

Morning Prayer

Sunday, March 29, 2020 – Lent V

Officiant: The Rev'd Benjamin Gillard
Preacher: The Rev'd Anthony Bassett

The Gathering of the Community

Officiant Lord, open our lips,
People And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Officiant O God, make speed to save us.
People O Lord, make haste to help us.

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 our refuge and strength:
People O come, let us worship.

Venite *Psalm 95.1–7*

Officiant Come, let us sing to the Lord;
All **let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and raise a loud shout to him with psalms. For the Lord is a great God, and a great king above all gods. In his hand are the caverns of the earth, and the heights of the hills are his also. The sea is his for he made it, and his hands have moulded the dry land. Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, and kneel before the Lord our maker. For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!**

Officiant The Lord is our refuge and strength:
People O come, let us worship.

First Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14

Reader A reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel.
The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord."

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these

slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord."

Reader The word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 130

Please join on the even (bolded) verses of the psalm.

1. Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord.
 Lord, hear my voice!
2. **Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my supplications!**
3. If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,
 Lord, who could stand?
4. **But there is forgiveness with you,
so that you may be revered.**
5. I wait for the Lord, my soul waits,
 and in his word I hope;
6. **my soul waits for the Lord
more than those who watch for the morning,
more than those who watch for the morning.**
7. O Israel, hope in the Lord!
 For with the Lord there is steadfast love,
 and with him is great power to redeem.
8. **It is he who will redeem Israel
from all its iniquities.**
9. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
10. **as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

Second Reading: Romans 8:6-11

Reader A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Reader The word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle: Song from Jeremiah *Jeremiah 31:10-14*

Officiant
All

Hear the word of the Lord, O nations;
tell it on the far-off shores:
**“He who scattered Israel will gather
and guard them as a shepherd his flock.”**
For the Lord has ransomed Jacob,
redeemed them from a foe too strong.
They will come and sing for joy on Zion’s height,
radiant at the bounty of the Lord: the grain, the new wine, the oil,
the young of flock and herd.
Their life like a watered garden,
they will never want again.
Then will maidens show their joy in the dance;
men, young and old, will rejoice.
I shall turn their mourning into gladness,
give comfort and joy for their sorrow.
I shall satisfy the priests with abundance,
and fill my people with my bounty.

Gospel Reading: John 11:1-45

Reader

The Lord be with you.

People

And also with you.

Reader

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

People

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, “Lord, he whom you love is ill.” But when Jesus heard it, he said, “This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God’s glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.” Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to the disciples, “Let us go to Judea again.” The disciples said to him, “Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?” Jesus answered, “Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.” After saying this, he told them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.” The disciples said to him, “Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.” Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, “Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.” Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.”

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.” Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” Martha said to him, “I know

that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world." When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?" Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go." Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

Reader The Gospel of Christ.
All Thanks be to God.

Sermon

The Rev'd Anthony Bassett

The Apostles' Creed

All 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.

Intercessions

Leader Let us pray to God, who alone makes us dwell in safety, saying "Lord, hear our prayer." For all who are affected by coronavirus, through illness or isolation or anxiety, that they may find relief and recovery:

All **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader For those who are guiding our nation at this time, and shaping national policies, that they may make wise decisions:

All **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader For doctors, nurses and medical researchers, that through their skill and insights many will be restored to health:

All **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader For the vulnerable and the fearful, for the gravely ill and the dying, that they may know your comfort and peace:

All **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader We commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray, to the mercy and protection of God.

All **Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Collect

Officiant Let us pray. Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us with the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ, and serve you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Officiant And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All **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,

the power, and the glory,

for ever and ever. Amen.

Doxology

Officiant
All

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

Blessing

Officiant

May the God of mercy transform you by his grace, and the blessing of God
almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with
you always. **Amen.**

Hymn: *Take Up Your Cross, the Saviour Said*

Take up your cross, the Saviour said, if you would my disciple be;
deny yourself, the world forsake, and humbly follow after me.

Take up your cross; let not its weight fill your weak soul with vain alarm;
His strength shall bear your spirit up, and brace your heart, and nerve your arm.

Take up your cross, nor heed the shame, and let your foolish pride be still;
your Lord for you endured to die upon a cross, on Calvary's hill.

Take up your cross, then, in his strength, and calmly every danger brave:
'twill guide you to a better home and lead to victory o'er the grave.

Take up your cross and follow Christ, nor think till death to lay it down;
For only those who bear the cross may hope to wear the glorious crown.

Dismissal

Officiant
All

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Announcements