The Fourth Sunday in Lent
Livestream Liturgy
March 22, 2020, 10:30am

OPENING HYMN #493
O for a thousand tongues to sing

1 O for a thousand tongues to sing my dear Redeemer's praise,
2 My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim
3 Jesus! the Name that charms our fears and bids our sorrows cease;
4 He speaks; and, listening to his voice, new life the dead receive,
5 Hear him, ye deaf; ye voiceless ones, your loosened tongues employ;

1 the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!
2 and spread through all the earth abroad the honors of thy Name.
3 'tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.
4 the mournful broken hearts rejoice, the humble poor believe.
5 ye blind, behold, your Savior comes; and leap, ye lame, for joy!

6 Glory to God and praise and love
be now and ever given
by saints below and saints above,
the Church in earth and heaven.

OPENING SENTENCE

Officiant
Jesus said, "If any of you would come after me, deny yourself and take up your cross and follow me." Mark 8:34

The Officiant introduces the Liturgy informally.
CONFESSION OF SIN

Officiant
Let us confess our sins to God.

Officiant and People
God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.

Officiant
Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of 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, o - pen our lips.

People
And our mouth shall pro - claim your praise.

Officiant and People
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spi - rit:

As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.
Venite Jack Noble White (b. 1938) sung by Cantors

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, sung by all, Hymn #645

The King of love my shepherd is

1 The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness
2 Where streams of living water flow, my ransomed
   Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, but yet in
* 4 In death’s dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear
5 Thou spread’st a table in my sight; thy unclection
6 And so through all the length of days thy goodness

1 fail - eth nev - er; I nothing lack if
2 soul he lead - eth, and where the verdant
3 love he sought me, and on his shoulder
4 Lord, be - side me; thy rod and staff my
5 grace be - stow - eth; and oh, what transport
6 fail - eth nev - er: Good Shepherd, may I

1 I am his, and he is mine for ever.
2 pastures grow, with food celestial feed eth.
3 gently laid, and home, rejoicing, brought me.
4 comfort still, thy cross before to guide me.
5 of delight from thy pure chalice flow eth!
6 sing thy praise with in thy house for ever.
The Lessons

The First Reading

1 Samuel 16:1-13

A Reading from the First book of Samuel.

The Lord said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.” And the Lord said, “Take a heifer with you, and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.’ Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.” Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, “Do you come peaceably?” He said, “Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the Lord’s anointed is now before the Lord.” But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.” Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The Lord has not chosen any of these.” Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.” He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, “Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.” Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Here what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

Thanks be to God.
A reading from the Gospel according to John.

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.”

Here what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Canticle: Song of Mary*  
George Dyson (1883-1964)  
sung by Cantors

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My soul doth magnify the Lord, *  
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.  
For he hath regarded *  
the lowliness of his handmaiden.  
For behold from henceforth *  
all generations shall call me blessed.  
For he that is mighty hath magnified me, *  
and holy is his Name.  
And his mercy is on them that fear him *  
throughout all generations.  
He hath showed strength with his arm; *  
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
He hath put down the mighty from their seat, *  
and hath exalted the humble and meek.  
He hath filled the hungry with good things, *  
and the rich he hath sent empty away.  
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel, *  
as he promised to our forefathers,  
Abraham and his seed for ever.  
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, *  
and to the Holy Ghost:  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, *  
world without end. Amen.
A period of silence is kept.

THE APOSTLE’S CREED

From Book of Common Prayer

The people say together

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and 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 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.
Cantor or Officiant

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;

People

R. And grant us your salvation.

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

R. Let your people sing with joy.

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

R. For only in you can we live in safety.

V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;

R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

V. Let your way be known upon earth;

R. Your saving health among all nations.

V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;

R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.
COLLECTS

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.

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND BLESSINGS

ANTHEM

The Lord is My Shepherd        Gwyneth Walker (b. 1947)

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures, he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul, beside the still waters. I shall not want, beside the still waters. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for thou art with me, and thy rod staff they comfort me. Surely goodness and mercy will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

PRAyERS OF THE PEOPLE

Officiant
Have mercy on us, O God, according to your loving kindness; in your great compassion, hear our prayers.

Leader       We pray for the whole church, all leaders and ministers, and all the holy people of God. Particularly for Presiding Bishop Michael, Bishop Marc and the clergy of our parish as they keep us connected during this challenging time. Wash us through and through,

People       And heal us in our brokenness.
Leader We pray for our nation, for all the nations of the earth, and for all who govern and judge. We pray particularly for all those making decisions in response to the spread of Covid 19. Cleanse us with hyssop, and we shall be pure.

People

Leader We pray for those who hunger, those who thirst, those who cry out for justice, those who live under the threat of terror, and those without a place to lay their head. Make them hear of joy and gladness, that those who are broken may rejoice.

People

Leader We pray for those who are ill, those in pain, those under stress, and those who are lonely; and particularly those affected by the Covid 19 pandemic. Give them the joy of your saving help, and sustain them with your bountiful Spirit.

People

Leader In this season of Lent, we pray for all to grow closer to you, O God. We also pray for those celebrating birthdays this week, including Gillian Hartford and Bob Adams; and anniversaries. Create in us clean hearts, O God, and renew a right spirit within us.

People

Leader We pray for those who have died, particularly those who have died from Covid 19, and who have entered into the land of eternal Light and your abiding peace. We lift up those who mourn. Cast them not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from them.

People

Officiant Blessed are you, O Lord our God, who made us in your image, who lifts us and holds us high, who gathers us in loving arms. Hear our prayers for all peoples, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM

Officiant and People 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.

CONCLUDING VERSICLE

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.
1 How wondrous and great thy works, God of praise!

2 To nations of earth thy light shall be shown;

How just, King of saints, and true are thy ways!

their worship and vows shall come to thy throne:

O who shall not fear thee, and honor thy Name?

thy truth and thy judgments shall spread all abroad,

Thou only art holy, thou only supreme.

till earth’s every people confess thee their God.
CONCLUDING PRAYER

During the season of Lent this year we are offering a different prayer each week from female voices in our tradition in place of the traditional blessing. Blessings are designed to send us out of church and into the world with an intention to carry the benefits of the Eucharist into our daily lives. We believe that these prayers are similarly edifying and will guide you in your spiritual lives in the week to come.

Officiant
Let nothing disturb you
Nothing frighten you.
All things are passing;
God never changes.
Patient endurance prevails in all things;
the one whose home is in God wants for nothing
God alone suffices. Amen.

Teresa of Avila

VOLUNTARY

Voluntary on St. Columba

Kenneth Leighton (1929-1988)
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

**Officiant & Preacher:** The Rev. Matthew Woodward

**Director of Music:** Matthew Burt

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