

# THE HOLY EUCHARIST

The Fourth Sunday of Lent – March 22, 2020

## WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Jesus said, "If anyone will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me." *Mark 8:34*

### PENITENTIAL ORDER

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to set forth his praise, to hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship him, let us kneel in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

### Confession

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.

### Assurance of Forgiveness

#### THE PSALTER

*Officiant* Lord, open our lips.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**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.**

*Officiant* The Lord is full of compassion and mercy:

*People* **Come let us adore him.**

### Jubilate *Psalm 100*

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; serve the Lord with gladness  
Know this: The Lord himself is God; he himself has made us, and we are his;  
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.  
Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise;  
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.  
For the Lord is good; God's mercy is everlasting;  
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

*Officiant* The Lord is full of compassion and mercy:

*People* **Come let us adore him.**

### Psalm 23

*The psalms are spiritual poetry of ancient Israel*

- <sup>1</sup> The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.
- <sup>2</sup> **He makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**
- <sup>3</sup> He revives my soul and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
- <sup>4</sup> **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;  
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**
- <sup>5</sup> You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me;  
you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.
- <sup>6</sup> **Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.**

**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.**

#### READING FROM THE HEBREW BIBLE I Samuel 16:1-13

The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons."

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord." But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the

youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.” He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, “Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.” Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

*Reader*     **The Word of the Lord.**

*People*     **Thanks be to God.**

**CANTICLE 9**   The First Song of Isaiah

*Isaiah 12:2-6*

Surely, it is God who saves me; I will trust in God and not be afraid.  
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, and God will be my Savior.  
Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing from the springs of salvation.  
And on that day you shall say, Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;  
Make God’s deeds known among the peoples;  
    see that they remember that his Name is exalted.  
Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things,  
    and this is known in all the world.  
Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy,  
    for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.  
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.

**SECOND READING**

John 9:1-41

*The gospels are stories of Jesus’ life*

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

*People*     **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” He answered,

“The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind.

If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.” Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

## SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Kate Heichler

## HYMN (Standing)

There's a wideness

Hymnal 470

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ti\\_3-cSqdPc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ti_3-cSqdPc)

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

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 PRAYERS

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Officiant* Let us pray.

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be 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 trespasses,**

**as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation,**

**but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

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.**

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life, especially for (*prayer list*)... and other blessings we name aloud or in silence: (*our prayers*)...

God, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

**That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

**That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

We pray for our Bishops Michael, Mariann and Chilton, and for all bishops, priests, deacons and lay ministers;

**That we may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

We pray for the needs of the world, especially... For the President, Congress and local leaders, for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

**That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

**That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Let us pray for the desires of our hearts. For the sick and those in need, especially... (*prayer list*) and any other needs we name now in silence or aloud (*our prayers*).

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

**That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Give to the departed eternal rest.  
**Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise you for those who have died..., for those we name now in silence or aloud...  
and for all your saints who have entered into joy;  
**May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

HYMN

[Just as I am](#), vv.

Hymnal 693

#### **A PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them:  
Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

#### **COMMUNITY NEWS**

##### **DISMISSAL**

*Officiant* Let us bless the Lord!

*People* **Thanks be to God!**

*Officiant* Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. *Amen. Ephesians 3:20,21*

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