



## THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 22, 2020

### MORNING PRAYER – RITE II

#### HYMN 657

“Love divine all loves excelling”

Love divine, all loves excelling,  
Joy of Heav’n to earth come down;  
Fix in us thy humble dwelling;  
All thy faithful mercies crown!  
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,  
Pure unbounded love Thou art;  
Visit us with Thy salvation,  
Enter every trembling heart.

Come, Almighty to deliver,  
Let us all Thy life receive;  
Suddenly return, and never,  
Nevermore Thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing,  
Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,  
Pray and praise Thee without ceasing,  
Glory in Thy perfect love.

Finish, then, Thy new creation;  
Pure and spotless let us be;  
Let us see Thy great salvation  
Perfectly restored in Thee;  
Changed from glory into glory,  
Till in Heav’n we take our place,  
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,  
Lost in wonder, love, and praise.

#### LENT OPENING SCRIPTURE

BCP 76

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us, but if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

I John 1:8, 9

To the Lord our God belong mercy and forgiveness, because we have rebelled against him and have not obeyed the voice of the Lord our God by following his laws which he set before us.

Daniel 9:9, 10

#### CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP 79

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.**

## THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

*Celebrant* Lord, open our lips.

*People* And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

*All* Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

*Celebrant.* The Lord is full of compassion and mercy: Come let us adore him.

## VENITE

BCP 82

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!

## The Psalm

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### PSALM 23

- 1 The LORD is my shepherd; \*  
I shall not be in want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures \*  
and leads me beside still waters.
- 3 He revives my soul \*  
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I shall fear no evil; \*

for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; \*  
you have anointed my head with oil,  
and my cup is running over.

6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, \*  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

## The Liturgy of the Word

### **A READING FROM THE FIRST BOOK OF SAMUAL**

**16:1-13**

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.

### **THE GOSPEL LESSON**

**John (9:1-41)**

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."

## **HOMILY**

The Rev. Wes Sharp

## **THE APOSTLES' CREED**

BCP 96

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He 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 and is seated at the right hand of the Father. 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 OFFERTORY**

## **THE PRAYERS**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

BCP 97

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.

### **SUFFRAGE A**

BCP 97

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;  
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

**We pray for our Parish Family:** For all who suffer in mind, body or spirit, especially: **Jo Grove, Johnny Cole, Karen Bain, Joan Brooks, Mike Rohr, Tom & Faye Kinstler, Joan DaLee, Jean Barron, Jane Kerr, and Greg Wynn.**  
**We pray for our Extended Parish Family:** **Rick Rogers** (Laurie Nabor's friend), **Linda Williams** (Karen Bain's friend), **Ruby Szitta** (Karen Krueger's aunt), **Olivia Weingarten** (Alyce Daniel's friend), **David & Anna Marie Schaefer** (Dianne Adams' son and daughter-in-law), **Rusty Smith** (Gloria Smith's son), **Catherine Faruzzi** (Gloria Smith's niece), **Kyler Imel** (Karen Krueger's grandson), **Jimmy Perry** (Jack Wood's friend), **Sue Pierce** (Julie Barnard's friend), **Sybil Lewis** (Mark Lewis's mother), **Anthony Turner** (Susan Southwick's grandson), **Rick Nail** (Louise Wood's friend), **Pat Daniel** (Fran Bramblette's stepmother), **Cheryl Bannister** (Karen Krueger's friend), **Lindsey Lanning** (Catherine Proctor's friend), **Tara Harvey Kenney** (Inga Strickland's friend), **Brian Limbaugh** (Fran & Gracie Bramblette's friend), **Jim & Libby Smith** (Anna Gordon's son and daughter-in-law), **Bonnie Gordon** (Don Gordon's sister), **Kayleigh Gordon** (Don Gordon's daughter), **Jim & David Pritchett** (Anna Gordon's father and brother), **Randy Holcombe** (Anna Gordon's brother-in-law), **Anne King** (Cindy Cole's friend), **Cindy & Jim Clark** (Dianne Adams' daughter and son-in-law), **James Thomas** (Glynis Thomas's father), **Melissa Kuehn** (Inga Strickland's niece), **Rich Lakin** (Mike Rohr's friend), **Joyce Odewahn** (Anne Amick's mother), **Rosemary Filyaw** (Cindy Cole's friend), **Willy Holub** (Tom & Faye Kinstler's nephew), **Grace Calton** (Donica Creasy's daughter), **Laura Reichert** (friend of Laurie Nabors & Rosie McKinney), **Jan Plan** (Susan Caraway's friend), **Joseph Kahler, II** (Jennifer Bodnar's son), **James McIntyre** (Anne Mayo's friend), **Logan Keating** (Mary Allen's grandson), **Michael Lombardo & family** (Fran Bramblette and Stephane' Daniel's friends), **Pat Benefield** (Joan Brooks' friend), and **Brooks Caudle** (Camille Turner's great-nephew).

### *A Collect for Peace*

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.*

## **THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING**

BCP 101

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of

glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

**2020 Finances: At A Glance**

**Weekly Offering Received**

\$3939.00 (3/8), \$790 (3/15)

**Weekly Offering Needed**

\$3608.12

**2020 Offering/Needed for 2020**

\$39,946.00/\$187,622.00

The deepest sympathy of our parish is extended to the family of  
Elaine McLendon on her death, March 11, 2020.

*“I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord: He that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.”*



# CHURCH *of the* HOLY CROSS

## E P I S C O P A L

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### OUR VESTRY

#### Thru 2020

Julie Barnard

Robert Davis

Cissy McLendon-Isaacs

#### Thru 2021

Reese Booth

Fran Bramlette

Louise Wood

#### Thru 2022

Brenda Jean

Matthew Pate

Laurie Nabors