

Grace Episcopal Church The Third Sunday in Lent March 3, 2024 The Holy Eucharist: Rite I 10:30 a.m.



PRELUDE

Deck Thyself, My Soul - Johannes Brahms

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

PROCESSIONAL HYMN #48 (In the Blue Hymnal)

O day of radiant gladness

O day of radiant gladness, O day of joy and light, O balm of care and sadness, most beautiful, most bright; this day the high and lowly, through ages joined in tune, sing, "Holy, holy, holy," to the great God Triune.

This day at the creation, the light first had its birth; this day for our salvation Christ rose from depths of earth; this day our Lord victorious the Spirit sent from heaven, and thus this day most glorious a triple light was given.

This day, God's people meeting, his Holy Scripture hear; his living presence greeting, through Bread and Wine made near. We journey on, believing, renewed with heavenly might, from grace more grace receiving on this blest day of light.

That light our hope sustaining, we walk the pilgrim way, at length our rest attaining, our endless Sabbath day.
We sing to thee our praises, O Father, Spirit, Son; the Church her voice upraises to thee, blest Three in One.

323 OPENING SENTENCES

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins;

People His mercy endureth for ever.

The Celebrant says

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith:

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

KYRIE #S91 (*In the Blue Hymnal*)

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.People And with thy spirit

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A READING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

Exodus 20:1-17

Lector A Reading from the Book of Exodus.

Then God spoke all these words:

I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

- The Word of the Lord Thanks be to God.

PSALM 19 (responsively by whole verse)

- ¹ The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament shows his handiwork.
- ² One day tells its tale to another, and one night imparts knowledge to another.
- ³ Although they have no words or language, and their voices are not heard,
- ⁴Their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world.
- ⁵ In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;

it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

- ⁶ It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; nothing is hidden from its burning heat.
- ⁷ The law of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.

- ⁸ The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.
- ⁹ The fear of the LORD is clean and endures for ever; the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.
- ¹⁰ More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.
- ¹¹ By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.
- ¹² Who can tell how often he offends? cleanse me from my secret faults.
- ¹³ Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.
- Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight,
 O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

THE EPISTLE 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

Lector A Reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians.

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

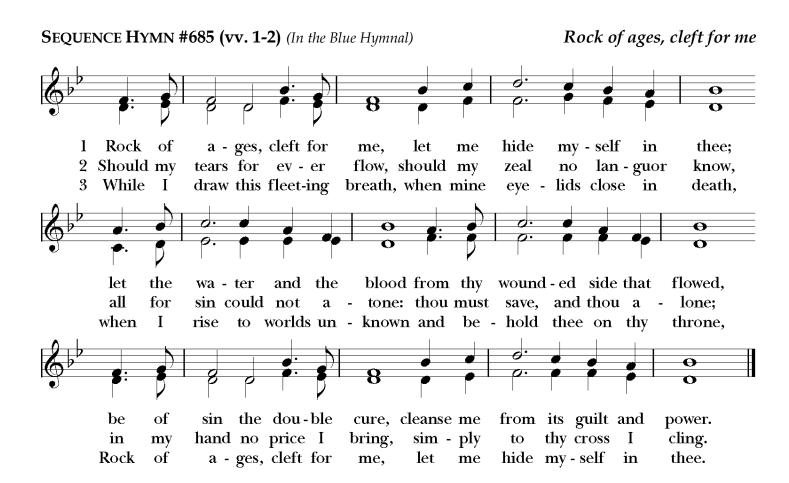
For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

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- The Word of the Lord Thanks be to God.



THE GOSPEL John 2:13-22

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.People Glory be to thee, O Lord.

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

-- The Gospel of the Lord People Praise be to thee, O Christ

SEQUENCE HYMN #685 (v. 3) (*In the Blue Hymnal*)

Rock of ages, cleft for me

HOMILY

The Reverend Edward Kelaher

326 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.

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 bantism for the

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.

328 Prayers of the People

On the third day he rose again

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other Ministers, especially **Michael**, our Presiding Bishop, **Samuel and Jennifer** our bishops, and **Ed** our priest, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

Lord in Your mercy

Hear our prayer

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

Lord in Your mercy Hear our prayer

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land especially **Joe**, our President, **Roy** our Governor, and **Jason** our mayor and **John and Tommy** our Councilmen, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world. Lord in Your mercy

Hear our prayer

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

Lord in Your mercy

Hear our prayer

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

We pray for all who are traveling, especially **Cameron** Klass, **Julia** Klass, and **Josey** Parker, and those with special needs:

Sheryl Sherman, Dan DiRenzo, Lou Adkins, Mark Adkins, Amanda Amon, Ella Asebes, David Bankston, Rhonda Bralkowski, Alice Brandon & family, Susan Branscomb, Gayle Burke, Art Burkhart, Seraphina Byers, Lynne Cleckley, Melissa Clifton, John Clippard, Joan Clodfelter, Linda Clodfelter, Morgan Curia, Susan Dixon, Kim Dube, Renee Ewbank, Cathy Farley, Jenny Gallen, Shana Garland, Jane Grimes, George Hanna, Rob Hare, Kristen Harris, Nancy Hinkle, Chris Hodges, Jahiya Huntley, Greg Hutchins, Tanya Johnson, Chris Kearley, Cara Lee, Warren MacKinstry, Liz Marr, Debbie Mason, Kate McKenzie, Libby Miller, Roan Mitchell, Dan & Fran Moore, Chocolate Myers, Howard Palmer, Gabby Plott, Pat Plummer, Libby Robert, Jacklyn Rojas, Christine Ryals, Lucas Sanabria, Lynn Santolla, Larry Schoepfel, Suzy Sheets, Patty Short, Talmadge Silversides, Martha Ellen Smith, Debbie Todd, Jackie Touchton, Brenda Tyndall, Perry Grimes Van Dyke, Flynn Williams, Mary & Jay Williams, Paul Wylie, and Charlotte Young.

"Are there others?" Lord in Your mercy Hear our prayer

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

331 CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION OF SINS

Let us humbly confess our sins until Almighty God.

Minister and People

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against thee

in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved thee with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us;

that we may delight in thy will, and walk in thy ways, to the glory of thy Name. Amen.

The Bishop when present, or the Priest, stands and says

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

332 THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People And with thy spirit.

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life - Mark Schweizer

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

The offering is brought forward as the hymn is played.

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS DOXOLOGY #705 (V. 3) (In the Blue Hymnal)

With gratitude and humble trust
we bring our best to thee
to serve thy cause and share thy love
with all humanity.
O thou who gavest us thyself
in Jesus Christ thy Son,
help us to give ourselves each day
until life's work is done.

333 THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (Eucharistic Prayer I)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.People And with thy spirit.Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them up unto the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People It is meet and right so to do.

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was in every way tempted as we are, yet did not sin; by whose grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer unto ourselves, but unto him who died for us and rose again.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and singing,

SANCTUS #S114 (sung by all)

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts: Heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The People may stand or kneel. The Celebrant continues.

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast.

FRACTION ANTHEM #S158 (*In the Blue Hymnal*)

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

The following prayer may be said. The People may join in saying this prayer

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

338 INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Facing the people, the Celebrant may say the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All baptized Christians are invited to come forward for Holy Communion at the Lord's Table.

You may receive both the bread and wine, or only the bread or only the wine.

Receiving Communion in one or both forms is sufficient sacramentally.

If you prefer neither bread nor wine, you also are invited to come forward and to simply cross your arms over your chest as a sign for the minister to provide you with a holy blessing of the Lord.

339 POST-COMMUNION PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

THE BLESSING

Look mercifully on this your family, Almighty God, that by your great goodness they may be governed and preserved evermore; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL HYMN #593 (In the Blue Hymnal)

Lord, make us servants of your peace: where there is hate, may we sow love; where there is hurt, may we forgive; where there is strife, may we make one.

Where all is doubt, may we sow faith; where all is gloom, may we sow hope; where all is night, may we sow light; where all is tears, may we sow joy.

Jesus, our Lord, may we not seek to be consoled, but to console, nor look to understanding hearts, but look for hearts to understand. Lord, make us servants of your peace

May we not look for love's return, but seek to love unselfishly, for in our giving we receive, and in forgiving are forgiven.

Dying, we live, and are reborn through death's dark night to endless day: Lord, make us servants of your peace, to wake at last in heaven's light.

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

March from 'Scipio' - G. F. Handel, arr. N. Rawsthorne

WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

Lector:Kathy YoungGreeter:Penny TaylorIntercessor:Elizabeth PurdyAcolytes:Lyndon BriggsUshers:Wes Allred, Chandler AllredJack BriggsLEM:Mary Matthews, Kathie GoodmanFisher Welborn

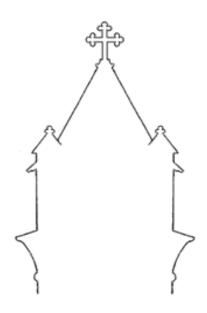
WELCOME GUESTS AND NEWCOMERS!

We are delighted to have you worship with us today, and we would welcome the opportunity to get acquainted. Please sign the Guest Book in the narthex and join us immediately following the service in the Parish Hall (building next to the church) for refreshments and conversation. **Today our hosts are Melissa Helms and David Thayer.**

Infants and young children are always welcome to worship with their families in the sanctuary. However, we also offer a nursery in our Undercroft downstairs (basement of the church). Children may remain there the entire service or will be walked up to the sanctuary during The Peace (please let the nursery attendant know your preference).

The restrooms are located in the rear hallway, and diaper-changing stations are provided in both rooms.

During Holy Communion, if you are unable to receive communion at the altar rail, please notify an usher so that communion can be brought to you.





GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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email: gracechurch@gracelexingtonnc.org www.gracelexingtonnc.org

The Most Reverend Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop The Right Reverend Samuel Rodman, Diocesan Bishop The Right Reverend Jennifer Brooke-Davidson, Assistant Bishop

> The Reverend Edward T. Kelaher, Rector Bill Herndon, Organist and Choir Director Joan Clodfelter, Minister of Music Emerita Kathy Johnson, Christian Education Director Maureen Tincher, Parish Administrator John Taylor, Facilities Manager



THE VESTRY

Wes Allred Sr. Warden
Thompson Miller Asst. Treasurer
Marjorie Parker Jr. Warden
Marilyn Taylor
Lynn Meeks Treasurer (Ex-Officio)

2025

2026
Karl Bolstad
Bright Carter
Sally Dodd Clerk
Henry Duquette Asst. Jr. Warden

<u>2027</u>
Dan Briggs
Melissa Hanley Helms
Mary Matthews
Leslie Sheets