

Bethesda Episcopal Church

The Third Sunday in Lent

20 March 2022

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

Prelude

Simple Aveu (Simple Confession)

Francis Thomé (1850-1909)

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, who seest that we have no power of 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 liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The people are seated

The First Lesson

Exodus 3:1-15

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. Then the Lord said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the

Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain." But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I am who I am." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I am has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you': This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations."

The Lector concludes
The People respond

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God

Gradual Psalm 63:1-8

Tone II.1

- 1 O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; *
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,
as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.
- 2 Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, *
that I might behold your power and your glory.
- 3 For your loving-kindness is better than life itself; *
my lips shall give you praise.
- 4 So will I bless you as long as I live *
and lift up my hands in your Name.
- 5 My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness, *
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,
- 6 When I remember you upon my bed, *
and meditate on you in the night watches.
- 7 For you have been my helper, *
and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.
- 8 My soul clings to you; *
your right hand holds me fast.

The Second Lesson

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness. Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

The Lector concludes
The People respond

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The people stand, if able.

The Holy Gospel

Luke 13:1-9

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

At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them--do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did." Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

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.*

This week, in our Anglican cycle of prayer, we remember the Anglican Church of Mexico and in the Albany diocese, we pray for the clergy and people of St Peter's, Fourth Lake; and in our parish, we pray those working to install a new roof on the church.

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

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, *Lord, have mercy.*

For the peace from above, for the loving kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For our President, and for the leaders of all nations, that wisdom and courage may prevail in the cause of justice and peace, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For deliverance from all danger, oppression, and degradation; for all affected by violence and war, and especially at this time, for the people of Ukraine, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the city of Saratoga Springs, and for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, and especially for Penny, Jeanette, Olivia and Nikolas, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the absolution and remission of our sins and offenses, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

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 Hymn #593

- 1 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.
- 2 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.
- 3 Jesus, our Lord, may we not seek
To be consoled, but to console,
Nor look to understanding hearts,
But look for hearts to understand.

- 4 May we not look for love's return,
But seek to love unselfishly,
For in our giving we receive,
And in forgiving are forgiven.
- 5 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 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: Mass in e

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 Panis Angelicus

Claudio Casciolini (1697-1760)

*Panis angelicus fit panis hominum,
The bread of angels becomes the bread of men,
Dat panis coelicus figuris terminum.
The heavenly bread gives end to earthly forms.
O res mirabilis!
O wonderment!
Manducat dominum pauper, servus et humilis.
The poor, the slave, the humble, all receive the Lord.*

Te trina Deitas unaque poscimus:
Of thee, Godhead one in three, we ask:
Sic nos tu visita, sicut te colimus;
Visit us as we worship thee;
Per tua semitas duc nos quo tendimus,
Lead us on your path, where we wish to go,
Ad lucem quam inhabitas.
To the light wherein you dwell.

Thomas Aquinas (1225–1274): Sacris Solemnis

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 Improvisation on *Cross of Jesus*

Today at Bethesda

Lenten Music and Meditation Concerts Today at 4pm - **Chuck Lamb** Jazz Pianist.

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.

Study of Genesis continues to meet between the 8am and 10 am service. All are welcome to join us at 9:20.

Upcoming at Bethesda

Lenten Study (John Milton, Paradise Lost) continues this week on Thursday evening at 7pm in the church.

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!

Holy Week Services

10 April - Palm Sunday

8am Eucharist

10am Sung Eucharist

13 April - Wednesday in Holy Week

7pm Stations of the Cross

14 April - Maundy Thursday

7pm Eucharist

Following the Eucharist, the Church remains open until

10pm for private prayer

15 April - Good Friday

12 Noon Liturgy of the Day

17 April - Easter

8am Eucharist

10am Sung Eucharist

Stations of the Cross
Wednesday 13 April, 7:00pm
All Welcome

News

Update to worship services Please be advised that during the roof work mid-day prayers and the Saturday evening Eucharist have been suspended.

Roof Replacement. The church roof is scheduled for replacement starting this month with work continuing until early July. Scaffolding will be erected around the exterior of the church the week of March 14th as well as repointing the south chimney. Actual demolition of the west roof will commence the following week. Of course any adverse weather would affect the schedule. 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.

Constant Contact Do you receive our church emails? If not, would you like to? Bethesda uses Constant Contact to send church news to those who are signed up to receive email. We do not email often and we do not give your email to others. This is an excellent way to keep up with church news. If you would like to be added to our list, please email the church office at office@bethesdachurch.org.

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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