



ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Second Sunday in Lent

March 5, 2023

The Holy Eucharist, Rite Two

Year A

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

Prelude

Hymn *We Remember* (Choir)

M. Haugen

Opening Acclamations

Presider: Blessed be the God of our salvation

People: Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.

Presider:

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord 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."

Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor

All: God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. 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.**

8 am *Presider and People:*

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

10 am Kyrie (the 'S' hymns are in the front of the hymnal) S91, Hymnal

Presider: God be with you **Response: And also with you**

Collect of the Day

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

An introduction: Last Sunday we were taken back to the garden to that “once upon a time” story of how things got so wrong in God’s good creation. Adam and Eve’s desire to be like God led them to ignore God’s warning, and rather than know the difference between good and evil, sin and death emerged and were set loose in the world. The next eight chapters of Genesis tell the story of sin’s impact on humankind as life descends into the chaos that comes from trying to make a name for ourselves without God at the center. In today’s lesson, things have changed. God is now the subject, has taken the initiative to start over, and calls an unknown man and his wife to be the bearers of a divine promise—a covenant through which God will bless not only them, but through them and their children, all the peoples of the earth. Listen for the Word of God.

A reading from the book of Genesis [12:1-4a]

Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” So Abram went, as the Lord had told him.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s People. **Response: Thanks be to God**

Psalm 121

- 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; *
from where is my help to come?
- 2 My help comes from Yahweh, *
the maker of heaven and earth.
- 3 God will not let your foot be moved *
and Yahweh who watches over you will not fall asleep.
- 4 Behold, God who keeps watch over Israel *
shall neither slumber nor sleep;
- 5 The Holy One watches over you; *
Yahweh is your shade at your right hand,
- 6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day, *
nor the moon by night.
- 7 Yahweh shall preserve you from all evil; *
it is God who shall keep you safe.
- 8 God shall watch over your going out and your coming in, *
from this time forth for evermore.

An introduction: The apostle Paul, writing to the Jewish-Gentile church in Rome continues to develop the theme that though all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. As a consequence, a right relationship with God—what Paul calls “righteousness”—comes not through “works of the Law,” but only through faith in God’s love for the world. It is God’s grace revealed in what God accomplished in Jesus’ death, resurrection, and ascension. To make his point Paul turns to Abraham. Did God’s promise to Israel’s revered ancestor and his wife come to fulfillment through their works of the Law or through their faith? Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

A reading from Paul’s letter to the Church in Rome [4:1-5, 13-17]

What then shall we say about Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now to one who works, his wages are not reckoned as a gift but as his due. And to one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is reckoned as righteousness. The promise to Abraham and his

descendants, that they should inherit the world, did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression. That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants—not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham, for he is the father of us all, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s People. **Response: Thanks be to God**

Gospel Hymn, *The great Creator of the worlds* (vs 1, 2, & 3) 489, Hymnal

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to John [3:1-17]

Response: Glory to you, Lord Christ

There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do, unless God is with him.” Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born anew, he cannot see the kingdom of God.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born anew.’ The wind blows where it wills, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know whence it comes or whither it goes; so it is with every one who is born of the Spirit.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can this be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand this? Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen; but you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven, the Son of man. And 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, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

Response: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Gospel Hymn, *The great Creator of the worlds* (vs 4, 5 & 6) 489, Hymnal

Sermon The Rev. Fred Anderson

There may follow a period of silence

The Nicene Creed BCP, 358

Prayers of the People Form IV BCP, 388

Leader: Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Leader: Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons; for Michael, our presiding bishop, for Rob, our bishop; and Bishop Dorsey and Betsy and their ministry in the diocese of Aberdeen and Orkney. In the diocesan cycle of prayer, we remember the Church of the Good Shepherd in Nashua. In the Anglican cycle of prayer we remember the church of the Providence of South East Asia. We offer our joy that we celebrate your glorious resurrection with our brothers and sisters around the world. Envelop your people with a sense of your risen presence, today and always. *Silence*

Leader: Lord, in your mercy

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Leader: Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Leader: Lord, in your mercy

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Leader: Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Leader: Lord, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. *Silence*

Leader: Lord, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. We pray for those on our parish prayer list, please join me if you would like, in saying their names: **George Ekwall, Karen Griswold, Rick Phillips, Shari Moore, Toni McGuire, Charlena McDufford, Andrew Rich, Rich Losh, Reathel Bean, Kelly Dyan, Phil Harris & Elaine Cormier-Harris, Stuart Hartford, Tony Garges, Karen Cheney, Kate McCann, Gale Blauvelt, Christy Macaulay, Bruce & Bonnie Wight, Jane Hartwell, Sonya Morse, Jackie Rogers, Liam Ferguson, Bunny Stoddard, Xondra Smith, Deb McKinley, Noreen Watts, Sherry Sachritz, Mary Kennedy, and Valerie Munday.**

I invite your prayers, silently or aloud. (PAUSE)

Leader: Lord, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: We commend to your mercy all who have died, especially those who have died serving their country, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. *Silence*

Leader: Lord, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Prayer for the Search for our Next Rector

V: Lord, you are our Shepherd.

R: You guide us and revive our souls.

V: You spread a table before us,

R: That we may dwell in your house forever.

Let us pray. (*Silence*)

Gracious and loving God, giver of hope: embrace us and guide us in our search for our new rector. Open our hearts and minds.

Grant us courage to know what is best for our parish, not for ourselves alone.

Make straight the path for a godly, wise and prayerful priest to find us; one who will inspire and shepherd us to a closer relationship with you, that we may see your vision for the Church of the future and have the grace and power to get there. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Presider adds a concluding Collect.

The Peace

Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory *Turn to me* (Choir)

John Foley S. J.

At the Presentation of our offering,

8 am we say, **All things come of thee, O Lord.**

And of thine own have we given thee.

10 am we sing, (Tune: *Land of Rest*, 620, Hymnal)

O gracious God, we praise your name,

For gifts so freely giv'n,

Creator, Son and Holy Spirit,

Your grace come down from heav'n.

Presider God 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 our 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. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life. Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing (say):

Presider and People (Sung at 10 am)

S129, Hymnal

**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.

The Presider continues

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.

The Presider continues

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 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. **AMEN.**

The Lord’s Prayer

BCP, 364

Breaking of the bread (Silence)

Presider: We break this bread to share in the body of Christ

People: We being many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

The Invitation

Presider: The gifts of God for the people of God; take them in remembrance that Christ lived, taught, died, and rose for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith and with thanksgiving.

People: **Amen**

All are welcome at God's holy table. If you wish to receive a blessing and not the bread, please come to the rail and cross your arms or ask. Gluten-free wafers are available, please ask at the altar rail. If you brought your own bread or picked up a host container, you may consume the Host (bread) now. We are now offering the consecrated wine in small cups at the altar rail for any who would like to receive it. Take your time at the altar rail as you may need, and deposit the glass cup in the basin by the lectern on your way back to the pew.

Prayer for Healing:

This morning we offer the laying on of hands with prayers for healing. If you would like a prayer for healing for yourself or in proxy for someone else, please go to Father Curtis near the piano after receiving Communion.

Communion Hymn

Eat this Bread

Jim Roan, Cantor

(On next page)

Refrain

Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to him and nev-er be hun-gry.

Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in him and you will not thirst.

The image shows two systems of musical notation. Each system consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The first system of music is for the first line of lyrics, and the second system is for the second line of lyrics. The lyrics are: "Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to him and nev-er be hun-gry." and "Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in him and you will not thirst." The music is written in a simple, accessible style, likely for a church choir or congregation.

Prayer after Communion

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Blessing

Closing Hymn, *O love, how deep*

448, Hymnal

Dismissal

Response: Thanks be to God.

(You are invited to stay for the organ postlude or go directly out for our coffee hour.)

Postlude

WELCOME GUESTS! Please join us for light refreshments
in the Fellowship Room!

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No altar flowers during Lent - No anniversaries - No birthdays

PARISH CALENDAR

TODAY	Coffee Hour following the 10:00 am service, Fellowship Room 9:15 am, Pastoral Care Committee
Tue., Mar. 7th	11:00 am, Centering Prayer in the Church 11:45 am, Book Study: <i>Falling Upward</i> 5:00 pm, Dinner Bell, hosted by AHEAD
Wed., Mar. 8th	6:00 pm, Transition Team
Thu, Mar. 9th	11:00 am, Fred Anderson's Bible Study
Sat., Mar. 11th	9:30 am, Centering Prayer 10:00 am, Book Study: <i>How to be a Climate Optimist</i>

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

Presider: The Rev. Curtis Metzger	Deacon: Paul Higginson
Preacher: The Rev. Fred Anderson	
Readers: 8:00 Lisa Beausoleil	10:00 Jennifer Lucas Cathy Roan
Intercessor: 8:00 Paul Lister	10:00 Jody Flescher
Chalicer: 8:00 Lisa Beausoleil	10:00 Jody Flescher
Acolyte: 8:00 Lisa Beausoleil	10:00 Ellen Rowe
Usher: Hank Peterson	Music: Jim Roan, Organist
Altar Guild: Katherine Darges & Kathy Cook	
Coffee Hour: Fred & Questa Anderson and Hank & Jean-Marie Peterson	

In the Diocese of New Hampshire: The Rt. Reverend A. Robert Hirschfeld , Bishop
All Saints' Episcopal Church, 35 School Street, Littleton, New Hampshire 03561
Tel: 603-444-3414 web: allsts.org email: allstslittleton@allsts.org
Office hours: Mon–Thurs 9:00 am–1:00 pm & Fri 9:00 am–Noon

The Reverend Curtis Metzger, Rector
Sheelagh Higginson, Senior Warden
Verna White, Administrative Assistant

The Reverend Paul Higginson, Deacon
Anthony Rodrigues, Junior Warden
Jim Roan, Organist

The Mission of All Saints' Episcopal Church is to honor our Lord Jesus Christ by practicing our Christian faith through prayer and acts of love and unconditional kindness.