

The Fourth Sunday in Lent March 10, 2024

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Hymns are found in the blue *Hymnal 1982* in your pew.
The 'S' numbers are located at the front of the hymnal.

The service begins in quiet and prayer.

Prelude: *Lenten Prayers*

Gerald Custer

The St. Dunstan Handbell Choir

THE WORD OF GOD

Processional Hymn 145: *Now Quit Your Care*

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People **His mercy endures for ever.**

Celebrant If we say that 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.
1 John 1:8,9

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence *Please stand or kneel*

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.**

Kyrie S-90 (10:00 am only): *Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us*

(8:00 am only)

Celebrant Lord, have mercy.

People **Christ, have mercy.**

Celebrant Lord, have mercy.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. 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 First Lesson: *Numbers 21:4-9*

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.**

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22



Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, *
and his mercy endures for ever.

Let all those whom the LORD has redeemed proclaim *
that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe.

He gathered them out of the lands; *
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.

All Sing Refrain

Some were fools and took to rebellious ways; *
they were afflicted because of their sins.

They abhorred all manner of food *
and drew near to death's door.

All Sing Refrain

Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, *
and he delivered them from their distress.

He sent forth his word and healed them *
and saved them from the grave.

All Sing Refrain

Let them give thanks to the LORD for his mercy *
and the wonders he does for his children.

Let them offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving *
and tell of his acts with shouts of joy.

All Sing Refrain

The Second Lesson: *Ephesians 2:1-10*

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.**

Sequence Hymn 691: *My Faith Looks Up*

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

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

The Gospel: *John 3:14-21*

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."

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed

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 of the People

Please stand or kneel

In this season of repentance and reconciliation, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need. *Silence* God of creation, we give you thanks for the early signs of spring: for blue skies and warmer weather, for snowdrops and budding trees, for robins, blue birds, and cardinals. May the beauty of your creation remind us of our responsibilities to be good stewards of the environment.

People **Gracious God, hear our prayer.**

God of love, we give you thanks for this congregation of prayer and support and for the good work you give us to do in your name. We ask your blessing on those who tend to the quiet, unseen, uncelebrated tasks that make our life together possible.

Gracious God, hear our prayer.

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace. **Gracious God, hear our prayer.**

God of peace, send your healing Spirit upon all involved in the conflict and violence in the Middle East. Comfort those who mourn and those who have been harmed by brutality. Stand with those who are fearful. Protect refugees and humanitarian relief efforts. Inspire and uphold those who even now work for a just and durable peace. **Gracious God, hear our prayer.**

O God, touch us with the awareness of your presence in the world around us. Awaken in us a sense of wonder that you have created us in love. As we celebrate the sixtieth anniversary of Peter and Rev. Betty Frolick, in whose honor the flowers are given today, we ask that you deepen our love for those close to us, and for those who, although strangers, need our concern. **Gracious God, hear our prayer.**

Compassionate and healing One, you are light for those who live in darkness: Be with all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. We remember those on our prayer list, those whose struggles are known to you alone, and those we name in our hearts. *Pause* Give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. **Gracious God, hear our prayer.**

In a moment of silence, let us pray for those who are dear to us. *Silence* Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours; grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. **Gracious God, hear our prayer.**

God in heaven, you have lifted up your Son so that all may have eternal life. Let your light shine upon those who have died. We remember especially Lee MacDuffie and Kristen Carlson, who died this week, and all those we love but see no longer. *Silence* May they have rest and peace in your presence. **Gracious God, hear our prayer.**

Disturb us, Lord, when we are too well pleased with ourselves, when our dreams have come true because we dreamed too little, when we arrived safely because we sailed too close to shore. Disturb us, Lord, when with the abundance of things we possess, we have lost our thirst for the waters of life; when having fallen in love with life, we have ceased to dream of eternity; and in our efforts to build a new earth, we have allowed our vision of the new heaven to dim. Stir us, Lord, to dare more boldly, to venture on wider seas, where storms will show your mastery;

where losing sight of land, we shall find the stars. We ask you to push back the horizons of our hopes, and to push us into the future in strength, courage, hope, and love. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Offertory Anthem: De Profundis

Arvo Pärt (b. 1935)

The St. Andrew's Adult Choir Men's Chorus

Out of the depths have I cried unto thee, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice: let thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications. If thou, Lord, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand? But there is forgiveness with thee, that thou mayest be feared. I wait for the Lord, my soul doth wait, and in his word do I hope. My soul waiteth for the Lord more than they that watch for the morning: I say, more than they that watch for the morning. Let Israel hope in the Lord: for with the Lord there is mercy, and with him is plenteous redemption. And he shall redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

Children's Entrance Hymn 685: Rock of Ages

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer A

Celebrant *People*
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The Celebrant offers our thanks to God for the grace and mercy made available to us in Christ.

Sanctus S-113: Holy, Holy, Holy

The people stand or kneel as the Celebrant gives thanks for the reconciling work of Christ through his passion and resurrection and prays over the bread and wine.

Celebrant Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith.

People **Christ has died.**

Christ has risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues with the Eucharistic prayer.

Celebrant By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit of all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

Celebrant As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,
Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem S-157: O Lamb of God

Please come forward and stand or kneel at the rail. The priest will place the bread in your outstretched palm (Consecrated rice wafers are available for those with wheat allergies - simply ask the priest). You may dip (intinct) the bread in the wine in the small cup held by the Eucharistic minister. Alternatively, you may indicate your desire to drink from the common chalice by consuming the bread and remaining at the rail after the Eucharistic minister passes; another Eucharistic minister will bring the large chalice over for you to drink from directly. Please know that Christ is fully present in both the bread and the wine - there is no requirement to receive both. If you do not wish to receive communion, you may come forward, cross your hands over your chest, and receive a blessing.

Communion Voluntary: Lord Who Throughout these Forty Days

arr. Douglas Wagner (b. 1952)

The St. Dunstan Handbell Choir

Communion Hymn 328: Draw Nigh and Take

When Lay Eucharistic Visitors are taking Holy Communion to those unable to be with us in person, we say the following

Celebrant In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

People **We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.**

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

Celebrant Let us pray.

People **Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Blessing

Closing Hymn 690: Guide Me O Thou

The young people are invited to come forward during the hymn to participate in the dismissal.

Young people Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude: *Jesus Christus Unser Heiland, BWV665*

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)