

The Fourth Sunday of Lent

Morning Prayer Rite II

Sunday, March 14, 2021

Welcome & Announcements

Opening Music : Höchster, was ich habe

Hirona Amamiya and Alice Avouris

Presider Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

All God's mercy endures forever.

The Decalogue

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 107:1-22

Led by Missy Trull

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, *
and his mercy endures for ever.
Let all those whom the Lord has redeemed proclaim *
that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe.
He gathered them out of the lands; *
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.
Some were fools and took to rebellious ways; *
they were afflicted because of their sins.
They abhorred all manner of food *
and drew near to death's door.
Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, *
and he delivered them from their distress.
He sent forth his word and healed them *
and saved them from the grave.
Let them give thanks to the Lord for his mercy *
and the wonders he does for his children.
Let them offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving *
and tell of his acts with shouts of joy.

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 Numbers

Read by Erin McNaughton

From Mount Hor the Israelites set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Hymn

Just as I am

sung by Hirona Amamiya

A reading from the Gospel of John

Read by Asa Swain

Jesus said, "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Sermon

Deacon John Musco

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 Heather Kelly

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.

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.*

Lenten Prayer

led by Ellie Berlyn

Joyful praise in Lent?

I'm not sure I always feel that.

**I ask you to help me prepare to understand
and embrace the paschal mystery in my life.**

**I don't always see the beauty and mystery
of this season
and often I run from the pain.**

**Help me to see how your saving grace
and your loving touch in my life
can fill me with joyful praise of the salvation
you have sent to me.**

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: What Wondrous Love Is This

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

Holy Week & Easter at Holy Apostles

Holy Week is fast approaching. Our schedule for Palm Sunday (March 28th) through the first Sunday of Easter (April 11th)

- **Palm Sunday**
 - **10am Zoom Service**
 - **12noon Procession of the Palm (meet in front of the Church)**
- **Maundy Thursday**
 - **5pm Agape Meal Zoom**
 - **7:30pm Zoom service**
- **Good Friday**
 - **12noon Zoom service**
- **Easter Vigil**
 - **8pm in person with Eucharist**
- **Easter Day**
 - **10am Zoom**
- **2nd Sunday of Easter**
 - **10am Zoom**
 - **11am This Little Light & Easter Egg Hunt for small children 5 and under**
 - **11:30am Coffee Hour to Go at church**