

The First Sunday in Lent

February 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 fully participate in today's worship service, including scripture readings as well as prayers and music.

Prelude: *Forty Days and Forty Nights*, attributed to Martin Herbst

Opening Hymn: MHSO # 84 *Forty Days and Forty Nights*

Words: Jean Holloway © Kevin Mayhew. Music: Fiona Vidal-White © 2004. Arr. John L. Hooker © 2005. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



For - ty days and for - ty nights in Ju - dah's de - sert Je - sus stayed.
In the gar - den, his dis - ci - ples slept the dark - est hours a - way,
When the roo - ster crowed at day - break, Pe - ter's fear and pan - ic grew.



All a - lone he fought temp - ta - tion, all a - lone he fast - ed, prayed.
but our Lord did not con - demn them when they would not watch or pray.
He de - nied three times the charge that Je - sus was a man he knew.



When the heat of pas - sion rules me, when I feel a - lone, be - trayed,
Make me con - stant in your ser - vice, keep - ing watch both night and day.
When my love for you is chal - lenged, when the faith - ful ones are few,



Lord, you meet me in the de - sert, strong in faith and un - a - afraid.
Give me grace that I may ne - ver such a love as yours be - tray.
give me cour - age and con - vic - tion to pro - claim my Lord a - new.

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, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

Genesis 9:8-17

God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth." The Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 25:1-9

To you Lord I lift up my soul, my God I have put my trust in you:

let me not be disappointed, nor let my enemies triumph over me.

For all those who hope in you shall not be ashamed:

but only those who wantonly break faith.

Make known to me your ways O Lord: **and teach me your paths.**

Lead me in the way of your truth and teach me:

you are God my savior, for you have I waited all the day long.

Call to remembrance O Lord your tender care:

and the unfailing love which you have shown from of old.

Do not remember the sins and offences of my youth:

but according to your mercy, remember me Lord in your goodness.

You O Lord are upright and good:

therefore you show the path to those who go astray.

You guide the humble to do what is right: **and those who are gentle you teach your way.**

All your ways are loving and sure:

to those who keep your covenant and your commandments.

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

Mark 1:9-15

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news." 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

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 will 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 490,000 lives lost to the pandemic in our country and for the over 2.3 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 Anthem: Lonesome Valley by Brad Nix

*Jesus walked, yes, He walked, Jesus walked that lonesome valley for me.
Don't ya know? Jesus walked, yes, He walked,
Jesus walked that lonesome valley for me.
Jesus walked that lonesome valley, Jesus walked that lonesome valley,
Jesus walked that lonesome valley, yes, He walked if ro you and me.
Don't' ya know? Jesus climbed, yes, He climbed,
Jesus climbed the hill of sorrow for me.
Don't' ya know? Jesus climbed, Jesus climbed,
Jesus climbed the hill of sorrow for me.
Jesus climbed the hill of sorrow, Jesus climbed the hill of sorrow,
Jesus climbed the hill of sorrow.
Yes, He climbed it for you and me.
Walkin' up that trail of tears, Jesus stumbles on the road.
On His back He carries our fears, such a dreary, weary load.
It's such a dreary, weary load.
Jesus bore the cross for sinners, Jesus bore the cross for sinners,
Jesus bore the cross for sinners, yes, for sinners like you and me.*

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.

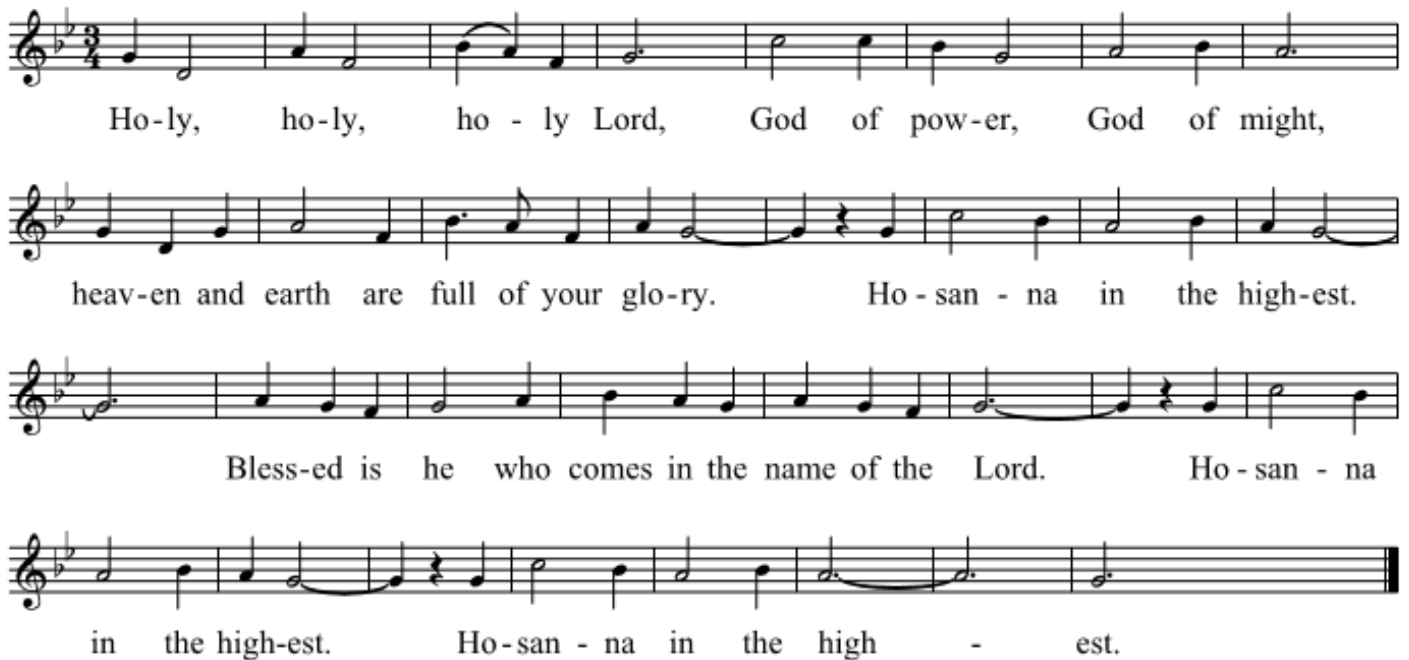
People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

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 Anthem *Teach Me Thy Song, O Lord* by Craig Courtney:

Teach me Thy song, O Lord,
That song which graced creation's dawn.
And bid the firmament unfurl;
That bathed the newborn world
in uncreated light.
That song so bright.
Teach me Thy song, O Lord
Teach me Thy song, Thy song, O Lord,
That song which burst Thy Servant's,
Thy Servant's heart
To beat of blows upon the cross
His pain and bitt' rest loss and death that should be mine.
His song was Thine. His song was Thine,
Teach me Thy song, Thy song, O Lord.

Post- Communion Prayer of Thanksgiving

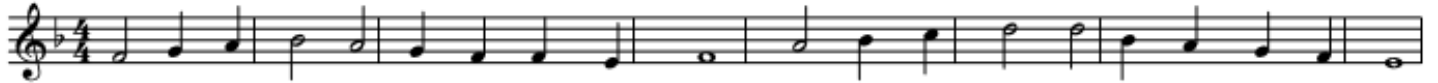
Let us pray: **Holy God, gracious beyond measure, you gave Jesus Christ to be for us the bread of life, that those who come to him should never be hungry. May we who eat at his table of blessing and share in his love go forth now to reflect his life in our words and in our deeds, that all of those we 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 # 149 *Eternal Lord of Love Behold Your Church*

Words: Thomas H. Cain. Music *Old 124th* melody *Pseaumus octante trois de David*. Harmony. Charles Winfred Douglas
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E - ter - nal Lord of love, be - hold your Church walk - ing once more the pil - grim way of Lent,
So dai - ly dy - ing to the way of self, so dai - ly liv - ing to your way of love,
If dead in you, so in you we a - rise, you the first - born of all the faith - ful dead;



led by your cloud by day, by night your fire, moved by your love and
we walk the road, Lord Je - sus, that you trod, know - ing our - selves bap -
and as through ston - y ground the green shoots break, glo - rious in spring - time



toward your pres - ence bent: far off yet here the goal of all de - sire.
- tized in - to your death: so we are dead and live with you in God.
dress of leaf and flower, so in the Fa - ther's glo - ry shall we wake.

The Dismissal

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

People: **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude: *Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley*, arr. Paul Thurmond