



St. Jude's Episcopal Church

Seeking and Worshipping God, Reaching out to Others

March 14, 2021 Fourth Sunday of Lent
8:00 am Morning Prayer

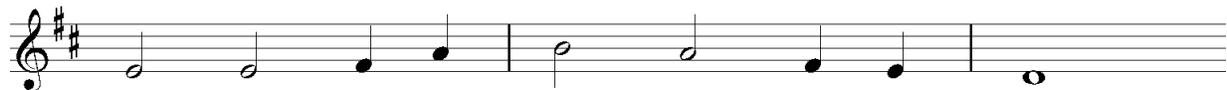
Opening Hymn *Come, thou fount of every blessing* (v. 1, 3)



1 Come, thou fount of ev - ery bless - ing, tune my
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly



heart to sing thy grace! Streams of mer - cy nev - er
I'm con - strained to be! Let thy good - ness, like a



ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
fet - ter, bind my wan - dering heart to thee:



Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by
prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to



flam - ing tongues a - bove. Praise the mount! Oh, fix me
leave the God I love; here's my heart, oh, take and



on it, mount of God's un - chang - ing love.
seal it, seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Opening Sentence

Rend your hearts and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and repents of evil.

Joel 2:13

Confession of Sin

The Officiant says to the people,
Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Officiant and People together,
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 Priest says,
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 Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant Lord, open our lips
People And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Officiant and People,
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy: Come let us adore him.

Venite *Psalm 95:1-7*

Come, let us sing to the Lord; *
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, *
and a great King above all gods.
In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are his also.
The sea is his, for he made it, *
and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

The Psalm *Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22*

- 1 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, *
and his mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Let all those whom the Lord has redeemed proclaim *
that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe.
- 3 He gathered them out of the lands; *
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.
- 17 Some were fools and took to rebellious ways; *
they were afflicted because of their sins.
- 18 They abhorred all manner of food *
and drew near to death's door.
- 19 Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, *
and he delivered them from their distress.
- 20 He sent forth his word and healed them *

and saved them from the grave.

21 Let them give thanks to the Lord for his mercy *
and the wonders he does for his children.

22 Let them offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving *
and tell of his acts with shouts of joy.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

The Lessons

The First Reading. *Numbers 21:4-9*

A Reading from the Book of Numbers.

From Mount Hor the Israelites set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

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

Canticle B *A Song of Pilgrimage Priusquam errarem Ecclesiasticus 51:13-16,20b-22*

Before I ventured forth,
even while I was very young, *
I sought wisdom openly in my prayer.
In the forecourts of the temple I asked for her, *
and I will seek her to the end. From first blossom to early fruit, *
she has been the delight of my heart. My foot has kept firmly to the true path, *
diligently from my youth have I pursued her. I inclined my ear a little and received her; *
I found for myself much wisdom and became adept in her.
To the one who gives me wisdom will I give glory, * for I have resolved to live according to her way.
From the beginning I gained courage from her, * therefore I will not be forsaken.

In my inmost being I have been stirred to seek her, * therefore have I gained a good possession. As my reward the Almighty has given me the gift of language,* and with it will I offer praise to God.

The Second Reading *Ephesians 2:1-10*

A Reading from Paul's First letter to the Ephesians.

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ- by grace you have been saved- and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God- not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle K *A Song of Our Adoption Ephesians 1:3-10*

Blessed are you, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, * for you have blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.

Before the world was made, you chose us to be yours in Christ, * that we should be holy and blameless before you.

You destined us for adoption as your children through Jesus Christ, * according to the good pleasure of your will, To the praise of your glorious grace, * that you have freely given us in the Beloved.

In you, we have redemption through the blood of Christ, the forgiveness of our sins, According to the riches of your grace * which you have lavished upon us.

You have made known to us, in all wisdom and insight, * the mystery of your will,

According to your good pleasure which you set forth in Christ, *

as a plan for the fullness of time,

To gather together all things in Christ, *
things in heaven and things on earth.

The Third Reading *John 3:14-21*

A Reading from the Gospel of John.

Jesus said, "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Sermon The Rev. Tracie Little

Song of Reflection *My Jesus, I Love Thee*, Kohlman

The Apostles' Creed

Officiant and People say together,

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth;**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

Officiant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Officiant Let us pray.

Officiant and People,
Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as 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 for ever. Amen.

V. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;
R. **Govern and uphold them, now and always.**
V. Day by day we bless you;
R. **We praise your name for ever.**
V. Lord, keep us from all sin today;
R. **Have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy.**
V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;
R. **For we put our trust in you.**

V. In you, Lord, is our hope;
R. **And we shall never hope in vain.**

The Collect of the Day

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

When our faith is weak and our hopes seem empty, come to us, Spirit, and fill us again. You are rich in mercy and our need is deep. And, so we pray,
Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lead us to let go of the burdens we carry: the guilt, the shame, the unrealistic expectations. Lead us to depend on you. And, so we pray,
Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Guide each of us in the decision making of our common life: in our family relationships, our churches, and our communities. And, so we pray,
Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Pull us closer to your compassionate heart. We pray for those in pain, for those who worry, for those whose livelihood is fragile, for those who grieve. We pray for...
Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Push us into the world to be the advocates for your expansive love among all the creatures you have created. And, so we pray,
Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Receive those who have died into the arms of your abundant mercy.
Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

The General Thanksgiving

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
We your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
For all your goodness and loving-kindness**

To us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
And all the blessings of this life;
But above all for your immeasurable love
In the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
For the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may
show forth your praise,
Not only with our lips, but in our lives,
By giving up our selves to your service,
And by walking before you
In holiness and righteousness all our days;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
To whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
Be honor and glory throughout all ages. **Amen.**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common
supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son, that when two or
three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our
desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and
in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

The Blessing

Live without fear: your Creator has made you holy, has always protected you, and loves you as a
parent. Go in peace to follow the good road and God's blessing, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be
with you now and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Announcements

Sending Out

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Daily Worship at 8 am on Facebook