

The Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 21, 2021



St. George's Church ☩ Glenn Dale, Maryland The Episcopal Diocese of Washington

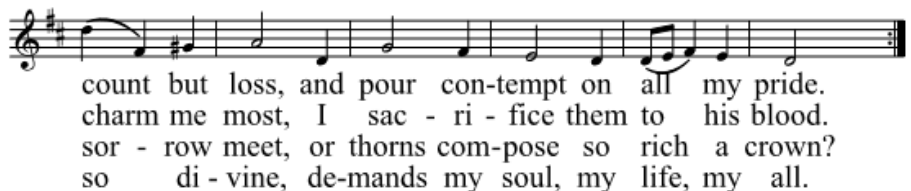
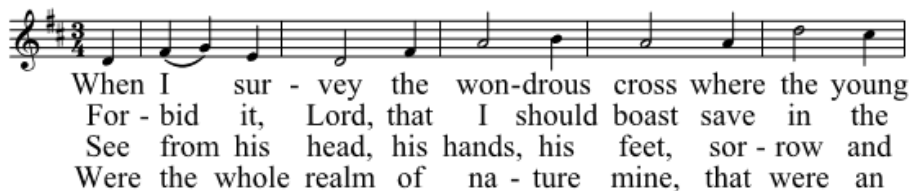
Welcome to St. George's! We are glad to see you this morning, whether in person or virtually. This service booklet has everything you need to participate fully in today's worship service, including scripture readings as well as prayers and music.

Prelude: *And as Moses lifted Up the Serpent from The Crucifixion* by John Stainer (1840-1901)

And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up: that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Opening Hymn: Hymnal 1982 # 474 *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

Words: Gerhardt Tersteegen, tr Henry Sloane Coffin. Music Tysk, from *Psalm und Choralbuch*. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



Celebrant: Our God is full of compassion and mercy

People: So let us return again to you, O God.

Celebrant: Blessed be the God of our salvation.

People: Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.

The Celebrant continues:

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these."

Confession and Absolution

We come to the table of our Lord recognizing our need for divine grace.
In humility, let us confess our sins to God.

A time of silence is kept. Then, all pray together:

Holy and gracious God, we are sorry for the times when we have used your gifts carelessly and acted ungratefully. We enjoy the fruits of the harvest, but sometimes forget that you have given them to us. We belong to a people who are full and satisfied, but ignore the cry of the hungry. We are thoughtless, storing up goods for ourselves alone, rather than acting for the good of all. Forgive us, we pray, and grant us true repentance, through the compassion of your Son and the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Celebrant: May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by the Holy Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

LEVAS # 236 Kyrie

Leon C. Roberts, *Mass of St. Augustine*. © 1992 G.I.A. Publications, Inc. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323

Lord, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy, Lord,
have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer -
- cy, Christ, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy on us.
Lord, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer -
- cy, Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy on us.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray together the Collect of the day: **Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love**

what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Read by David Warn

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt-- a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more. The Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 119: 9-16

How shall the young keep themselves undefiled: **surely by obeying your word.**

With my whole heart I seek you: **let me not stray from your commandments.**

I treasure your word in my heart: **for fear I should sin against you.**

Blessed are you O Lord: **O teach me your statutes.**

With my lips have I been telling: **of all the judgments you have uttered.**

I have found more joy in the way of your commandments: **than in all manner of riches.**

I will meditate on your precepts: **and I will give heed to your ways.**

I will delight in your statutes: **and I will not forget your word.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

John 12:20-33

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor. "Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die. The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon: The Rev. Todd Thomas

The Celebrant says

Let us affirm our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:

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.

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.

Prayers of the People

Led by Maureen Groome-Lane

As we journey through this season of Lent we lift up our hearts and minds to you, O God,
offering our prayers of intercession, praise and thanksgiving with humility, faith and trust.
We pray: **Lord in your mercy, receive our prayer.**

We pray for those in positions of authority in society. Gift them with fortitude to confront the
challenges we face, that the leaders of the world, of our Nation, and our State may act with
justice and lead with truth and compassion. Guide them and us to confront divisions in our
society and challenge them to redress the legacy of prejudice, animosity, and injustice. May
they also make decisions regarding the COVID-19 pandemic that promote healing, we pray:
Christ in your mercy, receive our prayer.

We pray for our church and its leaders, for Michael our presiding bishop, for Mariann our
bishop, Connie our rector as well as for Todd and Thelma who minister to us. We lift up the
community of St. George's as we reach out to support one another, thankful for the gifts of lay
ministry that we employ to serve one another. We pray:
Lord in your mercy, receive our prayer.

We turn to you, O God, ever confident of your enduring presence in our lives, even in the midst of fear and isolation. May we be assured of your love as we lift up those who suffer in mind, body and spirit. We pray: **Christ in your mercy, receive our prayer.**

We pray for our rector, Connie. We raise up her family and friends who give her comfort. Give Connie confidence and peace as her healing proceeds, that she may know that God's presence surrounds her. We pray: **Lord in your mercy, receive our prayer.**

We ask, O God, for your healing presence, especially as the Covid-19 pandemic rages across our country, our community, and the world. We hold up the health-care workers who serve those who suffer from the virus.; we raise up parents and teachers as they care for children in this time of difficulty. Grace us all with resilience to endure the challenges that face us. We pray: **Christ in your mercy, receive our prayer.**

We pray, O God who gives comfort, for those who have died. We grieve for the more than 530,000 lives lost to the pandemic in our country and for the over 2.6 million around the world who have died. Bring peace for all who mourn, we pray:
Lord in your mercy, receive our prayer.

Make us mindful, O God, as we pray for the most vulnerable in our midst, especially for those who experience hunger and those who are out of work. We pray for the families of Gaywood Elementary School, those served by the Bowie food pantry, and those who are homeless. That we may be God's hands and heart in our communities to do the work of justice and love, we pray: **Christ in your mercy, receive our prayer.**

We pray in thanksgiving to the God who brings joy for all the blessings of our lives, and especially for those who celebrate birthdays and anniversaries this week. We pray:
Lord in your mercy, receive our prayer.

Throughout all the times and seasons of our lives, O God, we know that we are on a journey without knowing where it will lead. And we know that you are with us for every step of that journey. Help us live this day in hope, trusting in the life of Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Announcements and Blessings for Birthdays & Anniversaries

The celebrant then offers the following prayer for those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries:

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant(s) and anyone celebrating their birthday or anniversary this week as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Offertory

The Celebrant says

Do good works and share what you have, for these are the sacrifices pleasing to God.

Many thanks for your financial support of St. George's. We encourage you to give electronically wherever possible. You can use your phone to text stgeodragon to 72356. Or just use your web browser to go to www.onrealm.org/StGeorgesChurch/Give. If your bank offers Zelle, you can use your banking app to send a donation via Zelle to donations@stgeo.comcastbiz.net.

Offertory Hymn: Gather #507 *Never the Blade Shall Rise*

Kathy Powell. © 1994 GIA Publications. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



1, Un-less a grain of wheat falls to the earth, falls to the earth and



dies, if re-mains on-ly a grain of wheat and nev-er the blade shall rise.



For the grain of wheat pro-duc-es much fruit, but on-ly if it dies. Un-less a



grain of wheat falls to the earth, nev-er the blade shall rise.



2. The one who loves the world-ly life los-es the life so lived, while the



one who hates the life in this world pre-serves it to life e - ter- nal.



3. If an-y-one would serve me, come and fol-low me; come and



fol-low me; where I am, there will my ser-vant be.

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks, Almighty God, through Jesus Christ your Son. You bid your faithful people cleanse our hearts, and prepare with joy for the Easter feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, we may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

And so we lift our voices together, forever praising you and singing:

Gather # 223 *Sanctus*

Marty Haugen, adapted by Rob Glover, © GIA Publications, Inc. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er, God of might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the high-est.
Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na
in the high-est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Celebrant continues:

You are holy, O God of majesty, and you pour on us the abundance of your compassion and grace. When we gave up hope in the wilderness, succumbing to the poison of bitterness and despair, you kept us alive, and set us back on the path to the Promised Land. You have made a new covenant with us, and written it on our hearts, that we may truly know you.

Then in the fullness of time, you sent us Jesus, your Son. After he was baptized by John in the Jordan River, anointed by your Holy Spirit, and tested in the wilderness, Jesus proclaimed to all people the good news that the time was fulfilled and your kingdom had come near.

He turned the tables on injustice and corruption; he came to restore and renew the temple of your presence by offering his risen body, that all who trust in him may not perish, but have abundant life.

And so we remember that that night before he died, Jesus took break, gave thanks, broke it and gave it to his friends, saying "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to remember me." In the same way after supper he took the cup, gave thanks and gave it to them, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, to remember me."

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Recalling your gracious acts in Jesus Christ, we present to you, O God, from your creation, this bread and this wine. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the Communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit, unite us with Christ and all your people, and strengthen us to proclaim the good news of your love.

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, O Holy One, now and forever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant: And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we pray with boldness:

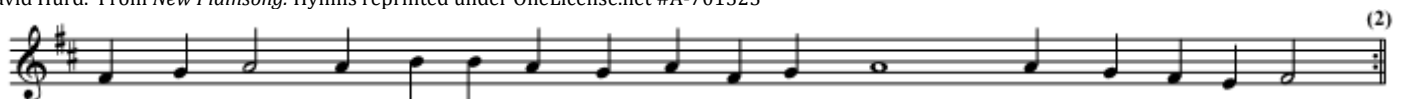
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The bread is broken and silence is kept

Fraction Anthem - S161

David Hurd. From *New Plainsong*. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: have mer-cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ lived, died, and rose again for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Everyone is invited to share the bread and wine, for this is Christ's table, and all are welcome.

The Celebrant then says

Mindful that not all are present physically to receive the sacrament, we pray with those who receive spiritual Holy Communion this day:

Lord Jesus, in union with your faithful people, we offer to you our praise and thanks. Since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we pray that you come spiritually into our hearts. Strengthen us with your grace, O Lord, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

The Communion

Wherever you are on your journey, whatever you believe or don't believe, know that you are welcome at this table. For this is Christ's table, and all are welcome.

Communion Hymn: Gather #417 *We Remember*

Marty Haugen. © 1980 GIA Publications, Inc. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323

We Remember

Text & Tune: Marty Haugen, b.1950

Refrain

We re - mem-ber how you loved us to your death, and still we cel-e-brate, for
you are with us here; and we be-lieve that we will see you when you come
in your glo-ry, Lord. We re - mem-ber, we cel-e-brate, we be - lieve.

Verses

1. Here, a mil-lion wound-ed souls are yearn-ing just to touch you and be healed.
2. Now we re - cre - ate your love, we bring the bread and wine to share a meal.
3. Christ, the Fa-ther's great "A - men" to all the hopes and dreams of ev - 'ry heart.
4. See the face of Christ re - vealed in ev - 'ry per-son stand-ing by your side,

Gath - er all your peo - ple, and hold them to your heart.
Sign of grace and mer - cy, the pres - ence of the Lord.
Peace be - yond all tell - ing, and free - dom from all fear.
Gift to one an - oth - er, and tem - ples of your love.

D.C.
2011.04.28

Post- Communion Prayer of Thanksgiving

Let us pray: **Holy God, gracious beyond measure, you gave Jesus Christ to be for us the bread of life, that those who come to him should never be hungry. May we who eat at his table of blessing and share in his love go forth now to reflect his life in our words and in our deeds, that all of those we encounter may know the power of Jesus' compassion. In thanks and praise to you, we pray. Amen.**

The Blessing

As we go forth this season of Lent,
let us be marked not for sorrow, but for joy;
let us be marked not with shame, but with grace;
let us be marked not for thinking ourselves less than what we are,
but recognizing the gift to the world God calls us to be.
And may the blessing of God who creates, redeems and sustains us be with you now and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Dismissal Hymn: Hymnal 1982 #473 *Lift High the Cross*

Words: George Silliam Kitchin; Michael Robert Newbolt. Music: Crucifer, Sydney Hugo Nicholson. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro-claim till all the world a-dore his sa-cred Name.



Led on their way by this tri - um - phant sign, the hosts of God in
Each new - born ser - vant of the Cru - ci - fied bears on the brow the
O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree, as thou hast prom - ised,



con - quering ranks com - bine.
seal of him who died.
draw the world to thee.

The Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God!

Postlude: *The Old Rugged Cross* by Rev. George Bennard (1873-1958)