

The Season of Lent

St. George's Church • Glenn Dale Parish The Episcopal Diocese of Washington March 17, 2024

> The Fifth Sunday in Lent: A Service of Holy Eucharist

Welcome to St. George's! If you are new or visiting, we are especially glad to see you this morning, whether in person or virtually. This service booklet has the prayers and hymns needed for your participation in today's service. Wherever you are in your journey, know that you are welcome here.

Zoom participants are welcome to leave your video camera on; at certain points during the service participants in the sanctuary will see the gallery view of those taking part in the service via Zoom.

Prelude: The Song of Twilight by Yoshinao Nakada

Opening Hymn: My Heart Sings Out #2 Come All You People

Words and Music: Zimbabwe, para. Alexander Gondo; arr. John L. Bell. © 1995 Iona Community. Hymns Licensed under OneLicense.net #A-701323



Come now and wor-ship the Lord.

Celebrant: Blessed be the God of our salvation.

People: Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins. *Celebrant:* Show our hearts your way, O God, and we shall follow.

People: Wherever we stray, lead us back to the rock of your love.

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:

O God you have searched us out and known us, and all that we are is open to you. We confess that we have sinned: we have used our power to dominate and our weakness to manipulate; we have evaded responsibility and failed to confront evil; we have denied dignity to ourselves and to each other. We pray that you would forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. 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.**

Kyrie eleison: Hymnal 1982 #S86

Setting: from New Plainsong, David Hurd (b. 1950). Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323





The Collect of the Day

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.

The people may be seated.

Jeremiah 31:31-34

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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **People:Thanks be to God**.

Psalm 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:

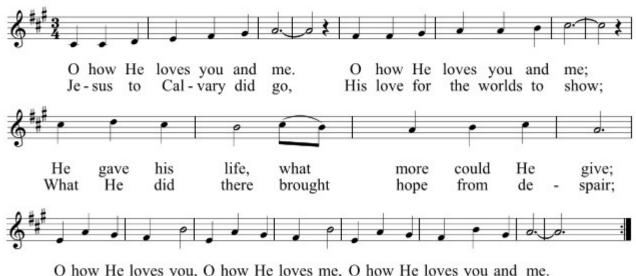
and I will give heed to your ways.

I will delight in your statutes:

and I will not forget your word.

Gospel Hymn: LEVAS #35 O How He Loves You and Me

Words and Music: Kurt Kaiser (b. 1934) Copyright © 1975 World Music, Inc. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



O how He loves you, O how He loves me, O how He loves you and me.

O now He loves you, O now He loves life, O now He loves you and life.

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People: 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.

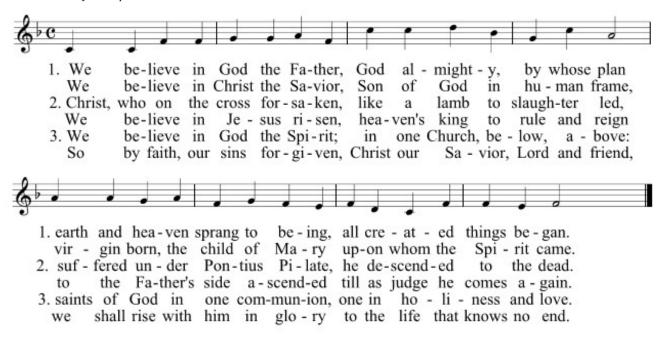
Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you Lord Christ.

The Sermon: The Rev. Connie Reinhardt

The Creed: We believe in God the Father

Words: Paraphrase of the Apostles Creed, Timothy Dudley-Smith (b. 1926). © 1993. Ancient and Modern Hymns, Hope Publishing Company. Music: Stuttgart from Psalmodia Sacra, oder Andachtige und Schone Gesange 1715; adapted by William Henry Havergal (1793-1870) Hymnal 1982 #127. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



The Prayers of the People

Our compassionate God has formed us out of dust in the midst of the waters of creation, and calls us now to repentance. May our prayers, our giving, and our fasting assist us in coming before God with open hearts. O God, feed us all with your mercy: **Lord, receive our prayer.**

For all Christians, that embracing our Lenten discipline with joy, the cross of Christ may be our banner and the pledge of resurrection our hope. For Michael our presiding bishop, Mariann our bishop, Connie our rector, and for the community of St. George's, we pray. O God, feed us all with your mercy: **Lord, receive our prayer.**

For those in authority in our country, and across the world, that they govern in justice and compassion knowing that all people are formed in your image and beloved of you. Prosper the labors of those seeking peace, we pray. O God, feed us all with your mercy: **Lord, receive our prayer.**

For hearts to do what is good and right and true, and for an end to our own hardness of heart, we pray. O God, feed us all with your mercy: **Lord, receive our prayer.**

For all in need of our prayers, especially those who suffer in the midst of violence and war, refugees and immigrants, those experiencing homelessness and those who are hungry. O God, feed us all with your mercy: **Lord, receive our prayer.**

For the concerns of our hearts and for the needs of others. We pray for those who are sick or suffering, especially those on our parish prayer list, and those we name before you now. *The people may add their own petitions.* O God, feed us all with your mercy: **Lord, receive our prayer.**

In gratitude for the many blessings of our lives, for those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries, and for all that we have to be thankful for, we pray. *The people may add their own petitions.* O God, feed us all with your mercy: **Lord, receive our prayer.**

For all who have died, that they may have eternal peace in you, we pray. O God, feed us all with your mercy: **Lord, receive our prayer.**

God our source of light and life, in this holy season you call us to return from our wandering and come home to you. Help us to find our way, and guide us during our Lenten journey, that we may arrive at Easter ready once more to celebrate our passage with Christ from death to life and from despair to 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.

Blessings for Birthdays & 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

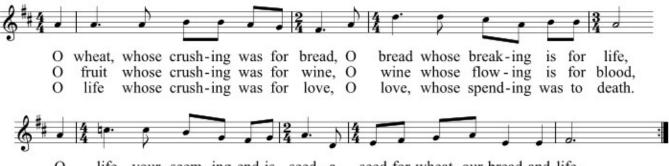
Do good works and share what you have, for these are the sacrifices pleasing to God.

Although St. George's no longer physically "passes the basket" everyone is invited and encouraged to make a financial offering to express your gratitude to God for the gifts we are given and in support of our mission and ministries. We encourage you to give electronically: you can text stgeodragon to 73256 (Messages and data rates may apply. Message frequency varies. Text HELP to 73256 for help. Text STOP to 73256 to cancel.), use your web browser to go to www.onrealm.org/StGeorgesChurch/Give, or donate via Zelle to donations@stgeorgesglenndale.org

Offertory Hymn: Wonder, Love and Praise #760 O wheat whose crushing was for bread

Words: Delores Dufner OSB (b. 1939), © 1990 Sisters of St. Benedict.

Music: New Life, Shirley W. McRae (b. 1933) © 1996 Shirley W. McRae Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



- O life your seem-ing end is seed, a seed for wheat, our bread and life.
- O blood, your pour-ing out is life, our life in you, O fruit-ful vine.
- O death, your mourn-ing is our joy, full joy and birth to last ing life.

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

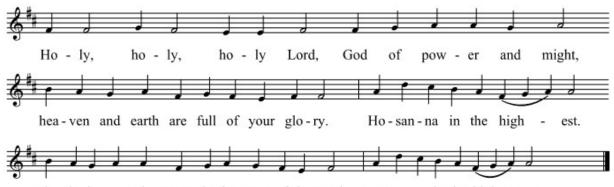
People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

God of all mercy, it is indeed right and good to give you thanks through Jesus Christ your Son, for you have been present with us at every turn. We remember that at Sinai, you gave us the gift of your law, teaching us to live together as you intended. 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.

And so giving thanks with joy, we bless you for your mercy and join with broken saints and redeemed sinners everywhere, forever praising you and singing:

Sanctus: Holy, holy, holy Lord

Setting: David Hurd (b. 1950) Hymnal 1982 #S 124. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



Blest is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. For it was out of your great love for the world you made that you sent Jesus not to condemn but to save us, so that we who trust in him might not perish, but have eternal life.

Baptized by John in the Jordan, anointed by your Holy Spirit, and tested in the wilderness, Jesus came to proclaim 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 us a place in the temple of his risen body.

And so we remember that on the night that Jesus was betrayed, he gathered with his faltering friends for a meal that tasted of freedom. Calling them to his table, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said: "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to remember me."

In the same way after supper he took the cup, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, whenever you drink it, to remember me."

Remembering now your gracious acts in Jesus Christ, we present to you O God, from your creation, this bread and this wine. With thanksgiving, we offer our very selves to you to be a living and holy sacrifice.

Great then is the mystery of our faith: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Gracious God, we pray that you pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine, 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 be a people of hope, justice, and love.

Show us the way of life you have prepared for us in Christ, so that we might trust and live in him, sharing in the immeasurable riches of your grace.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

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

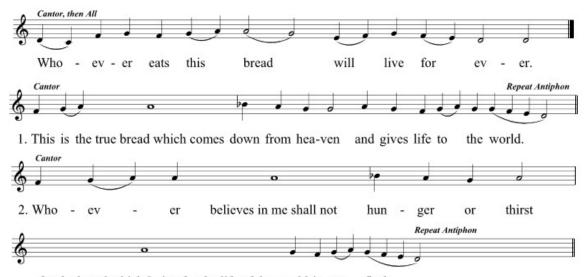
Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The bread is broken. After a time of silence, all sing together

Fraction Hymn: Hymnal 1982 S 170 Whoever Eats This Bread

Setting: Mode 1; adapted by Mason Martens (b. 1933)



for the bread which I give for the life of the world is my flesh.

Celebrant: 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.

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.

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.

If you would prefer not to receive the Eucharist, you are welcome to come up for a blessing; cross your hands to your shoulders to indicate this to the priest.

Communion Hymn 1: Gather #417 We Remember

Words and Music: Marty Haugen (b. 1950) © 1990 G.I.A. Publications, Inc. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



Communion Hymn 2: Hymnal 1982 #498 Beneath the Cross of Jesus

Words: Elizabeth Cecilia Clephane (1830-1869). Music: St. Christopher, Frederick Charles Maker (1844-1927) Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



Prayer of Thanksgiving

Celebrant: Let us pray: Lord Jesus Christ, you taught that what we do for the least of the members of your family, we do for you. As we go forth from this table in thanksgiving, strengthened and renewed by your love and by this sacrament of bread and wine, may you give us the will to serve others as you were the servant of all, to your honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

Announcements

The Blessing

May the grace of God grant you peace, May the love of Jesus Christ bring you wholeness, May the breath of Holy Spirit inspire and challenge you, And may the blessing of the great I AM be with you this day and always. **Amen.**

Dismissal Hymn: Hymnal #473 Lift high the cross

Words: George William Kitchin (1827-1912) Music: Crucifer, Sydney Hugo Nicholson (1875-1947) 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 con-quering ranks com-bine. Each new-born ser-vant of the Cru - ci - fied bears on the brow the seal of him who died. O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo-rious tree, as thou hast prom-ised, draw the world to thee. So shall our song of tri-umph ev - er be: praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry.

The Dismissal

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

People: Thanks be to God!

Postlude: Spring Song by Felix Mendelssohn

Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday – March 24 at 8 am and 10 am (10 am includes Zoom/YouTube)

The 8:00 am is a traditional Palm Sunday service with Blessing of Palms and Holy Eucharist. At the 10:00 service we bless palms, share Communion and participate in a special dramatic presentation of the story of Jesus' final days. Consecrated Bread for Maundy Thursday will be available to pick up, to be consumed during the Maundy Thursday service if you are celebrating at home via Zoom.

Sunday School Wednesday March 27 at 4:00 pm – Walking Through Holy Week

This is an educational and experiential event for children and youth. We will gather in the sanctuary to walk together through the days of Holy Week, engaging in activities and learning about Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter.

Tenebrae ~ 7:00 pm Wednesday March 27 (Chapel)

This prayer service in the Chapel features readings from the psalms and the book of Lamentations. Candles are extinguished during the service, symbolically marking getting closer to Jesus' death, until we are left in darkness and leave in silence.



Maundy Thursday – March 28 at 6:30 pm (church/Zoom/YouTube)

The Maundy Thursday service focuses on Jesus's washing of his disciples' feet and his Last Supper with his friends. We share a simple meal of soup, salad and bread, share Communion and wash each other's feet as Jesus commanded us. Then we clear the space for the stripping of the altar, followed by the procession to the Chapel and the start of the Maundy Thursday Watch.

Maundy Thursday Watch March 28/29 (Chapel/Zoom)

"Could you not watch with me one hour?" This is Jesus' question to the disciples when he prays in the garden before his arrest. You are invited to sign up for an hour to watch and pray in the Chapel or virtually via Zoom starting at 9 pm until 7 am on Good Friday.

Good Friday – March 29 at 12 noon and 7:00 pm (7 pm includes Zoom/YouTube)

The Good Friday services features the reading of the Passion according to John as we celebrate the solemn liturgy and are witnesses to Jesus' crucifixion. The 7:00 p.m. service features the Passion from John interspersed with poetry and music and the consuming of the reserved sacrament.





The Great Vigil of Easter – Saturday March 30 at 8:00 pm

In this most sacred service of the year, we kindle new fire, hear the story of our salvation history, renew our baptismal vows, and celebrate the first Eucharist of Easter as we at last celebrate the resurrection. Bring food to share for light hospitality in Miller Hall following the service to begin our Easter celebration.

Easter Sunday – March 31 at 8 and 10 am (10 am includes Zoom/YouTube)

We celebrate Easter knowing that the powers of death have been defeated and that God's love has once again emerged victorious. Come to share the joy as we celebrate the resurrection and the joyful return of the kids' instruments and our alleluias. Service is followed by an Easter Egg Hunt





Seventy-seven Times

by Lauren Wright Pittman Inspired by Matthew 18:15-22 Digital painting

When I'm creating a mandala inspired by a text, I'm able to zoom out and see the bigger picture, and the image itself ends up looking like a bird's eye view, which I think is a helpful perspective sometimes. In this mandala, I wanted to follow a person through the process of reproval, forgiveness, reconciliation, and restoration as Jesus describes in Matthew 18. In the center, a person is standing alone, isolated, with their arms crossed in a closed-off posture. If you're sinned against, Jesus says to go and "point out the fault when the two

of you are alone" (Matthew 18:15). When you move to the second ring of the mandala, there are pairs of people shaking hands, finding common ground, or at least attempting to. If this doesn't work, then you are to bring more people (one or two more) together to provide counsel and witness. In the third ring of the mandala, two people are engaging with the closed-off person, sharing a way forward. In the next ring hyacinth flowers—which represent sorrow, regret, and forgiveness—stretch, bloom, and grow, bringing beauty into the now open arms of the people in the last ring of the mandala, who are embraced and woven into the community. The person from the center goes from being alone and closed-off to embraced and open.

When I was drawing the figures from the center out, it began to look like a dance. Is this the picture that grace paints? Forgiveness cannot happen in isolation and certainly neither can reconciliation nor restoration. The movement toward wholeness is the movement toward one another.

Perhaps craving more tangibility and practicality, Peter asks how many times he should forgive someone who has wronged him, and Jesus says, "Not seven times, but I tell you, seventy-seven times" (Matthew 18:22). This piece contains seventy-seven people and flowers to represent the abundance of grace that Jesus calls us into. The gold represents the divine presence of empathy, compassion, grace, and love throughout this dance from isolation toward community, from brokenness toward wholeness, and from guilt and shame toward freedom.

-Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman



Reflection: How do you experience reconciliation and the movement toward wholeness? How might you draw a mandala to describe it?