

The First Sunday in Lent
St. John's Episcopal Church, Ithaca NY
18 February 2024 Year B
10:30 AM

* Indicates please stand

Prelude Cantilena

Florence Price (1887–1953)

***Processional Hymn** Eternal Lord of Love (*Old 124th*)

Hymnal #149

***Opening Acclamation**

BCP 355

***Collect For Purity**

***Kyrie**

Hymnal #S-96

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: 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 First Lesson

Genesis 9:8–17

God said to Noah and to his sons with him, “As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 25:1–9

Ad te, Domine, levavi

1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you; *
let me not be humiliated,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.

let the treacherous be disappointed
in their schemes.

2 Let none who look to you be put to
shame; *

3 Show me your ways, O Lord, *
and teach me your paths.

4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, *
for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long.

5 Remember, O Lord, your compassion
and love, *
for they are from everlasting.

6 Remember not the sins of my youth and
my transgressions; *
remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your goodness,
O Lord.

7 Gracious and upright is the Lord; *
therefore he teaches sinners in his
way.

8 He guides the humble in doing right *
and teaches his way to the lowly.

9 All the paths of the Lord are love and
faithfulness *
to those who keep his covenant and
his testimonies.

The Epistle Reading

1 Peter 3:18–22

Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you-- not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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

Hymnal #142, vs. 1–2

***The Gospel Reading**

Mark 1:9–15

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

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

Hymnal #142, vs. 3–4

The Sermon

The Rev. Taylor Daynes

***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**

God's holy bow is set in the clouds, establishing a covenant with us forever. In thanksgiving we offer our prayers, responding, "Christ, have mercy."

+ Quench the flames of spiritual strife: our desire for material goods, our greed and selfishness, our distrust of others, our pride and self-righteousness; that we may repent of our sins, and believe in the good news; Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

+ Inspire us to reach out to those who are suffering from abuse, neglect, and abandonment, and to provide a safe environment for the healing of their wounds; Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

+ Give to our President and his advisors honesty and trustworthiness in all their dealings, so that they may come before their people with a good conscience and the integrity that flows from a sound spirit; Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

+ Nurture those who are preparing for rites of initiation: baptism, confirmation, reception, and reaffirmation, that they may know of the saving message of God and his wondrous love; Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

+ Precede and follow us during these forty days of Lent, so that we may be prepared to enter into the solemnity of your passion, and rejoice in your victory over death; Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

+ Receive the dead into your merciful arms, that they may reside eternally with you in the company of the saints in heaven; Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and guide our reason and imaginations as we continue the offering of our prayers.

Oh God of all justice and peace, we cry out to you in the midst of the pain and trauma of violence and fear which prevails in the Holy Land. Be with those who need you in these days of suffering; we pray for people of all faiths—Jews, Muslims, and Christians and for all people of the land.

While we pray to you, O Lord, for an end to violence and making of peace, we also call to you to bring justice and equity to the peoples. Guide us into your kingdom where all people are treated with dignity and honor as your children, for to all of us you are our Heavenly Father.

In Jesus' name we pray.

God of mercy and compassion, who wept with Rachel as she lamented over her children—be with us, who lament the plague of gun violence that lies heavy over our land. Open our eyes to see the ways we might transform the shadow of strife and death into the way of love and peace. Strengthen us to tirelessly care for one another, that we may truly find our security in the boundless love you call us to, and lead us all to your promised future, where no sword will be drawn against another, and no power known but the power of love. All this we ask through the name of your Son, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

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

Joan	Richard	Theodore	Avery	Sandy	Mary Beth
Charles	Linda	Lorraine	Nathan	Amelia	Jack
Wes	Jim	Edith	Jane	Michael	Julianne
Virginia	Gerald	Kathryn	Chris	Susan	
Shirley	Cece	Sarah	Carole	Jeff	

For those celebrating the anniversary of their birth this week:
Rosemary McKee

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

Anthem God so loved the world

John Stainer (1840–1901)

***Presentation Hymn** Forgive our sins as we forgive (*Detroit*)

Hymnal #674

***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-113

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-157

The Communion of the People

All people are invited to the Lord's Table.

Eucharist will be distributed in the center aisle. Please come forward in a single line to receive.

You may either intinct your wafer in the small chalice, or you may drink from the larger common chalice after consuming the wafer.

Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

Communion Hymn O love, how deep, how broad, how high (*Deo gracias*)

Hymnal #449

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

***Recessional** Forty days and forty nights (*Aus der Tiefe rufe ich*)

Hymnal #150

Dismissal

Postlude Prelude in G Minor, BWV 558

J. S. Bach (1685–1750)

Acolyte: Amber Massa

Crucifer: Ian Lundberg

Liturgical Ministers: Ceril Sandstrom, Beverly Way, Margaret Johnson

Virtual Vergers Michael Roman, Amber Massa

This morning we welcome the Rev. Taylor Daynes as our guest celebrant and preacher.

St. John's extends a warm welcome to visitors!

May you experience the Lord's presence during worship. Please fill out a visitor card and place it in the offering plate and stay for coffee in the parish hall after the service.

**LARGE PRINT EDITIONS OF THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER ARE AVAILABLE
IN THE NARTHEX**

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

Office Hours Monday thru Thursday 10–3

Rector

Beverly Way, Senior Warden
Parish Administrator
Elisabeth Wang, Director of Music/Organist

Pamela Talbott, Junior Warden
Chuck Merrill, Weekday Sexton

If you need pastoral assistance, please call or text the Senior Warden at 607-232-4465.

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. Masks are optional when you are not actively eating or drinking.

Lenten Soup Supper: Please join us for our Lenten program of reflection and spiritual connectedness on Friday, February 23. We will begin with soup supper at 6:00 followed around 6:30 by the adult forum based on Richard Rohr's *Wondrous Encounters for Lent*.

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

Flowers: If you wish to give Sunday flowers in memory of a loved one, please call the church office (607-273-6532).