

The First Sunday of Lent

Morning Prayer Rite II

Sunday, February 21, 2021

Welcome & Announcements

Opening Hymn: By the waters of Babylon

Lead by the Holy Apostles Choir

Presider Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

All God's mercy endures forever.

The Decalogue

Lead by Sophie Delphis

Opening Sentence

Presider Rend your hearts and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and repents of evil. *Joel 2:13*

Confession of Sin & Absolution

Presider Let us confess our sins against God and one another.

All **Almighty God, Source of all that is, Giver of every good gift:
You create all people in your image and call us to love one another as you love us.
We confess that we have failed to honor you in the great diversity of the human family. We have desired to live in freedom,
while building walls between ourselves and others.
We have longed to be known and accepted for who we are,
while making judgements of others based on the color of skin, or the shape of features, or the varieties of human experience.
We have tried to love our neighbors individually
while yet benefitting from systems that hold those same neighbors in oppression.
Forgive us, Holy God.
Give us eyes to see you as you are revealed in all people.
Strengthen us for the work of reconciliation rooted in love.
Restore us in your image, to be beloved community,**

**united in our diversity,
even as you are one with Christ and the Spirit,
Holy and undivided Trinity, now and for ever.
Amen**

Presider 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 Invitatory & Psalter

Presider Lord, open our lips.

People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

All **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

Presider The Lord is full of compassion and mercy. Come let us adore him.

Kyrie

Sung by all

The Psalm of the Day 25:1-9

Led by Karan Merry

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 none who look to you be put to shame; *
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.
Show me your ways, O Lord, *
and teach me your paths.
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.
Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, *
for they are from everlasting.
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.
Gracious and upright is the Lord; *
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
He guides the humble in doing right *
and teaches his way to the lowly.
All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness *
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

All **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

The Lessons

A reading from the book of Genesis

Read by Tom Rigney

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.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Hymn

Wade in the Water

sung by Taiwan Norris

A reading from the Gospel of Mark

Read by Deacon John Musco

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 word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Sermon

The Rev. Sarah Kooperkamp

Canticle 14

A Song of Penitence

sung by Sophie Delphis

The Apostles Creed

said in unison

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Offertory

We give thanks to God for all we have and all we are. You can give securely online here:

<https://onrealm.org/holyapostles/give/website>

Doxology

Sung by all

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise him all creatures here below,
Praise him above ye heav'nly hosts,
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Presider And now as our Savior Jesus has taught us, we are bold to pray:

The Lord's Prayer LEVAS-264

Sung by all

Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed by 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

The Prayers

Led by Janet Kaplan

Merciful God, come to us as you came to Noah.

Come to the caves of our lives –
 caves we have created,
 and caves we have sought;
Caves to which we have been sent,
 caves in which we now reside.

Come to the caves of our world –
 caves of containment,
 and caves of protection;
Caves of solace and anxiety,
 caves that quickly become tombs.

Gracious God, come to us as you came to Abraham and Sarah.

Call us back to life –
 life created by you,
 and life sustained by you;
Life in relationship with you,
 life in service to others.

Call us back to life –
 life that is hope in despair,
 and peace in unsettled times.

Life that is joy in sorrow,
 love beyond understanding.

Loving God, come to us as you came to Moses.

Unbind us and set us free –
 liberate shackles of sadness,
 and burdens too heavy to bear.

Release us from fear that inhibits
 deliver us in your grace.

Unbind us and set us free –
 call us to community,
 and fuel us for connection.

Show us your way,
 inspire us to walk with you.

Through the renewing power of your Spirit,
and grounded in the words you teach us to pray.

Dear people of God, what else, and who else, should we pray for?

*** Please give silence after each person speaks before you add your petition. If you do not have a petition or if there is too much background noise in your home, please mute yourself. You can also write your prayer in the chat.*

Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

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.

Lenten Prayer *by Henri Nouwen*

led by

The Lenten season begins. It is a time to be with you, Lord, in a special way, a time to pray, to fast, and thus to follow you on your way to Jerusalem, to Golgotha, and to the final victory over death.

I am still so divided. I truly want to follow you, but I also want to follow my own desires and lend an ear to the voices that speak about prestige, success, pleasure, power, and influence. Help me to become deaf to these voices and more attentive to your voice, which calls me to choose the narrow road to life.

I know that Lent is going to be a very hard time for me. The choice for your way has to be made every moment of my life. I have to choose thoughts that are your thoughts, words that are your words, and actions that are your actions. There are not times or places without choices. And I know how deeply I resist choosing you.

Please, Lord, be with me at every moment and in every place. Give me the strength and the courage to live this season faithfully, so that, when Easter comes, I will be able to taste with joy the new life that you have prepared for me. Amen.

Concluding Prayer

Holy and everliving God,

by your power we are created and by your love we are redeemed;

Guide and strengthen us by your Spirit, that we may give ourselves to your service, and live each day in love to one another and to you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Benediction

Presider May Christ who calls you to take up your cross give you strength to bear your own and one another's burdens and the blessing of God our Creator, Redeemer and Giver of life be with you always. Amen.

Closing Hymn: The Glory of these Forty Days

Sung by all

Dismissal

Deacon Let us bless the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God!**

Passing of the Peace

Time for Check-in

Parish Announcements

Save the date for Saya & Shawn's baby shower - Sunday, February, 28th immediately after the 10am service. Interested in contributing to a gift? You can do so here:

<https://onrealm.org/holyapostles/give/sayas>