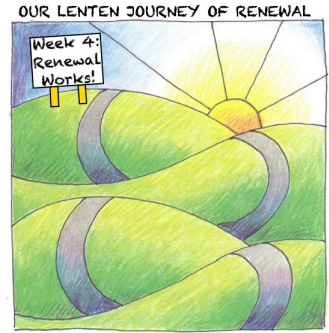


# The Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 31, 2019 • 8:00 AM Service  
Holy Communion: Rite One  
Renewal Works!



Episcopal Church of the  
**GOOD SHEPHERD**

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Sunday Services at 8 and 10 AM • Wed. Service at 10 AM • Sat. Service at 5 PM

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## GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

### PRELUDE

*Adagios from the Sonatas*

F. Mendelssohn

### WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MISSION MOMENT

**P** Pastor/ **D** Deacon/ **L** Lector/ **C** Congregation/**All** All

### ACCLAMATION

*[Please stand.]*

- P** Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins;
- C** **His mercy endureth for ever.**

### GATHERING PRAYER

- P** We pray together for the renewal of our lives as the Holy Spirit works in, with, and among us this Lenten season.
- All** **Blessed are you, God of growth and discovery; yours is the inspiration that has altered and changed our lives; yours is the power that has brought us to new dangers and opportunities. Set us, your new creation, to walk through this new world, watching and learning, loving and trusting, until your kingdom comes. Amen.**

### COLLECT OF THE DAY

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And with thy Spirit.**
- P** Let us pray... Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

## WORD OF GOD

**THE READINGS:** Jeremiah 31:24–25,31–34 • Psalm 32:1–9 • Galatians 5:13–14,16–17,22–25

• Matthew 13:31–33,44–52

*[Please be seated.]*

### The First Reading

**L** *The First Reading is taken from Jeremiah, chapter 31...*

Those who live in Judah and its towns will dwell together with farmers and shepherds. I will strengthen the weary and renew those who are weak.

The time is coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and Judah. It won't be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant with me even though I was their husband, declares the Lord. No, this is the covenant that I will make with the people of Israel after that time, declares the Lord. I will put my Instructions within them and engrave them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. They will no longer need to teach each other to say, "Know the Lord!" because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the Lord; for I will forgive their wrongdoing and never again remember their sins.

**L** The Word of the Lord.

**G** **Thanks be to God.**

### The Psalm: *[read responsively]*

**L** *We will read responsively from Psalm 32...*

**L** Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!

**G** **Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt,  
and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

**L** While I held my tongue, my bones withered away,  
because of my groaning all day long.

**G** **For your hand was heavy upon me day and night;  
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**

**L** Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt.

**G** **I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD."  
Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.**

**L** Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble;  
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.

**G** **You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble;  
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.**

**L** "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go;  
I will guide you with my eye.

The Second Reading:

℣ *The Second Reading is taken from Galatians, chapter 5...*

You were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only don't let this freedom be an opportunity to indulge your selfish impulses, but serve each other through love. All the Law has been fulfilled in a single statement: *Love your neighbor as yourself.*

I say be guided by the Spirit and you won't carry out your selfish desires. A person's selfish desires are set against the Spirit, and the Spirit is set against one's selfish desires. They are opposed to each other, so you shouldn't do whatever you want to do.

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against things like this. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the self with its passions and its desires.

If we live by the Spirit, let's follow the Spirit.

℣ The Word of the Lord.

☩ **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel:

*[Please stand.]*

℣ The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

☩ **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

℣ Jesus told another parable to them: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and planted in his field. It's the smallest of all seeds. But when it's grown, it's the largest of all vegetable plants. It becomes a tree so that the birds in the sky come and nest in its branches."

He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast, which a woman took and hid in a bushel of wheat flour until the yeast had worked its way through all the dough."

"The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure that somebody hid in a field, which someone else found and covered up. Full of joy, the finder sold everything and bought that field.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls. When he found one very precious pearl, he went and sold all that he owned and bought it.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that people threw into the lake and gathered all kinds of fish. When it was full, they pulled it to the shore, where they sat down and put the good fish together into containers. But the bad fish they threw away. That's the way it will be at the end of the present age. The angels will go out and separate the evil people from the righteous people, and will throw the evil ones into a burning furnace. People there will be weeping and grinding their teeth.

"Have you understood all these things?" Jesus asked.

They said to him, "Yes."

Then he said to them, "Therefore, every legal expert who has been trained as a disciple for the kingdom of heaven is like the head of a household who brings old and new things out of their treasure chest."

℣ The Gospel of the Lord.

☩ **Praise be to thee, O 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 sit, stand, or kneel, as you prefer.]*

- ☒ Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

- ☒ Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all humanity: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love. God of mercy and renewal,

☒ **we pray to you.**

- ☒ Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops, especially to Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Dabney, our Bishop; Barry and Michael, our Assisting Bishops; Becky, our Rector; Cindy, our Deacon; Ann, our Priest Associate; to our companion diocese of the Dominican Republic; to these Episcopal Churches in our Diocese: St. James House of Prayer, Tampa; St. Elizabeth's, Zephyrhills; Resurrection, Largo; to the Clearwater Deanery Collaboration Partners; and to all priests, deacons, and the laity in their ministry; that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments. God of mercy and renewal,

☒ **we pray to you.**

ℒ And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life. God of mercy and renewal,

☩ **we pray to you.**

ℒ We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, especially President Trump, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world. We pray that all God's children, especially those in the Middle East, might live in the hope of the world peace for which we are created. God of mercy and renewal,

☩ **we pray to you.**

ℒ And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor [Add handwritten names from notebook] and all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity, especially those listed in the weekly news who have asked for our prayers. I now invite you to pray for others by name, aloud or in your hearts. [Time is left for people to speak.] God of mercy and renewal,

☩ **we pray to you.**

ℒ Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty. We give thanks for all the blessings of this life [especially... read from notebook]. God of mercy and renewal,

☩ **we pray to you.**

ℒ And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear [especially... add names from notebook]. We beseech thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom. God of mercy and renewal,

☩ **we pray to you.**

ℒ Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate.

☩ **Amen.**

#### CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

[Please kneel or stand.]

ℒ Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God. [Silence is kept.]  
Most merciful God,...

ℒ **we confess that we have sinned against thee in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved thee with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in thy will, and walk in thy ways, to the glory of thy Name. Amen.**

ℒ Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

☩ **Amen.**

## PRAYERS AND BLESSINGS

*[Please be seated.]*

## THE PEACE

*[Please stand.]*

- P** The peace of the Lord be always with you.
- C** **And with thy spirit.**

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

## OFFERTORY MUSIC

## OFFERTORY SENTENCE

- D** 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 OF THE OFFERINGS

*[Please stand when the deacon receives the offering.]*

- D** As we receive these gifts, we acknowledge:
- C** **All things come from thee, O Lord, and of thine own have we given thee.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Eucharistic Prayer I

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And with thy spirit.**
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** **We lift them up unto the Lord.**
- P** Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.
- C** **It is meet and right so to do.**
- P** It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, Holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. Who dost bid thy 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 thy Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which thou hast prepared for those who love thee. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,
- C** **Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts: Heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

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

- P** All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

- Ⓟ For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

- Ⓞ **And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.**

**And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.**

- Ⓟ And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;
- Ⓟ By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.

- Ⓞ **AMEN.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

- P** And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,
- C** **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.**

## BREAKING OF THE BREAD

- P** Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
- C** **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

- 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. All are welcome at the Lord's Table. Please follow the directions of the usher, who will let you know when it's your turn to go to the altar rail. You may stand or kneel. To receive, hold your hands in front of you, one palm over the other. The priest will place a wafer there. You may either consume it immediately, and then sip from the cup of wine when it comes to you, or, you may wait and dip the wafer into the wine. When you are finished, please return to your seat by the side aisle.]*

**Our Prayer Team will be in the south narthex (at the back of the church) during Holy Communion to pray with you for healing, guidance, a loved one, or anything else on your heart.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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

- P** Let us pray.
- C** **Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.**

## BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

*[Please stand.]*

- P** God give you open ears that the Word may revive you; an open mind that the Spirit may refresh you, and an open heart that Love may renew you; and the blessing of God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you always.
- C** **Amen.**
- D** Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God!**