

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

St. John's Episcopal Church, Ithaca NY

March 20, 2022 Year C

10:30 AM

* Indicates please stand

Due to COVID, please sing all hymns silently in your heart rather than out loud.

Prelude *Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier (Dearest Jesus, we have gathered)*, BWV 731 J. S. Bach (1685–1750)

***Hymn** Blessed Jesus, at thy word (*Liebster Jesu*) **Hymnal #440**

***Opening Acclamation**

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen

***Collect for Purity**

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.*

***Kyrie**

Hymnal #S-98

***The Collect of The Day**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The First Lesson

Exodus 3:1–15

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the Lord said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the

Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.” But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?” He said, “I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain.”

But Moses said to God, “If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?” God said to Moses, “I am who I am.” He said further, “Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I am has sent me to you.'” God also said to Moses, “Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you':

This is my name forever,
and this my title for all generations.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 63:1–8

Deus, Deus meus

1 O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek
you; *
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh
faints for you,
as in a barren and dry land where
there is no water.

2 Therefore I have gazed upon you in your
holy place, *
that I might behold your power and
your glory.

3 For your loving-kindness is better than
life itself; *
my lips shall give you praise.

4 So will I bless you as long as I live *
and lift up my hands in your Name.

5 My soul is content, as with marrow and
fatness, *
and my mouth praises you with joyful
lips,

6 When I remember you upon my bed, *
and meditate on you in the night
watches.

7 For you have been my helper, *
and under the shadow of your wings I
will rejoice.

8 My soul clings to you; *
your right hand holds me fast.

The Epistle Reading

1 Corinthians 10:1–13

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have

come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

***The Gospel Reading**

Luke 13:1–9

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

Glory be to thee, O Lord.

At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them--do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Megan Castellan

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

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.

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.

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**

“I AM WHO I AM” bids us to journey into the promised land. In prayer, let us begin again the walk through the valley of death as we prepare to receive the promises of eternity, responding to each petition by saying, “Lord, have mercy.”

+ That we may become the fruits of God’s vineyard, not falling under the weight of our sins, but rising above by choosing the healing and life-giving promises of Yahweh; for this we pray.

Lord, have mercy.

+ That our President and his/her advisors may call upon divine wisdom to guide their thoughts and actions, so that their decisions will be for the common good of peoples and nations everywhere; for this we pray.

Lord, have mercy.

+ That we may engage in programs of ministry to feed both the body and the soul, and to tend to daily needs and spiritual hungers; for this we pray.

Lord, have mercy.

+ That we may acknowledge the times when we have fallen into temptation, when our thoughts have been hurtful and negative, asking God to free us from chains of sin and destruction; for this we pray.

Lord, have mercy.

+ In thanksgiving for our choir director and choristers who are preparing for the blessed Triduum, may their efforts bring solemnity and joy to Holy Week and Easter; for this we pray.

Lord, have mercy.

+ That we may lend support and love to those who are dying, and to those who have died in the faith, beseeching the repose of their souls; for this we pray.

Lord, have mercy.

As participants in the great exodus of God’s love, let us continue our prayers, either silently or aloud.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, and especially for:

Dave	Wes	Joan	Tina	Jon	Dean
Amelia	Jean	Laurie	Carl	James	Bridget
Mary	Vivian	Theodore	Jennifer	Jonathan	Maura
Tom	Sarah	Margaret	Ovie	Paula	The Shea
Giovanni	Felice	Pat	Stanley	Carol	family
Cindy	Edith	Heather	Carol	Lorraine	
Dan	Elaine	Judy	Sara	Cece	

For those celebrating the anniversary of their birth this week:
Ed Siemon, Lauren Way, Scott Miller

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*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.*

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

Please remain in your pews. Wave!

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

Announcements & Welcome

Offertory Sentence

*Presentation Hymn Take up your cross, the savior said (*Bourbon*)

Hymnal #675

*The Great Thanksgiving

Expanded Language Prayer A

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts

People: We lift them to the Lord

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

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

Celebrant: *continuing:* Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Holy, holy, holy (*Sanctus*)

Hymnal #S-124

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had fallen into sin and became subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, Sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and maker of all.

Jesus stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Savior Jesus Christ 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, Jesus 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."

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died

Christ is risen

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in Christ.

Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day, bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Savior. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Fraction Anthem **Lamb of God** (*Agnus Dei*)

Hymnal #S-161

The Communion of the People

All people are invited to the Lord's Table.

Eucharist will be distributed in the form of the bread with wine available for intincture. Please come forward in a single line in the center aisle to receive. Wait to remove your mask until you return to your seat, and then replace it after consuming the Sacrament.

Post Communion Prayer

*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.*

Blessing

***Hymn** All my hope on God is founded (*Michael*)

Hymnal #665

Dismissal

Postlude *Meinen Jesum laß ich nicht* (My Jesus I shall never forsake)

Johann Gottfried Walther
(1684–1748)

Liturgical Ministers: Beverly Way, Lisa Tatusko, Amber Massa

Virtual Vergers: Ben Dean, Michael Roman

The Eucharistic and Aumbry candles this month are Given to the Glory of God in memory of Edith N. Arlin and Irene T. Noss by Mary Arlin.

This morning we welcome guest Organist Mark A. Radice

Hymns

Blessed Jesus, at thy word (*Liebster Jesu*) Hymnal #440

1 Blessed Jesus, at thy word
we are gathered all to hear thee;
let our hearts and souls be stirred
now to seek and love and fear thee;
by thy teachings pure and holy,
drawn from earth to love thee solely.

2 All our knowledge, sense and sight
lie in deepest darkness shrouded,
till thy Spirit breaks our night
with the beams of truth unclouded;
thou alone to God canst win us;
thou must work all good within us.

3 Gracious Lord, thyself impart!
Light of Light, from God proceeding,
open thou our ears and heart,
help us by thy Spirit's pleading.
Hear the cry thy Church upraises;
hear, and bless our prayers and praises.

Take up your cross, the Savior said (*Bourbon*) Hymnal #675

1 Take up your cross, the Savior said,
if you would my disciple be;
take up your cross with willing heart,
and humbly follow after me.

2 Take up your cross, let not its weight
fill your weak spirit with alarm;
his strength shall bear your spirit up,
and brace your heart, and nerve your arm.

3 Take up your cross, heed not the shame,
and let your foolish heart be still!
the Lord for you accepted death
upon a cross, on Calvary's hill.

4 Take up your cross, then in his strength,
and calmly every danger brave:
it guides you to abundant life
and leads to vict'ry o'er the grave.

5 Take up your cross, and follow Christ,
nor think till death to lay it down;
for only those who bear the cross
may hope to wear the glorious crown.

All my hope on God is founded (*Michael*) Hymnal #665

1 All my hope on God is founded;
he doth still my trust renew,
me through change and chance he guideth,
only good and only true.
God unknown, he alone
calls my heart to be his own.

2 Mortal pride and earthly glory,
sword and crown betray our trust;
though with care and toil we build them,
tower and temple fall to dust.
But God's power, hour by hour,
is my temple and my tower.

3 God's great goodness e'er endureth,
deep his wisdom, passing thought:
splendor, light and life attend him,
beauty springeth out of naught.
Evermore from his store
newborn worlds rise and adore.

4 Daily doth the almighty Giver
bounteous gifts on us bestow;
his desire our soul delighteth,
pleasure leads us where we go.
Love doth stand at his hand;
joy doth wait on his command.

5 Still from earth to God eternal
sacrifice of praise be done,
high above all praises praising
for the gift of Christ, his Son.
Christ doth call one and all:
ye who follow shall not fall.



St. John's Church

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"Like" us on facebook @ Saint John's Episcopal Church

Office Hours Monday thru Thursday 10–3

The Rev. Megan Castellan, Rector

Cora Yao, Senior Warden

Chuck Merrill, Weekday Sexton

Gwen Freeman, Junior Warden

Lynne Walton, Intern

If you need pastoral assistance, or just want to reach out to Mtr. Megan, please call her at 315-757-0251, or e-mail mtrmegan@stjohnsithaca.org.

If you would like to contribute to our ministries, you may make a secure donation at <https://stjohnsithaca.org/donate/>. Thank you!

Sign up for our weekly newsletter The Fledgling by contacting the church office.

Please Join Us:

Coffee Hour has resumed in the Parish Hall following the service. Please continue to wear your mask when you are not actively eating or drinking.

Morning Prayer weekdays at 9:30 on Facebook and YouTube.

Office of Evening Prayer on Wednesdays at 6:00 pm to offer our prayers and read and meditate on God's holy word.

Forward Day by Day for February, March, and April is available on the table in the rear of the church.

2022 PLEDGE ENVELOPES, for those who use them, are on the table in the back of the nave. They are sorted alphabetically by last name. Please pick up your envelopes and take them home with you at your earliest convenience. If you do not find your envelopes, or have never had envelopes and wish to begin using them, please contact the parish office: (607) 273-6532 or office@stjohnsithaca.org.

NEWCOMERS: We extend a warm welcome to visitors and newcomers. It is good to have you with us! Please help us get to know you by filling out one of the welcome cards in the pews and placing it on the collection plate or giving it to one of the ushers, and do stay for coffee in the parish hall after the service. **LARGE PRINT EDITIONS OF THE SERVICE ARE AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX.**

On **Thursday, March 24th, 7:00–8:00 PM**, Area Congregations Together is inviting all community members to gather for a **Rally and Vigil in Support of Peace in Ukraine** at the Bernie Milton Pavilion (Seneca and Tioga Streets) on the Ithaca Commons. Come with your friends, your congregations, your children. Come with signs and candles to light the evening. Area faith leaders and others will speak. *In consideration of everyone's health, mask wearing is requested.*

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