



## **Mission Statement**

**A Worshipping Community serving as a beacon of God's love by exemplifying the two great commandments; love God with our whole heart and love our neighbors as ourselves**

## **Third Sunday in Lent**

**March 20, 2022**

**Holy Eucharist:**

**Enriching our Worship**

St. John's Episcopal Church  
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# The Word of God

**Entrance Hymn 149    Eternal Lord of Love**

**Rite II BCP page 355**

## **Opening Acclamation**

*Celebrant*    Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

*People*        *And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.*

## **S101    Holy God Trisagion**

## **Collect of the Day**

*Celebrant*    The Lord be with you.

*People*        *And also with you.*

*Celebrant*    Let us pray.

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

## **Lessons**

*The congregation is seated*

*Lector*    A reading from Exodus 3:1-15

Val Valverde

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the Lord said, “I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.” But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?” He said, “I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain.”

But Moses said to God, “If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?” God said to Moses, “I am who I am.” He said further, “Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I am has sent me to you.'” God also said to Moses, “Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you':

This is my name forever,  
and this my title for all generations.”

*Lector*                      *Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.*  
*People*                        *Thanks be to God.*  
*Silence may follow.*

***Psalm 63:1-8***                      Deus, Deus meus                      sung responsively cantor/congregation

1 O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you;  
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,  
as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.

**2 Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place,  
that I might behold your power and your glory.**

3 For your loving-kindness is better than life itself;  
my lips shall give you praise.

**4 So will I bless you as long as I live  
and lift up my hands in your Name.**

5 My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness,  
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,

**6 When I remember you upon my bed,  
and meditate on you in the night watches.**

7 For you have been my helper,  
and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.

**8 My soul clings to you;  
your right hand holds me fast.**

***Lector***

A reading from 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Michael Proscia

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

Lector        H ear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.

People        *Thanks be to God.*

*Silence may follow.*

**Sequence Hymn 685**

**Rock of ages**

Verses 1 and 2

**The Gospel**

*Celebrant*    The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke 13:1-9

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

At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them--do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

*Deacon*      The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People*        Praise to you, Lord Christ.

### **Sequence Hymn 685**

Verse 3

**Sermon**

Rev. Geoffrey Boyer

### **Affirmations of Faith**

*(All stand as you are able)*

*Celebrant:* Let us affirm our faith  
*People:*    *We believe that God is present  
                  in the darkness before dawn;  
                  in the waiting and uncertainty  
                  where fear and courage join hands,  
                  conflict and caring link arms,  
                  and the sun rises over barbed wire.  
                  We believe in a with-us God  
                  who sits down in our midst  
                  to share our humanity.  
                  We affirm a faith  
                  that takes us beyond the safe place:  
                  into action, into vulnerability*

*and into the streets.  
We commit ourselves to work for change  
and put ourselves on the line;  
to bear responsibility, take risks,  
live powerfully and face humiliation;  
to stand with those on the edge;  
to choose life  
and be used by the Spirit  
for God's new community of hope.  
Amen*

**The Prayers of the People      Form VI BCP 392**

Richard Pflieger

**The Confession and Absolution    BCB page 359**

**The Peace**

**The Announcements**

Sherran Davis

## **The Holy Communion**

**The Offertory Sentence**

**Offertory Hymn Levas 147      Come ye disconsolate**

**The Great Thanksgiving      Eucharistic Prayer B**

**The Lord's Prayer    BCP page 364**

**The Breaking of the Bread**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.  
A period of silence is kept.  
Then may be said*

**S161              Lamb of God**

said in unison

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.

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation*

**The Gifts of God for the People of God.**

*In the Episcopal Church, all persons (adults and children) are welcome at the Lord's Table. We offer the sacrament in one kind – bread.*

*If you prefer to receive a blessing instead, when you come to the altar, please cross your arms over your chest as a signal to the priest of your wish.*

## **Communion Hymn 309      O Food to pilgrims given**

### **Postcommunion Prayer**

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*  
Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **A Sending Out Prayer**

### **The Blessing**

## **Hymn 344      Lord dismiss us with thy blessing**

### **The Dismissal**

*Our audio and video channels will be left open for the next few minutes so that you can all exchange the Peace with a 'virtual' hello or a hug.*

### **Assisting with the service today**

Readers	Val Valverde and Michael Proscia
Prayers of the People	Richard Pfleger
Coordinator	Val Valverde
Church Administrator	Terry Glover
Vestry Members:	Paul Brady, Communications 770-656-4020
	Linda Cage, Outreach Coor. 404-863-6127
	Sherran Davis, Clerk 251-648-1468
	Richard Pfleger, Treasurer 678-777-3030
	Archie Polk, Evangelism 404-721-2992
	Michael Proscia, Jr. Warden 770-361-2485
	Pat Roberts, Sr. Warden 404-763-1966

At 10:00am on Sunday morning:

Join us via Zoom      March 20, 2022 10:00am

You may be prompted to enter the following:

Meeting ID: 890 4465 2335    Password: 704817.

Acknowledging materials used in today's worship:

*The Hymnal 1982*. Church Hymnal Corp., 1985.

Boyer, Horace Clarence. *Lift Every Voice and Sing II*. Church Hymnal Corporation, 1993.

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