

The Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 29, 2020

10:00 AM Service

Holy Communion



SIGNS OF LIFE

why church matters

COMMUNITY



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Services online on Sunday at 8 and 10 AM through April 12th

GATHER FOR WORSHIP

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

[Please be seated.]

ACCLAMATION

[Please stand.]

P Bless the Lord, who forgives all our sins.

C God's mercy endures for ever. Amen.

GATHERING PRAYER

P We pray for our life as a church community sharing God's signs of life:

Al Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray... Almighty Triune God, we thank you for the gift of community, by which we share life's journey and grow together. May we follow your example of mutual self-giving and love to bless each other with an ever-widening embrace, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who dances with you and the Holy Spirit, one God in Trinity of persons now and forever.

C Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD

THE READINGS: 2 Esdras 2:10a, 20-22, Psalm 133, Hebrews 10:19-25, John 15:14, 16-18
[Please be seated.]

The First Reading

℣ The First Reading is taken from *2 Esdras chapter 2...*

The Lord said this to Ezra: Announce to my people that I have prepared a feast for them, and I will give them the kingdom of Jerusalem, which I was about to give to Israel. Defend the widow's rights. Judge in favor of the fatherless. Provide for those who are in need. Protect the orphan. Clothe the naked. Care for the broken and the weak. Don't mock the lame, but protect them instead. Help the blind to see a vision of my glory. Gather the old and the young within your walls. Watch over your infants. Let your servants and employees rejoice, and your whole community will have good morale.

℣ The Word of the Lord

☩ **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm

℣ *We will read responsively Psalm 133...*

℣ Oh, how good and pleasant it is, when brethren live together in unity!

☩ **It is like fine oil upon the head that runs down upon the beard,**

℣ Upon the beard of Aaron, and runs down upon the collar of his robe.

☩ **It is like the dew of Hermon that falls upon the hills of Zion.**

℣ For there the LORD has ordained the blessing: life for evermore.

The Second Reading

℣ *The Second Reading is taken from Hebrews chapter 10...*

Brothers and sisters, we have confidence that we can enter the holy of holies by means of Jesus' blood, through a new and living way that he opened up for us through the curtain, which is his body, and we have a great high priest over God's house.

Therefore, let's draw near with a genuine heart with the certainty that our faith gives us, since our hearts are sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies are washed with pure water.

Let's hold on to the confession of our hope without wavering, because the one who made the promises is reliable.

And let us consider each other carefully for the purpose of sparking love and good deeds. Don't stop meeting together with other believers, which some people have gotten into the habit of doing. Instead, encourage each other, especially as you see the day drawing near.

℣ The Word of the Lord.

☩ **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel

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

☞ **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

▯ [Jesus said,] “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vineyard keeper. He removes any of my branches that don’t produce fruit, and he trims any branch that produces fruit so that it will produce even more fruit. You are already trimmed because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in me, and I will remain in you. A branch can’t produce fruit by itself, but must remain in the vine. Likewise, you can’t produce fruit unless you remain in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, then you will produce much fruit. Without me, you can’t do anything. If you don’t remain in me, you will be like a branch that is thrown out and dries up. Those branches are gathered up, thrown into a fire, and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified when you produce much fruit and in this way prove that you are my disciples.

“As the Father loved me, I too have loved you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I kept my Father’s commandments and remain in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy will be in you and your joy will be complete. This is my commandment: love each other just as I have loved you. No one has greater love than to give up one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I don’t call you servants any longer, because servants don’t know what their master is doing. Instead, I call you friends, because everything I heard from my Father I have made known to you. You didn’t choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you could go and produce fruit and so that your fruit could last. As a result, whatever you ask the Father in my name, he will give you. I give you these commandments so that you can love each other.

▯ The Gospel of the Lord.

☞ **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon

Becky Robbins-Penniman

[Please be seated.]

NICENE CREED

[Please 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 man. 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

[Please stand, kneel, or sit, as you prefer.]

- ☞ Remembering that it is no longer we who live but Christ who lives in us, let us pray for the Church and for the world.**
- ℒ We pray for all who call you Lord. Enliven our common life, that together we may worship you joyfully, give our hearts wholly to you in prayer, and gently commend to others the faith that is in us. We pray for all who are in need and who suffer [especially, *read names from notebook*] and for those we name, aloud or silently. [*Leave time...*]. Help us to answer the prayers of those who cry out to you.**
- ☞ Lord Christ, live in us so that we are courageous agents of justice and compassion, and share our resources generously.**
- ℒ We pray for the leaders around the world. Help them to respect all by considering others as equal to themselves, by thinking charitably towards all neighbors near and far, and by seeking to understand and appreciate those who differ from them.**
- ☞ Lord Christ, live in us so that we love and serve others as you love and serve us.**
- ℒ We pray for all who are responsible for the mission and ministry of the church, lay and ordained.**
- ☞ Lord Christ, live in us so that we are humble, patient and act with integrity, using the values and promises of the Reign of God as the foundation of every decision, action or abstention.**

- ℒ We pray for a sense of awe for all you have created and entrusted to us, including our own bodies, your creation, and the lives of others. We give you thanks for the blessings of this life. You open your hand and fill the earth with good things.
- ☩ **Lord Christ, live in us so that we cherish the gifts you have given us, conserving and healing your creation for the sake of those who come after us.**
- ℒ We pray for those whose life on this earth has ended, [especially, *read names from notebook*] and for those we name, aloud or silently. [*Leave time...*]. Let light perpetual shine upon them.
- ☩ **Lord Christ, live in us so that we follow the good examples of your saints, who teach us to enjoy worldly goods and comforts in moderation, and to be honest in our daily life and work.**
- ℒ Let your grace restore us, good Lord, and let your Spirit inspire us.
- ☩ **Lord Christ, live in us and accomplish in us the work of your salvation, that we may show forth your glory in the world. Amen.**

CONFESSON AND FORGIVENESS OF SIN

[*Please stand or kneel, as you choose.*]

- ℒ Let us confess our sins to God. [*Silence is kept.*]
Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father, . . .
- ☩ **in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**
- ℘ 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.
- ☩ **Amen.**

THE GREETING OF PEACE

[*Please stand. During the cold and flu season, we request that the Peace be exchanged without handshakes or hugging. An elbow or fist bump, wave, or bow, accompanied by a smile and “the Peace of the Lord be with you,” will do nicely for the time being.*]

- ℘ The peace of the Lord be always with you.
- ☩ **And also with you.** [*All may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*]

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

- ℒ Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. Bring your tithes, gifts and offering with gladness.

[*Please be seated.*]

PRESENTATION

[Please stand when the offering plates are given to the Deacon.]

- ☐ We gladly present the fruits of our lives to the God who creates us, redeems us and sustains us. May we have the grace to use them to heal God's world.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: *Eucharistic Prayer A*

☐ The Lord be with you.

☑ **And also with you.**

☐ Lift up your hearts.

☑ **We lift them to the Lord.**

☐ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

☑ **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

☐ It is Right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your name:

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

[Please stand or kneel as you prefer.]

☐ Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

☐ He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

☐ On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

☐ After supper 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 shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

P Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.**

P All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

C **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

AI **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

P Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

C **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

FRACTION ANTHEM

AI **Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world:
give us your peace, give us your peace.**

P The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

[You may be seated.]

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

[Please stand or kneel, as you choose.]

P Let us pray...

G **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.**

THE BLESSING

[Please stand.]

P Our Triune God gives us the signs of life, equipping, empowering, and strengthening us to become disciples of Christ Jesus. God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit, bless you in your Lenten journey, today and throughout this holy season.

G **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

D Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

G **Thanks be to God!**

SERVING US TODAY

Celebrant	Becky Robbins-Penniman
Deacon	Cindy Roehl
Priest Associate	Ann Chaplin