

Bethesda Episcopal Church

The First Sunday in Lent

6 March 2022

We continue to recommend that masks are worn throughout the service.

Prelude

Before the Last Leaf Falls

David Lanz (b.1950)

The Opening Acclamation

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.
People His mercy endures forever.

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.

The Celebrant says the Summary of the Law

The Collect of The Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And with thy spirit.
Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted of Satan: Make speed to help thy servants who are assaulted by manifold temptations; and, as thou knowest their several infirmities, let each one find thee mighty to save; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

The people are seated

The First Lesson

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us." When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, you shall make this response before the Lord your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, we cried to

the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me." You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

The Lector concludes
The People respond

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God

Gradual Psalm 91: 1-2, 9-16

Tone IV.4

- 1 He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High, *
abides under the shadow of the Almighty.
- 2 He shall say to the Lord,
"You are my refuge and my stronghold, *
my God in whom I put my trust."
- 9 Because you have made the Lord your refuge, *
and the Most High your habitation,
- 10 There shall no evil happen to you, *
neither shall any plague come near your dwelling.
- 11 For he shall give his angels charge over you, *
to keep you in all your ways.
- 12 They shall bear you in their hands, *
lest you dash your foot against a stone.
- 13 You shall tread upon the lion and adder; *
you shall trample the young lion and the serpent under your feet.
- 14 Because he is bound to me in love,
therefore will I deliver him; *
I will protect him, because he knows my Name.
- 15 He shall call upon me, and I will answer him; *
I am with him in trouble;
I will rescue him and bring him to honor.
- 16 With long life will I satisfy him, *
and show him my salvation.

The Second Lesson

Romans 10:8b-13

"The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

The Lector concludes
The People respond

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The people stand, if able.

The Holy Gospel

Luke 4: 1-13

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

After his baptism, Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'" Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

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

The Sermon

Fr Wallace

The Nicene Creed *Said by all, standing if you are able.*

I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
and of all things visible and invisible;
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God;
begotten, not made;
being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation
came down from heaven,

and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary,
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried:
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory,
to judge both the quick and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord, and Giver of Life,
who proceedeth from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified;
who spake by the Prophets.
And I believe one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church;
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins;
and I look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of The People *Please kneel.*

In our Intercessions for the Church and parish this week, we pray for the Anglican Communion, and today, we remember the Anglican Church of Korea. In the Albany diocese, we pray for St. John in the Wilderness, Copake Falls ; and in our parish, we ask for God's blessing on us and our Lenten observances; and we continue to pray for the people of Ukraine.

We remember with thanksgiving those who are celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week, and those whose year's mind falls at this time.

In peace, let us pray to the Lord, by responding to each petition, **Lord, graciously hear us.**

For the one holy catholic and apostolic Church, and in particular, for this parish family,
Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the gospel to the ends of the earth, Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

For those preparing for baptism and for their sponsors; for members of our Sunday School, and for their teachers, Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

For peace in the world, that a spirit of respect and reconciliation may grow among nations and peoples, Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and for their families; for refugees, prisoners, and all in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, Lord, hear us.
Lord, graciously hear us.

For those whom we have injured or offended, Lord, hear us.
Lord, graciously hear us.

For grace to amend our lives and to further the reign of God, Lord, hear us.
Lord, graciously hear us.

In communion with all those who have walked in the way of holiness and are now at rest, Lord, hear us.
Lord, graciously hear us.

The Celebrant says a concluding prayer, followed by the invitation to Confession.

The people say

Almighty God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
maker of all things, judge of all men:
We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins
and wickedness,
which we from time to time most grievously have committed,
by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty,
provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.
We do earnestly repent,
and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;
the remembrance of them is grievous unto us,
the burden of them is intolerable.
Have mercy upon us,
have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may ever hereafter
serve and please thee in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of thy Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Absolution

The Celebrant 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.**

The Peace *All stand. At the exchange of the Peace, please remain in your pew.*

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People And with thy spirit.

At The Offertory

1. Forty days and forty nights
thou wast fasting in the wild;
forty days and forty nights
tempted, and yet undefiled.
2. Should not we thy sorrow share
and from worldly joys abstain,
fasting with unceasing prayer,
strong with thee to suffer pain?
3. Then if Satan on us press,
Jesus, Savior, hear our call!
Victor in the wilderness,
grant we may not faint or fall!
4. So shall we have peace divine:
holier gladness ours shall be;
round us, too, shall angels shine,
such as ministered to thee.

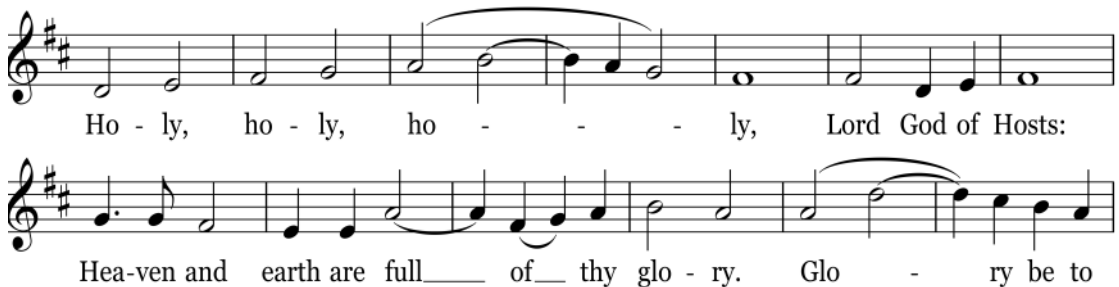
The Great Thanksgiving *Please stand.*

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.

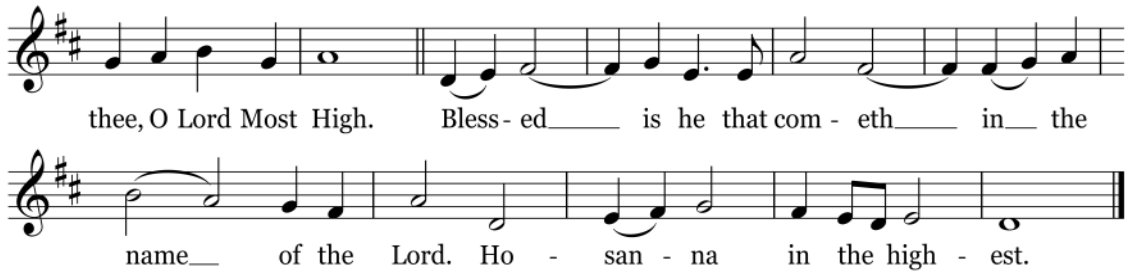
Proper Preface Of Lent

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 and rose again.

Sanctus and Benedictus Qui Venit *Sung by all*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - - - ly, Lord God of Hosts:
Hea-ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo - ry be to



thee, O Lord Most High. Bless-ed is he that com-eth in the
name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

The Eucharistic Prayer *Please kneel.*

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, our selves, 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.

Prayer of Humble Access *Said by all*

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.

Agnus Dei: Missa Tribus Vocibus Christoph Dalitz (b. 1967)

Agnus Dei qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Agnus Dei qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Agnus Dei qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

Communion is distributed at the chancel step. Please remain seated until directed by an usher.

At The Communion O Come Ye Servants of the Lord. Christopher Tye (1505-1571)

*O come, ye servants of the Lord,
and praise His holy name
From early morn to setting sun,
His might on earth proclaim.*

*His laws are just, and glad the heart:
He makes His mercies known.
Ye princes come, ye people too,
and bow before His throne.*

The Post Communion Prayer *Said by all.*

Almighty and ever living 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 and Dismissal

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always. Amen.

Celebrant Let us bless the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Please stand as the celebrant departs.

Voluntary As the Deer (with *Fairest Lord Jesus*)
Martin Nystrom (Arr. Mark Hayes)

Today at Bethesda

The eucharistic elements during Lent are given in memory of Peter Joseph Kszan 1961-2014 by Laura Kszan and Jeff Wentling.

Special Monthly Envelope for March. Gifts received in March's special monthly envelope will be divided amongst five local charities: the Franklin Community Center; the Mother Susan Anderson emergency Shelter which aides women and children; Lifeworks Community Action and the feeding ministry team at the Presbyterian – New England Congregational Church which work together to provide meals to those in need; and Christ Church Food Pantry, a ministry of the Episcopal parish in Ballston Spa. Additional envelopes will be available on the tract table at the back of the church.

Thank you to Alec Noll for playing at the 10am service today while Derek is away.

Bethesda Website. Bethesda recently launched a new website. The web address remains unchanged: www.bethesdachurch.org. The site is designed primarily to guide newcomers who are learning about the parish. If you have any questions, please email the office.

Lenten Music and Meditation Concerts

Today at 4pm **The Finger Lakes Guitar Quartet.** Guitarists Joel Brown, Sten Isachsen, Brett Grigsby and Paul Quigley will present works by Brouwer, Fauré, Granados and other composers.

Upcoming at Bethesda

Sunday March 13 4pm **Drank The Gold** Oona Grady & James Gascoyne American Irish Music Duo.

Sunday March 20 4pm **Chuck Lamb** Jazz Pianist.

Study of Genesis The age-old stories in the opening chapters of Genesis have been used (and abused) by Christians for centuries to address such pressing questions as how the world began, how humans originated, how males and females relate, whence comes evil, how science and religion relate and why bad things happen. Come to explore these stories on Sunday mornings from 9:20-9:50 beginning March 6 in our Sanctuary. Dr. Blaine Edele (Ph.D. in Old Testament from Duke University) will explore these foundational stories from Genesis chapter 1-6. No prior knowledge of Genesis is required, only a curiosity to learn.

Lent Study Thursday evenings at 7pm, beginning 10 March for four weeks. Location: TBD. John Milton stands as one of the most important poets in the English language. His greatest work is Paradise Lost and in it he attempts to explain the story of creation and of the Fall. His work stands in a line with the great epics of the ancient world and presents a uniquely Christian take on the genre. More importantly, Milton was a deep theological thinker and took active part in the theological debates of the day; Paradise Lost stands as an enduring attempt to convey the splendor of God and God's creation to the world. The

text grapples with questions about human agency, creation, and God's sovereignty that continue to perplex and occupy us to this day. This course will be a contemplative reading of *Paradise Lost*, where we will consider the poem as a living text in dialogue with theology, philosophy, and spirituality. We will find spiritual resonances everywhere in this text as we all bring our own unique perspectives to this great work of literature. No previous experience with poetry is necessary. To register, please call the parish office: 518.584.5980. The book can be purchased at Amazon: <https://www.amazon.com/Paradise-Lost-Modern-Library-Classics/dp/0375757961>

Spring Book Group, Thursday 19 May 2022, Location –to be Announced.

Verlyn Klinkenborg's novel *Timothy, or, Notes on an Abject Reptile*, is a delightful reading experience. The Yale Review faculty bookshelf noted the blurb: "Few writers have attempted to explore the natural history of a particular animal by adopting the animal's own sensibility. But Verlyn Klinkenborg has done just that in *Timothy*: an insightful and utterly engaging story of the world's most famous tortoise, whose real life was observed by the eighteenth-century English curate and naturalist Gilbert White. For thirteen years, Timothy lived in White's garden. Here Klinkenborg gives the tortoise an unforgettable voice and keen powers of observation on both human and natural affairs. Wry and wise, unexpectedly moving and enchanting at every-careful-turn, Timothy surprises and delights." Mary Sanders Shartle will lead the discussion. Please call the church office if you would like to attend. Order your books now!

Roof Replacement. The church roof is tentatively scheduled for replacement starting in late March with work continuing until early July. Scaffolding will be erected around the exterior of the church and the work will proceed by sections of the roof, beginning with the west side of the church. The sequence of work for each roof section is removal of the old roof shingles, inspection and repair of the roof deck, repair of trim work and installation of the new roof. Since there may be some debris inside the church during removal of the old roof it will be necessary that the pews, organ, and high altar are covered for protection. While we have contracted to have the organ covered, we need volunteers to care for the pews. The volunteer group, dubbed "The Holy Rollers", will cover the pews after Sunday services and uncover the pews prior to the weekend services. If you would like to volunteer to help with either covering or uncovering pews, please call the office or contact Mark Claverie. A practice session for covering and uncovering the pews will be held on Saturday, March 12th at 9am.

In The Community

LifeWorks Community Action (formerly EOC). Thank you to all those who have donated. As you can imagine the need is ongoing. If you would like to help by donating here is a list of items needed.

- ◆ Microwaveable convenience meals
- ◆ Disposable plates/bowls and silverware
- ◆ Foods low in salt, fat & sugar. Gluten Free foods.
- ◆ Household cleaning supplies.
- ◆ Sponges, laundry detergent, dishwasher detergent.
- ◆ Diapers (size 4 & 5) and baby wipes.
- ◆ Baby care products like baby shampoo and soap.

- ◆ Adult personal hygiene products such as soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, razors, shaving cream, deodorant.

Fresh vegetables as well as other perishable food items like eggs, milk, butter, can be brought directly to the food pantry located at 39 Bath Street, Ballston Spa. Donations are accepted Monday - Friday from 9am to 4pm.

Parish Vestry

Darren Miller, *Senior Churchwarden* Sara Manny, *Junior Churchwarden*

Ann Bullock, Clerk
Marcia MacDonald
David Wilder

Laura Kszan
Mark Claverie
Steven Rucker

David MacVane
Holly Sofarelli
Robyn Colonell

Karen Finkbeiner, *Treasurer*

Fr. Charles Wallace, Priest in Charge

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