

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

St. John's Episcopal Church, Ithaca NY

March 27, 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 Two settings of *Aus der tiefer rufe ich* (Forty Days and Forty Nights) Charles Callahan (b. 1951)
Malcolm Archer (b. 1952)

***Hymn** Lord, who throughout these forty days (*St. Flavin*) **Hymnal #142 vs. 1, 4 & 5**

***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.

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*

The First Lesson

Exodus 3:1–15

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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

- 1 Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, *
and whose sin is put away!
- 2 Happy are they to whom
the Lord imputes no guilt, *
and in whose spirit there is no guile!
- 3 While I held my tongue, my bones
withered away, *
because of my groaning all day long.
- 4 For your hand was heavy upon me day
and night; *
my moisture was dried up as in the
heat of summer.
- 5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you, *
and did not conceal my guilt.
- 6 I 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.

The Epistle Reading

2 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.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Reading*Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32**

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

Glory be to thee, O Lord.

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.'"

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.

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**

In Christ our sins are forgiven; we are reconciled with one another and made a new creation. Let us offer our petitions to God in thanksgiving, responding, "Lord, have mercy."

+ Jesus, you have given us the gift of reconciliation; may we embrace those who have sinned against us, and may we receive the embrace of those who offer us forgiveness for the pain we have caused; for this we pray.

Lord, have mercy.

+ Yahweh, you led your people through the waters of the Red Sea and into the desert of their awakening; lead us through this season of Lent, that we may be awakened to your presence within our life, and prepared for your victory over death; for this we pray.

Lord, have mercy.

+ Spirit of Truth, you reveal your likeness in the faces of the poor, the anxious, the forsaken, and those whom others judge unkindly; help us to touch and be touched by their grace; for this we pray.

Lord, have mercy.

+ Father of all, welcome into the household of faith those who question their worthiness to follow you, and give them the courage and strength to join in the ministry of the prophets, apostles, and all the saints; for this we pray.

Lord, have mercy.

+ Prince of Peace, help the peoples of the nations of the world to respect all cultures, races, and traditions which comprise the human family, and give us mutual trust that will bring peace on earth, especially in Ukraine; for this we pray.

Lord, have mercy.

+ Holy Comforter, be present with those who are ill, embrace those who mourn, and open the gates of paradise to those who have fallen asleep in the faith of Christ; for this we pray.

Lord, have mercy.

In gratitude for having been found when we were lost, and accepted when we went astray, let us continue our prayers.

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	
Tom	Sarah	Margaret	Ovie	Paula	
Giovanni	Felice	Pat	Stanley	Carol	
Cindy	Edith	Heather	Carol	Lorraine	
Dan	Elaine	Judy	Sara	Cece	

For those celebrating the anniversary of their birth this week:
William Hoekenga, Aelish Roman, Heather Dietz, Ryan Welsh, Lexie Hain

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 pew. Wave!

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

Announcements & Welcome

Offertory Sentence

***Presentation Hymn** There is a wideness in God's mercy (*Beecher*)

Hymnal #470

***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** Guide me, O thou great Jehovah (*Cum Rhondda*)

Hymnal #690

Dismissal

Postlude Solemn Recessional

Martin Setchell (b. 1949)

Liturgical Ministers: Muriel Everhart, Gwen Freeman, Michael Roman

Virtual Vergers: Virginia McGhee, Ben Dean

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

This morning we welcome guest Organist Barbara Adler

Hymns

Lord, who throughout these forty days (St. Flavin)

Hymnal # 142 vs. 1, 4 & 5

1. Lord, who throughout these forty days
for us didst fast and pray,
teach us with thee to mourn our sins
and close by thee to stay.

4. And through these days of penitence,
and through thy Passiontide,
yea, evermore, in life and death,
Jesus! with us abide.

5. Abide with us, that so, this life
of suffering overpast,
an Easter of unending joy
we may attain at last!

There's a wideness in God's mercy (Beecher)
Hymnal #470

1 There's a wideness in God's mercy
like the wideness of the sea;
there's a kindness in his justice,
which is more than liberty.
There is welcome for the sinner,
and more graces for the good;
there is mercy with the Savior;
there is healing in his blood.

2 There is no place where earth's sorrows
are more felt than up in heaven;
there is no place where earth's failings
have such kindly judgment given.
There is plentiful redemption
in the blood that has been shed;
there is joy for all the members
in the sorrows of the Head.

3 For the love of God is broader
than the measure of the mind;
and the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more faithful,
we should take him at his word;
and our life would be thanksgiving
for the goodness of the Lord.

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah (Cum Rhondda)
Hymnal #690

1 Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy powerful hand;
bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore,
feed me now and evermore.

2 Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through;
strong deliverer, strong deliverer.
be thou still my strength and shield,
be thou still my strength and shield.

3 When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side;
songs of praises, songs of praises,
I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.



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
Parish Administrator
Director of Music/Organist

Gwen Freeman, Junior Warden
Chuck Merrill, Weekday Sexton
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.**

EASTER FLOWERS: If you wish to make a contribution to the purchase of Easter flowers for the altar, please use this form so that we can include your loved one's name(s) on the list of those being memorialized. You may place this slip in the offering plate or mail it to the Parish Office by **Monday, April 11** for inclusion in the Easter Day bulletin.

\$ _____ Given for Easter Flowers in memory of: _____

PLEASE GIVE FIRST (CHRISTIAN) AND LAST NAMES of those to be memorialized.

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