

March 7, 2021 3rd Sunday of Lent
Online service of Morning Prayer
The Rt. Rev. Lesley Wheeler-Dame,
The Very Rev. Bert Chestnut and The Ven. Sarah Usher
Music: Anne Coates

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. *John 3:16*

The Penitential Rite

Seek the Lord while he wills to be found, call upon him when he draws near; let the wicked forsake their ways, and the evil ones their thoughts; and let them return to the Lord, and he will have compassion, and to our God, for he will richly pardon. *Isaiah 55.6, 7*

The officiant says to the people,

Dear friends in Christ, as we prepare to worship almighty God,
let us with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins,
that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

Silence is kept. The officiant and people say together,

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us,
that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Officiant: Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People Amen.

Opening Hymn: The King of Love My Shepherd Is 520

**The King of love my Shepherd is,
Whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his
And he is mine for ever.**

Where streams of living water flow
My ransomed soul he leadeth,
And where the verdant pastures grow
With food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
But yet in love he sought me,
And on his shoulder gently laid,
And home, rejoicing, brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill
With thee, dear Lord, beside me;
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,
Thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight;
Thy unction, grace bestoweth:
And O what transport of delight
From thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
Within thy house for ever.

Morning Prayer

Officiant: Lord, open our lips,

People: And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Officiant; O God, make speed to save us.

People: O Lord, make haste to help us.

All: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

The Invitatory

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy; **O come, let us worship**

Jubilate Psalm 100

**Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; *
serve the Lord with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.**

**Know this: The Lord himself is God; *
he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.**

**Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise; *
give thanks to him and call upon his name.**

**For the Lord is good;
his mercy is everlasting; *
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.**

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy; **O come, let us worship**

The Proclamation of the Word

1st reading Exodus 20:1-17

And God spoke all these words:

“I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

³“You shall have no other gods before me.

⁴“You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, ⁶but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷“You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.

⁸“Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work, ¹⁰but the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your male or female servant, nor your animals, nor any foreigner residing in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

¹²“Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³“You shall not murder.

14 “You shall not commit adultery.

15 “You shall not steal.

16 “You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

17 “You shall not covet your neighbor’s house. You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or his male or female servant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.”

The word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

Psalm 19

The heavens declare the glory of God, * and the firmament shows his handiwork.

One day tells its tale to another, * and one night imparts knowledge to another.

Although they have no words or language, * and their voices are not heard,

Their sound has gone out into all lands, * and their message to the ends of the world.

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.

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.

The law of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul; * the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.

The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart; * the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes.

The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever; * the judgements of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, * sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.

By them also is your servant enlightened, * and in keeping them there is great reward.

Who can tell how often he offends? * cleanse me from my secret faults.

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.

Together, let us pray.

Gracious creator of heaven and earth, your Word has come among us as the true Sun of righteousness, and the good news of his birth has gone out to the ends of the world.

Open our eyes to the light of your law, that we may be purified from sin and serve you without reproach for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Light and our Life. Amen.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

¹⁸ For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written:

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise;
the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate.”

²⁰ Where is the wise person? Where is the teacher of the law? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe. ²² Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, ²³ but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴ but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

The word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

Hymn: Be Thou My Vision 505

**Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art
Thou my best thought, by day or by night
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light**

**Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord
Thou my great Father, thine own may I be,
Thou in me dwelling and I one with thee.**

**Riches I heed not, nor the world's empty praise
Thou mine inheritance, now and always
Thou and thou only, first in my heart
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.**

**High King of heaven, when victory is won
May I reach heaven's joys, bright heaven's sun
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall
Still be my vision, O ruler of all.**

Gospel Reading:

Reader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you**

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 2:13-22

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

¹³ When it was almost time for the Jewish Passover, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴ In the temple courts he found people selling cattle, sheep and doves, and others sitting at tables exchanging money. ¹⁵ So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple courts, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶ To those who sold doves he said, “Get these out of here! Stop turning my Father’s house into a market!” ¹⁷ His disciples remembered that it is written: “Zeal for your house will consume me.”

¹⁸ The Jews then responded to him, “What sign can you show us to prove your authority to do all this?”

¹⁹ Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days.”

²⁰ They replied, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?” ²¹ But the temple he had spoken of was his body. ²² After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken.

Reader: The Gospel of Christ.

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

Sermon: John Vassi-Nagy

Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God,

the Father almighty,

creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy

Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Intercessions and Thanksgivings

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Province of the Anglican Church of the Congo.

In the Yukon Cycle of Prayer, we pray for Communities of Faro and Ross River

We pray for our Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Lesley Wheeler-Dame, Eric Dame and family.

With confidence and trust let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy."

For the one holy catholic and apostolic Church throughout the world, we pray to you, Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For those preparing for baptism and for their teachers and sponsors, we pray to you, Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For peace in the world, that a spirit of respect and reconciliation may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, Lord. **Lord, have mercy**

For all whom we have injured or offended, we pray to you, Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For grace to amend our lives and to further the reign of God, we pray to you, Lord. **Lord, have mercy**

The Collect

Let us pray together, Father of mercy, alone we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves. When we are discouraged by our weakness, strengthen us to follow Christ, our pattern and our hope; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

Leader And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

All: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and**

deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen

Blessing: May the God of mercy transform you by his grace, and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Closing Hymn: Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery 179

**Tree of life and awesome mystery, In your death we are reborn,
Though you die in all of history, Still you rise with every morn,
Still you rise with every morn.**

**Seed that dies to rise in glory, May we see ourselves in you,
If we learn to live your story, We may die to rise anew,
We may die to rise anew.**

**We remember truth one spoken, Love passed on through act and word,
Every person, lost and broken wears the body of our Lord,
Wears the body of our Lord.**

**Gentle Jesus, mighty Spirit, Come inflame our hearts anew,
We may all your joy inherit, If we bear the cross with you,
If we bear the cross with you.**

**Christ you lead and we shall follow, Stumbling though our steps may be,
One with you in joy and sorrow, We the river you the sea
we the river you the sea.**

**Living Water of salvation, Be the fountain of each soul
Springing up in new creation, Flow in us and make us whole,
Flow in us and make us whole.**

Dismissal

Leader: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.