris

Bob Stewart

Alan White

Fred Warren

TJ Hill

Russell & Lula

Kathy

Candi & Taylor

The Fairweather Family

Gwenivere Black

Barbara Pavone

Nettie Stevens

Evan Hansen

The Rollins Family

Liam Ferguson

The Pisciotta Family

Church of Our Redeemer

Church of Our Redeemer Vestry Members

Serving Our Country

Amity Hess

All First Responders

All Front Line Workers

All Hospitals and Emergency Rooms Workers

Our Children, Our Schools, Our Neighbors, The Unemployed

O Lord, we come to you on behalf of those who suffer want and anxiety from lack of work.

Help us use our public and private wealth that they may find employment
and receive just payment for their labor; this we pray in the name of Jesus Christ Our Lord. *Amen.*