

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 30, 2025



Prelude: Deep River arr. Kurt Kaiser

Opening Hymn: #686 Come Thou Fount Of Every Blessing

Salutation

Presider Blessed the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People **His mercy endures for ever.**

A Penitential Order

The Decalogue

Please kneel or sit

Hear the commandments of God to his people: I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage. You shall have no other gods but me. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not make for yourself any idol. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Honor your father and your mother. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not commit murder. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not commit adultery. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not steal. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not be a false witness. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your 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 commandment greater than these." *Mark 12:29-31*

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Please remain kneeling or sitting. Silence may be kept.

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, stands and 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.

Kyrie *(sung by all, standing)*

S-86

Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison
Christe eleison, Christe eleison, Christe eleison
Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison

The Collect of the Day *(Please stand)*

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

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.**

A Reading from the Book of Joshua

5:9-125

The Lord said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 32 *(sung by the choir)*

¹Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, *
and whose sin is put away!

²Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, *
and in whose spirit there is no guile!

³While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, *
because of my groaning all day long.

⁴For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; *
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.

⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you, *
and did not conceal my guilt.

⁶I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." *
Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

⁷ Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; *
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.

⁸ You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; *
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

⁹ "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; *
I will guide you with my eye.

¹⁰ Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; *
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."

¹¹ Great are the tribulations of the wicked; *
but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.

¹² Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord; *
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

A Reading from the Second Book of Corinthians

5:16-21

From now on, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn: #470 There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

The Gospel

15:1-3, 11b-32

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

All the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

So Jesus told them this parable:

"There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He

would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands."' So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe--the best one--and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

"Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon

Rev. Steve Giovangelo

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 worshipped 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

Form II

In the course of the silence after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for Bishop Jennifer; for Sean, our Presiding Bishop, for Bishop Mauricio of Brasilia, for this gathering; for all ministers and people, and for Good Samaritan, Brownsburg, Rev. James Said, Vicar. *(Please observe a period of silence.)*

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. Pray for justice and peace. *(Please observe a period of silence.)*

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble. Today we pray for **Justin, Kaitlyn, Taylor, Marilyn, Mollie, Abby, Larry, Amanda, Roger, Eva Mae, Troy, Alan, Jan, Jim, Cecelia, Roger, Damon, Sonia, Jon, Jane, Kevin, Papa Ed, Judy, Mark, Ian, Katy, Keith, Margaret, Denise, Doris, Mazie, Eric, Allie, Raelynd, Sylvia, Dorothy, Kaylen, Lester and Cheryl.** *(Please observe a period of silence.)*

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him. Pray that they may find and be found by him. *(Please observe a period of silence.)*

I ask your prayers for the departed. Pray for those who have died. *(Please observe a period of silence.)*

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored.

Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day. *(Please observe a period of silence.)*

We pray for the priest You are preparing to be our rector, and for the work of the Discernment Committee. *(Please observe a period of silence.)*

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Peace

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Birthday/Anniversary Prayers and Announcements

Offertory Anthem:

Softly and Tenderly *(sung by the choir)*

As the Ushers are passing the Collection Plate, please come forward with your gift for our Food Pantry donation and place it at the foot of the altar.

Presentation Hymn: 380, stanza 3, *Old 100th*

After the Presentation Hymn

Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.
All things come of thee oh Lord; **and of thine own have we given thee.**

Let us pray:

**You are our Bread of Life that sustains us as we strive to be your disciples and build up
Your kingdom on earth. As we are fed by You, may we feed those who are hungry for
bread, for justice, for understanding, and for compassion. May we share your mercy
and grace with all we meet. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer C

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him 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:

Sanctus (*sung by all*)

S-124

**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, the highest.**

During Lent, please kneel or sit.

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 and Mothers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God of Sarah, Rebekah, Leah, and Rachel, God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not 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, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Fraction anthem: *(sung by all)*

S-161

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

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

This table is for everyone. All who seek God are invited to share in Holy Communion.

If you wish to participate, but prefer not to receive Holy Communion, please join everyone coming forward. Cross your arms over your chest to receive a blessing. If you wish to have Holy Communion brought to your seat, or if you desire a gluten-free wafer, please let one of the Ushers know.

Communion Hymn:

#693 Just As I Am

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Solemn Prayer

In Lent, in place of a seasonal blessing, a solemn Prayer over the People is used, as follows:

Bow down before the Lord.

The people kneel or bow

Grant, Almighty God, that your people may recognize their weakness and put their whole trust in your strength, so that they may rejoice for ever in the protection of your loving providence; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn: #690 Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Dismissal

Presider Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude: Lord, I Want to Be A Christian arr. Kurt Kaiser

If you wish to offer a memorial for Altar flowers, please sign up on the flower chart in the Narthex

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

LECTORS	Tracy Pahls, Joanna Bollinger	USHERS/GREETERS	Marla and Randy Davenport
INTERCESSOR:	Brianna Owens	COUNTERS	Dave Belisle, Jennifer Albrecht
CRUCIFER:	Andy Wilkinson	OBLATIONS	Kaye Palmer, Bonnie Godfrey
CHALICE:	Melissa Kleine	ALTAR GUILD:	Team 1

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church Staff and Leaders:

Senior Warden	Heidi Kauffman
Junior Warden	Randy Davenport
Director of Music	A. Paul Johnson
Parish Administrator	Melissa Jester



St. Matthew's Episcopal Church
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