



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



PRELUDE

Selections from "Water Music" – G. F. Handel

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

PROCESSIONAL HYMN #145 (*In the Blue Hymnal*)

Now quit your care

*Now quit your care
and anxious fear and worry;
for schemes are vain
and fretting brings no gain.
Lent calls to prayer,
to trust and dedication;
God brings new beauty nigh;
reply, reply,
reply with love to love most high.*

*To bow the head
in sackcloth and in ashes,
or rend the soul,
such grief is not Lent's goal;
but to be led
to where God's glory flashes,
his beauty to come near.
Make clear, make clear,
make clear where truth and light appear.*

*For is not this
the fast that I have chosen?
(The prophet spoke)
To shatter every yoke,
of wickedness
the grievous bands to loosen,
oppression put to flight,
to fight, to fight
to fight till every wrong's set right.*

*For righteousness
and peace will show their faces
to those who feed
the hungry in their need,
and wrongs redress,
who build the old waste places,
and in the darkness shine.
Divine, divine,
divine it is when all combine!*

*Then shall your light
break forth as doth the morning;
your health shall spring,
the friends you make shall bring
God's glory bright,
your way through life adorning;
and love shall be the prize.
Arise, arise,
arise! and make a paradise!*

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.

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.**

A READING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

Numbers 21:4-9

Lector A Reading from the Book of Numbers.

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.

- The Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 107:1-3, 17-22 (*responsively by whole verse*)

¹ Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
and his mercy endures for ever.

² **Let all those whom the LORD has redeemed
proclaim
that he redeemed them from the hand of the
foe.**

³ He gathered them out of the lands;
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.

¹⁷ **Some were fools and took to rebellious
ways;
they were afflicted because of their sins.**

¹⁸ They abhorred all manner of food
and drew near to death's door.

¹⁹ **Then they cried to the LORD in their
trouble,
and he delivered them from their distress.**

²⁰ He sent forth his word and healed them
and saved them from the grave.

²¹ **Let them give thanks to the LORD for his
mercy
and the wonders he does for his children.**

²² **Let them offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving
and tell of his acts with shouts of joy.**

THE EPISTLE

Ephesians 2:1-10

Lector A Reading from the letter to the Ephesians.

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.

- The Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God.**



1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
 2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,
 3 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,

Sa - vior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my
 my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my
 be thou my guide; bid dark-ness turn to day; wipe sor - row's

guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine.
 love to thee pure, warm, and change-less be, a liv - ing fire.
 tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

THE GOSPEL

John 3:14-21

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

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."

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

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.

328 PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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:

Jean Campbell, **Martha & Drew** Mayse, **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, **Dan** DiRenzo, **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, **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, **Sheryl** Sherman, **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

Prayer of Juliann of Norwich – Carson P. Cooman

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,

336 **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.

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 down in mercy, Lord, on your people who kneel before you; and grant that those whom you have nourished by your Word and Sacraments may bring forth fruit worthy of repentance; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL HYMN #441 (vv. 1-4) (*In the Blue Hymnal*)*In the cross of Christ I glory*

*In the cross of Christ I glory,
 towering o'er the wrecks of time;
 all the light of sacred story
 gathers round its head sublime.*

*When the woes of life o'ertake me,
 hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
 never shall the cross forsake me:
 lo, it glows with peace and joy.*

*When the sun of bliss is beaming
 light and love upon my way,
 from the cross the radiance streaming
 adds new luster to the day.*

*Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,
 by the cross are sanctified;
 peace is there that knows no measure,
 joys that through all time abide.*

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Prelude in B-flat Major – J. S. Bach

WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

| | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Lector: | Mary Matthews | Greeter: | Barbara Presnell |
| Intercessor: | Kristi Allred | Acolytes: | Erik Petruzzi |
| Ushers: | Richard Wolfe, Doug Hartzog | | Analise Petruzzi |
| LEM: | Staley Nance, Pam Harvey | | Cooper Petruzzi |

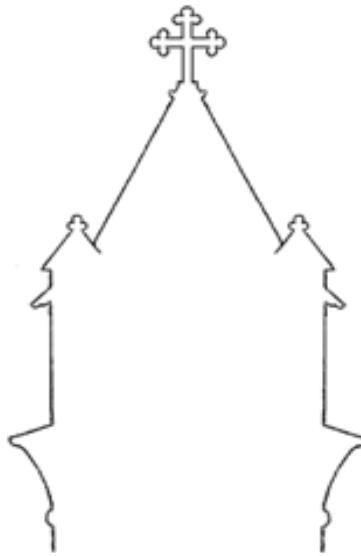
WELCOME GUESTS AND NEWCOMERS!

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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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

2025

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

2026

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

2027

Dan Briggs
Melissa Hanley Helms
Mary Matthews
Leslie Sheets

The Vestry Person of the Month for March is Karl Bolstad.