

3-9-25 First Sunday in Lent

Opening Hymn *O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High #448*

1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high, how passing thought and fantasy, that God, the Son of God, should take our mortal form for mortals' sake.

2 For us baptized, for us he bore his holy fast and hungered sore; for us temptations sharp he knew; for us the tempter overthrew.

3 For us he prayed; for us he taught; for us his daily works he wrought: by words and signs and actions, thus still seeking not himself, but us.

6 All glory to our Lord and God for love so deep, so high, so broad; the Trinity whom we adore for ever and for evermore.

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to set forth his praise, to hear his holy Word, to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation, and to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship him, let us with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

Silence (you are invited to kneel or sit as you are able)

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 neighbors 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.

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was tempted by the evil one: 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.**

The Lessons

Introduction: Moses gave instructions to his people before they crossed into the Promised Land. Today's passage instructs them what to do, in the future, when they are able to grow produce in the land. For us, this is a reminder to express gratitude to God for all that God has done for us.

A reading from Deuteronomy

DT 26:1-11

“When you enter the land the Lord your God is giving you as a special possession and you have conquered it and settled there, put some of the first produce from each crop you harvest into a basket and bring it to the designated place of worship — the place the Lord your God chooses for his name to be honored. Go to the priest in charge at that time and say to him, ‘With this gift I acknowledge to the Lord your God that I have entered the land he swore to our ancestors he would give us.’ The priest will then take the basket from your hand and set it before the altar of the Lord your God.

“You must then say in the presence of the Lord your God: ‘My ancestor Jacob was a wandering Aramean who went to live as a foreigner in Egypt. His family arrived few in number, but in Egypt they became a large and mighty nation. When the Egyptians oppressed and humiliated us by making us their slaves, we cried out to the Lord, the God of our ancestors. He heard our cries and saw our hardship, toil,

and oppression. So the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a strong hand and powerful arm, with overwhelming terror, and with miraculous signs and wonders. He brought us to this place and gave us this land flowing with milk and honey! And now, O Lord, I have brought you the first portion of the harvest you have given me from the ground.'

Then place the produce before the Lord your God, and bow to the ground in worship before God. Afterward you may go and celebrate because of all the good things the Lord your God has given to you and your household. Remember to include the Levites and the foreigners living among you in the celebration.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Psalm for today is 91. Please respond where bold.

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High,
abides under the shadow of the Almighty.

He shall say to the Lord,

"You are my refuge and my stronghold,
my God in whom I put my trust."

Because you have made the Lord your refuge,
and the Most High your habitation,

There shall no evil happen to you,

neither shall any plague come near your dwelling.

For he shall give his angels charge over you,
to keep you in all your ways.

They shall bear you in their hands,
lest you dash your foot against a stone.

A reading from the Letter to the Romans *Romans 10:8-13*

[Scripture says] "*The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart*" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

For the one who believes with the heart is then made right with God and the one who confesses with the mouth is saved. The scripture says,

"No one who believes in him will be put to shame."

For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him.

For, "*Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.*"

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

Gradual Hymn *There is a Longing in Our Hearts*

Refrain: **There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord, for you to reveal your self to us. There is a longing in our hearts for love we only find in your, our God.**

1. For justice, for freedom, for mercy; hear our prayer. In sorrow, in grief: be near, hear our prayer, O God. *Refrain*

2. For wisdom, for courage, for comfort; hear our prayer. In weakness, in fear: be near hear our prayer, O God. *Refrain*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke
Glory to you, Lord Christ. *Luke 4:1-13*

After his baptism, Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished.

The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread."

Jesus answered him, "It is written, '*One does not live by bread alone.*'"

Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours."

Jesus answered him, "It is written, '*Worship the Lord your God and serve only him.*'"

Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

Jesus answered him, "It is said, *'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'*"

When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Gradual Hymn *There is a Longing in Our Hearts*

Refrain: There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord, for you to reveal your self to us. There is a longing in our hearts for love we only find in your, our God.

3 For healing, for wholeness, for new life: hear our prayer.
In sickness, in death: be near, hear our prayer, O God.

Refrain

4 Lord save us, take pity, light in our darkness.
We call you, we wait: be near, hear our prayer, O God.

Refrain

The Sermon

The Very Rev. David Marshall

Musical Reflection *The Remembering* Joseph M. Martin
Bonnie Wolfgram, piano, David Stasney, soloist

The Nicene Creed *Please stand as you are able*

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

Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving and pray boldly as Jesus taught us:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

To you, O Lord, we lift up our souls; our God, we put our trust in you.

Your kingdom come, your will be done.

Give us a reverence for the earth as your own creation that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Give us today our daily bread.

The Lord is our refuge and our stronghold.

Guide all the nations in the ways of justice and peace. Teach us your paths so that we may see Christ in one another and serve the common good.

Forgive us our sins.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

As we forgive those who sin against us.

As you blessed Moses and the Israelites, bless us to follow your ways, to rescue the oppressed, care for the sick, and to be content with what we have.

Save us from the time of trial.

Jesus was tempted by the evil one for 40 days and the angels tended to him;
strengthen us to walk the way of Christ in our own day.

Deliver us from evil.

All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness. Bring health and hope to all who suffer, especially: Downs IV, Holden, Victoria, Kim, Barbara, Maria Christine, Caitlin, Dennis, Angie, Amy Jo, Carling, Michael, Ian, Joan, Diana, Anne, Alyssa, Joe and Denise.

For 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, Julie, George and Denise. Visit and comfort all who are under the care of skilled nursing, especially Timothy, Barbara, and Kim.

Be near to all who are in hospice care especially Jeanne.
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those for whom we love but see no longer. We pray especially for the response of the soul of Lou Getz. May light perpetual shine upon her. *Silence*

We pray for those who mourn, may they find peace within you. And we pray that we may join with you and all the saints in the power of your resurrection.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.

Celebrant: Lord God, you have declared that your kingdom is among us. Open our ears to hear it, our voices to proclaim it, and use our hands to serve you. This we pray in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Greetings, Announcements and Introductions

Offertory *Meditation for Lent* arr. Michael Bedford

There is a green hill far away, outside a city wall,
where our dear Lord was crucified, who died to save us all.
Ah, holy Jesus; how have you offended,
that we to judge you have in hate pretended?
By foes derided, by your own rejected, O most afflicted.
O dearly, dearly has he loved! And we must love him too,
And trust is his redeeming love, and try his will to do.

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise him all creatures here below,
Praise him above ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

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.

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance. Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise.

Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we say,

**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.

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose, he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all. When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke

it, and gave it to his disciples, 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; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

Celebrant and People

**We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you,
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name. Remember, Lord, your one holy

universal and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace. Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone; bring them into the place of eternal joy and light.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. **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.

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

O Lamb of God, you away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, you away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, you away the sins of the world,
grant us thy peace.

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Communion Music

Bonnie Wolfgram

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

Bow your head before the Lord. Grant, most merciful Lord, to your faithful people pardon and peace, that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve you with a quiet mind.

O God, you made us from the dust of the earth. Now raise us up and help us turn toward you with open hearts, beholding your glory, that by your grace we may receive everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn *In Christ There is No East or West* #529

In Christ there is no East or West, in him no South or North, but one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth.

Join hands, disciples of the faith, whate'er your race may be! Who serves my Father as his child is surely kin to me.

In Christ now meet both East and West, in him meet South and North, all Christly souls are one in him, throughout the whole wide earth.

The Dismissal

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

Thanks be to God.