

2-2-25

Opening Hymn *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* #324

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand; ponder nothing earthly-minded, for with blessing in his hand Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood, Lord of lords in human vesture, in the Body and the Blood he will give to all the faithful his own self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way, as the Light of Light descendeth from the realms of endless day, that the powers of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.

At his feet the six-winged seraph; cherubim with sleepless eye veil their faces to the Presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry, "Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, Lord Most High!"

Celebrant Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.
Amen.**

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The Lord be with you **And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we humbly pray that, as your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts by Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

Introduction: In today's lesson, the prophet Malachi spoke to the Israelites who have returned from captivity in Babylon. The prophet reminds them that they did not perish in captivity because God took care of them. Then, he accuses them of "robbing God" by not giving their portion and offering. God then promises abundant blessings to those who faithfully obey his command and that they will become the Land of Delight.

A reading from the prophet Malachi

Malachi 3:6-12

I the Lord do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, have not perished. Ever since the days of your ancestors you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the Lord of hosts. But you say, "How shall we return?"

Will anyone rob God? Yet you are robbing me! But you say, "How are we robbing you?" In your tithes and offerings! You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me — the whole nation of you! Bring the full tithe into the storehouse,

so that there may be food in my house, and thus put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts; see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing. I will rebuke the locust for you, so that it will not destroy the produce of your soil, and your vine in the field shall not be barren, says the Lord of hosts. Then all nations will count you happy, for you will be a land of delight, says the Lord of hosts.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The psalm for this morning is Psalm 84:7-12

Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer;

hearken, O God of Jacob.

Behold our defender, O God;

and look upon the face of your Anointed.

For one day in your courts

is better than a thousand in my own room.

To stand at the threshold of the house of my God

than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.

For the Lord God is both sun and shield;

he will give grace and glory;

No good thing will the Lord withhold

from those who walk with integrity.

O Lord of hosts,

happy are they who put their trust in you!

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews *Hebrews 4:12-13*

The word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn *I Sing the Mighty Power of God* #398

1 I sing the almighty power of God, that made the mountains rise, that spread the flowing seas abroad and built the lofty skies. I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day; the moon shines full at his command, and all the stars obey.

2 I sing the goodness of the Lord, that filled the earth with food; he formed the creatures with his Word, and then pronounced them good. Lord, how thy wonders are displayed, where'er I turn my eye, if I survey the ground I tread, or gaze upon the sky!

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke
Glory to you, Lord Christ. *Luke 2:22-40*

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, the parents of Jesus brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word;

for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said

to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed-- and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Gradual Hymn *I Sing the Mighty Power of God, verse 3*

There's not a plant or flower below, but makes thy glories known; and clouds arise, and tempests blow, by order from thy throne; while all that borrows life from thee is ever in thy care, and everywhere that I could be, thou, God, art present there.

The Sermon

The Rev. Kevin Warner

Reflection Hymn *Jesus, Thou Divine Companion*

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.

The Prayers of the People

God of Light and Life, our prayers rise before you this day in hope and faith. *Silence*

God the Father, your will for all people is health and salvation;

We praise you and thank you, O Lord.

God the Son, you came that we might have life, and might have it more abundantly;

We praise you and thank you, O Lord.

God the Holy Spirit, you make our bodies the temple of your presence;

We praise you and thank you, O Lord.

Holy Trinity, One God, in you we live and move and have our being; thank you for all the blessings of this life, especially for those blessings that are difficult to see.

We praise you and thank you, O Lord.

As the psalmist declared, the Lord is both the sun and shield, we pray for all who protect us both at home and abroad, especially those who are injured in the line of duty and for their families who support them.

Bless our communities, and the whole world, with your peace.

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Shed the light of your healing love on all who are sick in body, mind, or spirit. We pray for those with chronic illnesses, especially Downs IV, Holden, Victoria, Kim, Barbara, Maria Christine, Caitlin, Dennis, Angie, Amy Jo, Carling, Michael, Joan, and Alyssa.

For the victims of wildfire, flood and wind, especially Denise and Joe.

And for those who we name now. *Silence*

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Send your healing light and joy on those who receive the care of skilled nursing, especially Timothy, Barbara, Kim, and Lou.

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Knit together in your love all whose relationships have frayed, that they may find reconciliation and new beginnings.

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Send healing and peace to those going through cancer treatments, and those in remission, especially, Margaret, Downs III, Victoria, Alex, Connie, Douglas, Frank, Gerta, Lauren, TJ, Cara, Todd, Valerie, Violet, Joan, Nancy, George and Denise.

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Bless all who work to improve the health of others, that they may bring hope, care, wisdom, and skill to all they

serve.

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Hold in the palm of your hand all who are near death and all who care for them, that they may know the peace that passes all understanding. We pray for those in hospice care especially CJ, Jeanne and Anne.

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

You are the Lord who does wonders;

You have declared your power among the peoples.

With you, O Lord, is the well of life;

And in your light we see light.

Hear us, O Lord of life;

Heal us and make us whole.

Celebrant: Almighty God, giver of life and health: Send your blessing on all who are sick, and upon those who minister to them, that all weakness may be vanquished by the triumph of the risen Christ, who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

We pray to you for the forgiveness of our sins.

All Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Greetings, Announcements and Introductions

Offertory *There is Room in My Father's House*

I go to prepare a place for you. There is room in my Father's house. There is joy. There is love. There are mansions made of grace. I go to prepare a place for you. There is room in my Father's house. I go to prepare a home for you. There is room in my Father's house. There is peace. There is hope. There is welcome in this place.

I go to prepare a place for you. There is room in my Father's house. All who seek will find a home, perfect peace, and rest. For all who hunger, there is food, banquets where the soul is blessed. One day, I am coming back for you. There is room in my Father's house. There is light. There is life. I will wipe each tear away.

One day I am coming back for you. There is room in my Father's house. I go to prepare a place for you. There is room in my Father's house.

The Holy Eucharist Prayer C

BCP 369

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise. **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us.

By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

**We celebrate his death and resurrection,
as we await the day of his coming.**

Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob;
God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to
see your hand at work in the world about us.

Bring us to your Table for solace and for strength; for pardon
and for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion
make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily
serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus
Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy
Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from
generation to generation. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has 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.**

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion Music

David Stasney

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray,

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.

Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

Closing Hymn *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates* #436

- 1 Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates;
behold the King of glory waits!
The King of kings is drawing near;
the Savior of the world is here.
- 2 O blest the land, the city blest,
where Christ the ruler is confessed!
O happy hearts and happy homes
to whom this King of triumph comes!
- 3 Fling wide the portals of your heart;
make it a temple, set apart
from earthly use for heaven's employ,
adorned with prayer and love and joy.

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia