



St. Francis' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Sunday, March 27, 2022

The Fourth Sunday in Lent



Return to God

ABOUT WORSHIP IN THE SEASON OF LENT

Colors: We replace the green of Epiphany with purple and burlap. Purple is the color of humility, penance, and wisdom that comes from inward discernment. It is also the color of royalty. The extreme differences between the two (humility and royalty) express one of the great lessons of Lent: Christ as the servant-king and our attempt to be as such to the world as well. In penitential theology, purple is the color of inward reflection, which is one of the important things we are called to do each Lent in preparation for Easter. Burlap is a rough and simple cloth. It signifies the fasting, doing without, of Lent. (Attribution: <https://doers.org/liturgical-colors-of-the-church/>)

Seating: Our chairs are turned to face one another. This stark contrast from our usual forward facing chair arrangement wakes us up to Lent as a season different from all others. In Lent, we seek to turn to God more fully. We face one another to confess our need for God and the ways in which we have not loved God and our neighbors with our whole hearts.

Baptismal Font: The baptismal bowl is removed and Christ's cross replaces it. This serves as a reminder that "the spiritual grace of our baptism is union with Christ in his death and resurrection" (Book of Common Prayer, Catechism, p. 858).

Lectionary: The lectionary is an ordered system for reading the Holy Scriptures at the Eucharist. The Episcopal Church typically uses the Revised Common Lectionary, as do Roman Catholics, Lutherans and other denominations. This lenten season, with the encouragement of the Bishop and the full endorsement of St. Francis' Worship Committee, our readings come from *A Women's Lectionary for the Whole Church* by Wilda Gafney. Gafney writes that the aim of her lectionary is to "specifically and intentionally make women visible in the lectionary text. This will inevitably seem strange to some hearers or readers. Some will find it welcome and a signifier of inclusion. Some will find it discordant ... My language, like all language, is simply inadequate to express the fullness of God in and beyond the world or even in human creation." If you would like more information about *A Women's Lectionary*, watch the Forum on it led by Rev. Laurie on our YouTube channel or ask at the office for further reading. Questions or comments? Schedule a time to speak with seminarian David Luckes or Rev. Laurie.

Music: As a season of fasting and quiet contemplation, our music is scaled back. We open in silent meditation and speak the parts of the mass—Holy, Great Amen and Lamb of God.

At St. Francis we say, "there are no mistakes in worship." If you sit or stand at a different time than others or sing off key, it is all pleasing to the God we worship. All we do and all we are is brought before God as an offering in our Eucharist.

Bell rings three times to initiate silence. Silence is kept for a time of prayerful reflection.

Silence ends when the bell rings one time.

Stand as the Presider enters.

A PENITENTIAL ORDER

Presider Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People **His mercy endures for ever.**

Presider Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says:

Jesus said, "The first [commandment] is: Hear, O Israel: the Holy One our God, the Holy is One; you shall love the Holy One your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this, you shall love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these."

Mark 12:29-31

Presider Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence is kept.

Presider and people

**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.**

Presider Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins
through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness,
and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

People **Amen.**

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up -

on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -

on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -

on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider God is with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

Draw us, O God, to your heart at the heart of the world, at once joyful, expectant, and loving, that we may care for others as you care for us, each and every moment of our lives; in the name of your Beloved, our Savior Jesus Christ.

People **Amen.**

THE LESSONS *Sit*

THE FIRST LESSON

Reader

A reading from the Song of Songs.

4:7-16

To a woman...

All of you is beautiful, my beloved companion;
there is no flaw in you.
With me! From Lebanon, my bride, come with me;
come with me from Lebanon.
Depart from the peak of Amana,
from the peak of Senir and Hermon,
from the dens of lions,
from the mountains of leopards.
My heart is yours, my sister, my bride,
my heart is yours with just one of your eyes,
with one jewel of your necklace.
How beautiful is your love, my sister, my bride!
How much better is your love than wine,
and the fragrance of your oils more than every spice!
Honied sweetness drips from your lips, my bride;
honey and milk are under your tongue;
the scent of your garments is like the scent of Lebanon.
A garden locked is my sister, my bride,
a garden locked, a fountain sealed.
Your limbs are an orchard of pomegranates
with all choicest fruits: henna with nard,
nard and saffron, sweet cane and cinnamon,
with every kind of frankincense tree,
myrrh and aloes, with all the best spices:
A garden spring, a well of living water,
streaming from Lebanon.

To a woman's beloved...

Awake, Zaphon, northern wind,
and come, Teman, southern wind!
Blow upon my garden
that its spice-scent might flow.
Let my beloved come to their garden,
and partake of its choicest fruits.

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM OF THE DAY

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Reader Give thanks to the Fount of Life, who is good,
People **for her faithful love is everlasting;**

Reader Give thanks to the God of Gods,
People **for her faithful love is everlasting;**

Reader Give thanks to the Majesty of Majesties,
People **for her faithful love is everlasting;**

Reader who alone does great wonders,
People **for her faithful love is everlasting;**

Reader who through insight made the heavens,
People **for her faithful love is everlasting;**

Reader to the one who spread out the land upon the waters,
People **for her faithful love is everlasting;**

Reader to the one who made the great lights,
People **for her faithful love is everlasting;**

Reader the sun to govern the day,
People **for her faithful love is everlasting;**

Reader the moon and stars to govern the night,
People **for her faithful love is everlasting;**

Reader who struck Egypt through their firstborn daughters and sons,
People **for her faithful love is everlasting;**

Reader	and brought Israel out from among them,
People	for her faithful love is everlasting;
Reader	with a strong hand and an outstretched arm,
People	for her faithful love is everlasting;
Reader	who cut the Red Sea in two,
People	for her faithful love is everlasting;
Reader	and made Israel pass over through the midst of it,
People	for her faithful love is everlasting;
Reader	but churned Pharoah and his army in the Red Sea,
People	for her faithful love is everlasting;
Reader	who walked her people through the wilderness,
People	for her faithful love is everlasting.

THE SECOND LESSON

Reader	A reading from the first letter of John.	4:7-12
	<p>Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. In this way God's love was revealed among us: God sent God's only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that God loved us and sent God's own Son to be the means of forgiveness for our sins. Beloved, if God loves us thus, we ought also love one another. God no one has ever seen. Yet if we love one another, God lives in us, and God's love is made complete in us.</p> <p>The Word of the Lord.</p>	
People	Thanks be to God.	

Live in charity and steadfast love,
live in charity; God will dwell with you.

Setting: Jacques Berthier, from *Songs and Prayers from Taizé* © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc.
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THE GOSPEL

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. 3:11-17

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

"Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and we testify to what we have seen; yet you all do not receive our testimony. If I have told you all about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you all believe if I tell you about heavenly things? Now then, no one has ascended into the heavens except the one who descended from the heavens, the Son of Woman. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Woman be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that God gave God's 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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON *Sit*

DAVID LUCKES

THE NICENE CREED *Stand*

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 human.
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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The people respond, "Lord have mercy."

PEACE

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

We invite you to extend the peace of God to those in the congregation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS *Sit*

OFFERTORY

O LOVE, HOW DEEP, HOW BROAD, HOW HIGH

H 448

1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high, how pass - ing
 2 For us bap - tized, for us he bore his ho - ly
 3 For us he prayed; for us he taught; for us his
 4 For us to wick - ed hands be - trayed, scourged, mocked, in

1 thought and fan - ta - sy, that God, the Son of
 2 fast and hun - gered sore; for us temp - ta - tions
 3 dai - ly works he wrought: by words and signs and
 4 pur - ple robe ar - rayed, he bore the shame - ful

1 God, should take our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake.
 2 sharp he knew; for us the tempt - er ov - er - threw.
 3 ac - tions, thus still seek - ing not him - self, but us.
 4 cross and death; for us gave up his dy - ing breath.

Words: Latin, 15th cent.; tr. Benjamin Webb (1819-1885), alt. Music: *Deus tourum militum*, from *Antiphoner*; 1753; adapt. *The English Hymnal*, 1906, alt.; harm. after Basil Harwood (1859-1949)

OFFERING PRAYER *Stand*

During the 10:30 worship service, the following is said as the offerings are presented.

Presider All things come from you, O Lord

People And of your own have we given you.

EUCHARIST

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Presider It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we say:

People: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Presider Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins.

Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Presider and People

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Presider Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled + with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world.

Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with the Blessed Mary, St. Francis, and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.

People **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Presider And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People **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.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Presider Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People Therefore let us keep the feast.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Our bread is gluten-, dairy- and nut-free. This Eucharistic table does not belong to the Episcopal Church or to St. Francis'. This is God's table, and all are welcome. In the Episcopal Church, we receive both the bread and wine, the Body and Blood of Jesus. If you choose not to receive communion, please come forward and cross your arms over your heart to receive a blessing.

COMMUNION HYMN

AMAZING GRACE

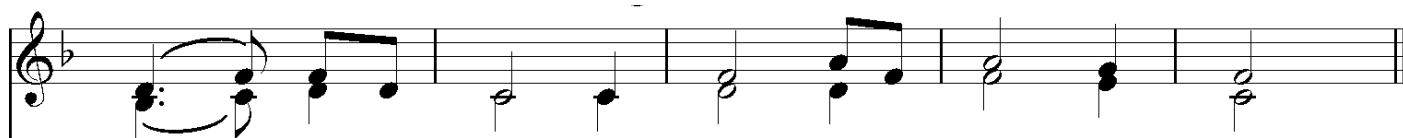
H 671



1 A - maz - ing grace! how sweet the sound, that
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
3 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, his
4 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
* 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



1 saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but
2 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
3 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
4 have al - rea - dy come; 'tis grace that brought me
5 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



1 now am found, was blind but now I see.
2 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
3 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
4 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
5 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

After all have received communion the Presider says

Presider Let us pray.

People **Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

BLESSING

Presider May God, who does not despise the broken spirit, give to you a contrite heart.

People **Amen.**

Presider May Christ, who bore our sins in his body on the tree, heal you by his wounds.

People **Amen.**

Presider May the Holy Spirit, who leads us into all truth, speak to you words of pardon and peace.

People **Amen.**

Presider The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.

People **Amen.**



1 Now let us all with one ac - cord, in
 2 The cov - e - nant, so long re - vealed to
 3 Your love, O Lord, our sin - ful race has
 4 Re - mem - ber, Lord, though frail we be, in
 5 There - fore, we pray you, Lord, for - give; so



1 com - pa - ny with a - ges past, keep vi - gil with our
 2 those of faith in for - mer time, Christ by his own ex -
 3 not re - turned, but fal - si - fied; au - thor of mer - cy,
 4 your own i - mage were we made; help us, lest in anx -
 5 when our wan - derings here shall cease, we may with you for



1 heaven - ly Lord in his temp - ta - tion and his fast.
 2 am - ple sealed, the Lord of love, in love sub - lime.
 3 turn your face and grant re - pent - ance for our pride.
 4 i - e - ty, we cause your Name to be be - trayed.
 5 ev - er live, in love and u - ni - ty and peace.

Words: Att. Gregory the Great (540-604); tr. *Praise the Lord*, 1972, alt. Copyright © by James Quinn, SJ. Printed by permission of Geoffrey Chapman, a division of Cassell Ltd. Music: *Bourbon*, melody att. Freeman Lewis (1780-1859); harm. Thomas Foster (b. 1938) Copyright ©1984, Thomas Foster. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

DISMISSAL

Presider Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

