

Welcome to Saint Mary's Episcopal Church!  
First Sunday in Lent—March 6, 2022  
Morning Prayer

PRELUDE

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS/TRANSITION TO WORSHIP

The Word of God

OPENING HYMN

*Tree of Life*

Text: Marty Haugen  
Tune: *THOMAS* (Haugen)

OPENING ACCLAMATION

*Enriching Our Worship*

*Officiant* Blessed be the God of our salvation.

*People* **Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.**

THE DECALOGUE: CONTEMPORARY

*The Book of Common Prayer (BCP)* p. 350

*Officiant* Hear the commandments of God to his people. Please respond to each commandment by saying, "Amen. Lord have mercy."

CONFESSION

*Officiant* We turn our hearts to prayer, vulnerable before you and each other, naming the ways we fall short of who you have created us to be.

We trust that you are a God of tenderness and mercy, who loves us deeply as we are today and yet calls us to more wholehearted, brave, useful living.

*Silence may be kept.*

We confess hardness of heart, lack of vision and grasping at simple solutions to complex problems.

We confess taking for granted the blessing and abundance in our lives; choosing convenience and comfort over self-sacrifice for the common good.

We confess the difficulty we have loving our enemies and forgiving those who have done us harm.

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Officiant* We confess not loving our neighbors as ourselves.

We confess the ugly rhetoric and polarizing caricatures we use to describe those who disagree with us.

We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf.

We confess underestimating our power to change the world.

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Officiant* Aid us, forgive us, help us forgive each other, help us forgive ourselves. Inspire and send us, we pray, in the name of the Holy Trinity. Fill us with hope and help us start anew.

ABSOLUTION

*Church of England*

*Officiant* May the God of love and power forgive you/us and free you/us from your/our sins, heal and strengthen you/us by the Holy Spirit and raise you/us to new life in Christ. **Amen.**

KYRIE

*Kyrie Eleison*

Music: *Unity Mass*, Norah Duncan IV

OPENING COLLECT

*All Desires Known* by Janet Morley

*Officiant* God be with you.

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

*Officiant* Let us pray.

Spirit of Integrity, you drive us into the desert to search out our truth. Give us clarity to know what is right, and courage to reject all else, that we may abandon the false innocence of failing to choose at all, but may follow the purposes of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

FIRST MESSAGE

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

*Officiant* Let us prepare ourselves to hear the Word of God as it comes to us from Deuteronomy.

*People* **Our hearts and minds are open.**

When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us." When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, you shall make this response before the Lord your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me." You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

*Officiant* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

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

Sung Psalm (choir only)

*On Eagles' Wings*

Michael Joncas

GOSPEL

Luke 4:1-13

*Officiant* The Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

After his baptism, Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'"

Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"

Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

*Deacon* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## HOMILY

Buff Grace

As Director of Faith Networks, Buff guides the Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light team that helps congregations and area networks take bold climate action.

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH AND BAPTISMAL PROMISES

© *Iona Abbey Worship Book*

*Officiant* Please join together in affirming our faith.

*People* **We believe that God is present in the darkness before dawn; in the waiting and uncertainty where fear and courage join hands, conflict and caring link arms, and the sun rises over barbed wire. We believe in a with-us God who sits down in our midst to share our humanity. We affirm a faith that takes us beyond the safe place: into action, into vulnerability, and into the streets. We commit ourselves to work for change and put ourselves on the line; to bear responsibility, take risks, live powerfully and face humiliation; to stand with those on the edge; to choose life and be used by the Spirit for God's new community of hope. Amen.**

*Officiant* And now we join together with members of the worldwide Anglican/Episcopal Communion in translating the beliefs in our hearts into action in our lives, in these baptismal questions. Please respond to each promise by saying, "I will with God's help."

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*A New Zealand Prayer Book*

*Officiant* God of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ you promise to hear us when we pray to you in faith and thanksgiving:

We pray for one another, for our families and friends, through whom we learn to love and be loved, Thank you for all who care for us. Give us grace to serve Christ by serving our neighbors and our community, loving others as God loves us.

*Sung Refrain: We open our hearts to you. (2x)*

We thank you for the unfailing love you hold out to everyone in Jesus Christ. Comfort and heal those in sorrow, need, sickness or another trouble. Give them courage and hope in their distress, and bless those who minister to them.

*Sung Refrain: We open our hearts to you. (2x)*

We remember with gratitude your many gifts to us in creation and the rich heritage of our rivers, lakes and woodlands. Help us and people everywhere to share with justice and peace the resources of the earth. Give wisdom to those in authority among us and to all leaders of the nations.

*Sung Refrain: We open our hearts to you. (2x)*

We pray for your church throughout the world, thanking you for all who serve Christ and his realm. By your Spirit strengthen your people for their works and witness in your world. Unite us in your truth and love, that we who confess your name may also reflect your glory.

*Sung Refrain: We open our hearts to you. (2x)*

We remember with thanksgiving all who have died in Christ, and we rejoice at the faithful witness of your saints in every age, praying that we may enter with them into the unending joy of your heavenly kingdom.

*Sung Refrain: We open our hearts to you. (2x)*

## SAINT MARY'S COMMUNITY PRAYERS: CONCERNS AND THANKSGIVINGS

*Everyone is invited to offer concerns and thanksgivings.*

### CONCLUDING COLLECT

*Officiant* Lord, you have called us to serve you.

*People* **Grant that we may walk in your presence: your love in our hearts, your truth in our minds, your strength in our wills; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### PEACE

*Officiant* The peace of Christ be always with you.

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

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

*Officiant* Do not neglect to do good and share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.  
**Amen.**

*You are welcome to make an online offering by pressing  
the "contribute" button on our website, [saintmarysepiscopal.org](http://saintmarysepiscopal.org).*

### LORD'S PRAYER

*Officiant* As Jesus has taught us, we now pray.

*Officiant &*

*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.**

### BENEDICTION

Philippians 4:8

*Officiant* **Whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think on these things... and the peace of God will be with you.**

### CLOSING SONG

*Forty Days and Forty Nights*

Words: George Hunt Smyttan, alt.  
Music: attr. Martin Herbst

### DISMISSAL

*Officiant* Let us go forth into the world and know that there are deeds of hope and healing that will never be done unless you do them, and words of hope and healing that will never be spoke unless you speak them. (adapted from Frederick Buechner)

### POSTLUDE

SOCIAL TIME *with masks in place in the St Mary's Room for those worshipping in-person*

BREAKOUT GROUPS *for those worshipping virtually*