

The Third Sunday in Lent
St. John's Episcopal Church, Ithaca NY
3 March 2024 Year B
10:30 AM

* Indicates please stand

Prelude *Andante tranquillo* from Sonata No. 3 Felix Mendelssohn (1809–47)

***Processional Hymn** From deepest woe I cry to thee (*Aus tiefer Not*) **Hymnal #151**

***Opening Acclamation** **BCP 355**

***Collect For Purity**

***Kyrie** **Hymnal #S-96**

The Collect of the Day

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 20:1–17

Then God spoke all these words:

I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 19

Caeli enarrant

Samuel Sebastian Wesley



1 The heavens declare the | glory of |
God, *
and the | firmament | shows his |
handiwork.

2 One day tells its | tale to an | other, *
and one night imparts |
knowledge | to an | other.

3 Although they have no | words or |
language, *
and their | voices | are not |
heard,

4 Their sound has gone out into | all |
lands, *
and their message to the | ends |
of the | world.

5 In the deep has he set a pa-| vilion
for the | sun; *
it comes forth like a bridegroom
out of his chamber; it rejoices like
a | champion to | run its | course.

6 It goes forth from the uttermost edge
of the heavens and runs about to
the | end of it a | gain; *
nothing is | hidden from its |
burning | heat.

7 The law of the Lord is perfect and re-
| vives the | soul; *

the testimony of the Lord is sure and
gives | wisdom | to the | innocent.

8 The statutes of the Lord are just and re-|
joice the | heart; *
the commandment of the Lord is clear
and gives | light | to the | eyes.

9 The fear of the Lord is clean and en-|
dures for-| ever; *
the judgments of the Lord are true and |
righteous | alto-| gether.

10 More to be desired are they than gold,
more than | much fine | gold, *
sweeter far than honey, than | honey |
in the | comb.

11 By them also is your | servant en-|
lightened, *
and in keeping them | there is | great re-
| ward.

12 Who can tell how | often he of-| fends? *
— | cleanse me from my | secret |
faults.

13 Above all, keep your servant from
presumptuous sins; let them not get do-
| minion | over me; *
then shall I be whole and sound, and |
innocent of a | great of-| fense.

14 Let the words of my mouth and the
meditation of my heart be ac-|ceptable
in your | sight, *

O Lord, my | strength and | my re-|
deemer.

The Epistle Reading

1 Corinthians 1:18–25

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

***Sequence** Thou, whose almighty word (*Moscon*)

Hymnal #371 vs. 1–2

***The Gospel Reading**

John 2:13–22

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, “Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father’s house a marketplace!” His disciples remembered that it was written, “Zeal for your house will consume me.” The Jews then said to him, “What sign can you show us for doing this?” Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” The Jews then said, “This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?” But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

***Sequence** Thou, whose almighty word (*Moscon*)

Hymnal #371 vs. 3–4

The Sermon

The Rev. Kit Tobin

***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 the wilderness of temptation, God's victorious love makes the desert bloom. In gratitude let us offer our prayers on behalf of the world in which we live, responding, "Christ, have mercy."

+ That our churches may be houses of prayer, education, ministry and transformation, where the people of God seek the holy road, and welcome others on its path; Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

+ That we may commit ourselves to the commandments of God, and living by their precepts may have a secure foundation for our common life, and the freedom of the Holy Spirit; Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

+ That we may freely share with those in need, and receive from them the spiritual grace that sustains their lives; Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

+ For a return to the Sabbath rest, that our towns, retail stores, families, and athletic teams may honor the need for a time of refreshment, wherein God's Name is praised; Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

+ For the good stewardship of God's extraordinary gifts and a generosity of time and purse that flows from a heart of gratitude and thanksgiving; Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

+ That we may discern the cross as the forerunner of victory, and by its power live faithfully through times of despair so that, with all who have died, we may experience the greater joy of eternal life; Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy as we join with all the saints at rest, on whose constant intercessions we rely.

We pray without ceasing for justice, reconciliation, peace, and an end to hatred and war. We also pray for God to change the hearts of all the leaders and decision-makers in our countries and around the world. For we are in dire need of hearts that love, show mercy, and are willing to live in unity with others; hearts that respect human dignity and choose life rather than death.

God of peace and justice, hear our prayers. Amen

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

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

For those celebrating the anniversary of their birth this week:

Sue Dale-Hall, Dani Wassink, Brian Richardson, Mary Yaple, Shannon Dortch

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 Lord, for Thy Tender Mercy's Sake

John Hilton (d. 1608)

***Presentation Hymn** Before thy Throne, O God, we kneel (*St. Petersburg*)

Hymnal #574

***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 Music We sing the praise of him who died (*Breslau*)
Rock of Ages (*Toplady*)

Hymnal #471

Hymnal #685

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

Hymnal #142

Dismissal

Postlude *Fuga* from Concerto in D Minor, BWV 596 A. Vivaldi, arr. J. S. Bach (1685–1750)

Acolyte: Amber Massa

Liturgical Ministers: Muriel Everhart, Michael Roman, Sally Clayton

Virtual Vergers Sara LanLooy, Michael Roman

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

This morning we welcome The Rev. Kit Tobin as our celebrant and guest 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

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from **One License** with license # **A**
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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.

St. John's Game Night continues with the next event on **Friday, March 8**. Hot food at 6, and games from 6:30. Come and enjoy the fun and company. Bring friends and a snack if you wish.

Lenten Soup Supper: Please join us for our next Lenten program of reflection and spiritual connectedness on **Friday, March 15**. We will begin with soup supper at 6:00 pm followed around 6:30 pm 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 candles or Sunday flowers in memory of a loved one, please call the church office (607-273-6532).