

Welcome to Saint Mary's Episcopal Church!
Fifth Sunday in Lent—April 3, 2022
Morning Prayer

PRELUDE

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS/TRANSITION TO WORSHIP

The Word of God

OPENING HYMN

#5—*Gather Us In*

Marty Haugen

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Enriching Our Worship

Officiant Blessed be the God of our salvation.

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

SUMMARY OF THE LAW

MARK 12:29-31

Officiant Jesus said, "The first commandment is this, "Hear, O Israel: the Lord our 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 other commandment greater than these.'

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.**

OPENING COLLECT

Steven Shakespeare

Officiant God be with you.*People* **And also with you.***Officiant* Let us pray.

Extravagant God, lavishing your love on our poverty of heart: inspire us to give generously, to lose life that we might find it again, so the world will be filled with the fragrance of your love; through Jesus Christ, who offers himself for us. **Amen.**

FIRST MESSAGE

Isaiah 43:16-21

Officiant Let us prepare ourselves to hear the Word of God as it comes to us from Isaiah.*People* **Our hearts and minds are open.**

Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

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

Sung Psalm (choir only)

Blessed Are They

Jean Pasquet

GOSPEL

John 12:1-8

Deacon The Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to John.*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

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

HOMILY

The Reverend Canon Blair Pogue
Canon for Vitality and Innovation, ECMN

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.

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

#20—*Tree of Life* (verses 1, 3, 9)

Marty Haugen

DISMISSAL

Deacon 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*