

The First Lesson

Numbers 21:4-9

From Mount Hor the Israelites set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

The Psalm

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-222 *Confitemini Domino*

- 1 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, and his mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Let all those whom the Lord has redeemed proclaim that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe.
- 3 He gathered them out of the lands; from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.
- 17 Some were fools and took to rebellious ways; they were afflicted because of their sins.
- 18 They abhorred all manner of food and drew near to death's door.
- 19 Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress.
- 20 He sent forth his word and healed them and saved them from the grave.
- 21 Let them give thanks to the Lord for his mercy and the wonders he does for his children.
- 22 Let them offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving and tell of his acts with shouts of joy.

Said together:

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Second Lesson

Ephesians 2:1-10

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work

among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else.

But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ-- by grace you have been saved-- and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God-- not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

Hymn

Sing, my soul, his wondrous love

H 467



Gospel Lesson

John 3:14-21

Jesus said, "Just 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, 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. Those who believe in him are not condemned;

but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

Written about 325 AD, this is the ancient statement of our faith

Prayers of the People V

BCP 389

We pray together as the people of God

Confession & Absolution

BCP 360

We confess our sins and are reassured of our pardon

The Peace

We share the joy of the Good News!

The Liturgy of the Eucharist, sometimes called *the Mass*

Offertory

Bless the Lord, O my soul

Ivanov

Presentation of Gifts and Tithes

*O Father, Son, and Spirit blest,
to thee be every prayer addressed,
who art in three-fold Name adored,
from age to age, the only Lord*

from H 143, v. 5

Eucharistic Prayer "C"

BCP 369

Sanctus

Words in BCP, Musical Setting H-S129

The Lord's Prayer

Traditional version, found on BCP 364

Agnus Dei

H-S 161

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.

The Distribution of the Holy Sacrament

All baptized Christians, of any tradition, are welcome to receive the sacrament. Everyone, regardless of faith, is welcome to receive a blessing—simply cross your arms in front of you as the priest comes by. It is the tradition of this parish that 12 to 14 people at a time receive Communion at the altar rail, at which point all are dismissed together to return to their seats, and another group may move forward to the rail. Gluten free wafers are available to those who request them

Communion Hymns

Strengthen for service, Lord H 312
Father, we thank thee who hast planted H 302
My God, thy table now is spread H 321

Our Prayer after Communion BCP 366

Hymn *My faith looks up to thee* H 691

The Dismissal

We are dismissed from this gathering to go into the world to spread the Good News and the love of Christ! We respond to this instruction with: *Thanks be to God!*

Following our service will be Coffee Hour, hosted by John and Carol Georgis. This is a time for us to have fellowship, share our joys and sorrows, and get to know one another. It is very much an extension of the communal feast we share in the Holy Eucharist. Please join us.

Birthdays This Week: Jessica Cole, Elizabeth Richardson, Peter Taylor, Paul Broyles III, and Frankie Wilkinson

Participants in Today's Liturgy

Acolyte Kipp Cortez Macon Clement
Lectors Bea Paine Don Williams
Chalicists Kipp Cortez Don Williams
Altar Guild: Becky Beckett Carol Georgis
Patty Richardson

Please Keep the Following in Your Prayers

Dorene Dimes—Wanda Myers—Bonnie Taylor—Joe Sanders--Marlene—Lee Puckett, Sr.—Phyllis & Nelson Walker—Linda—Valerie Mahood—Edi—Sierra—Alex B.—Toni R.—Linda Sydeski—Joan—Ragen—Marion Lowe—Jared Cregger—Peyton Cline and family—Kerrigan Farmer—Mike—Daisy Bowman—Linda Thomas and family

Calendar of Events

Tuesday – March 13 Vestry Meeting 7:00pm
Wednesday – March 14 Lenten Dinner - Potato Bar 6:00 pm
Thursday – March 15 Food Pantry 9-11:00 am
Saturday – March 17 Godly Play Training 8:30am
Tuesday – March 20 DOK Meeting 10:30am
Wednesday – March 21 Lenten Dinner - Pot Luck 6:00 pm
Sunday – March 25 Palm Sunday
Wednesday – March 28 Union Mission Dinner 4:30pm
Thursday – March 29 Maundy Thursday
Foot Washing 5:30pm
Seder Meal 6:00 pm

Friday – March 30

Good Friday
Stations of the Cross 12:00 noon
Vigil 12:00 – 3:00pm
Solemnity 6:00 pm
Easter Sunday
Festival Eucharist 10:00am

Sunday – April 1

Attendance Last Sunday 57

Announcements:

Lenten Dinner: This year's theme will be on Christian spirituality and mindfulness, led by Dr. Assaad Mounzer. Dinner will be carry in or catered. Everyone is invited and encouraged to bring a friend!

Lent Madness: It's that time of year again! Get your copy of the 2018 Sainly Scorecard at the Usher's Table in the Narthex. Read the short biographies of the saints each day and vote for your favorite at www.lentmadness.org. Who will win this year's Golden Halo?

Godly Play: Through the generosity of the Diocese, Christ Church will host training for the Montessori based Sunday School curriculum Godly Play. This training will be on Saturday, March 17th. If you are interested in attending training, please see Fr. Chad. You must register online by tomorrow, March 12th, to attend!

Coffee Hour: We are in need of volunteers for Coffee Hour!

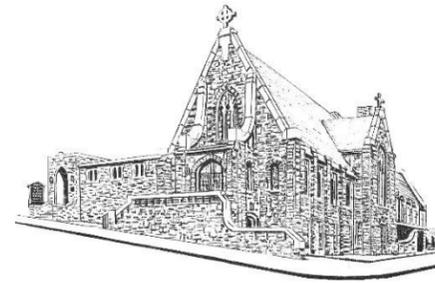
Easter Lilies: A sign-up sheet for those who would like to purchase Easter lilies is available at the Usher's Table in the Narthex. Lilies will be \$15 and may be given in memory or honor of a loved one.

Lenten Dinner Wednesday March 14th: See signup sheet in the Narthex listing items needed for the Potato Bar (White and Sweet). See Mary Catherine Williams if you have questions.

Seder Meal: Our Maundy Thursday Memorial of the last Supper will be a Christian Seder. A Full Meal will be provided. There is no cost to attend. Please RSVP on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex by Sunday, March 25th so we can have an accurate count for food preparation. Thank You!

Clergy, Staff, and Wardens of this Parish

the Rev. Chad Slater Rector of Christ Church
Ms. Emma Bennett Parish Administrator
Mr. Terry E. Whittington, Jr. Organist & Choirmaster
Mrs. Vanessa Hall Sexton
Dr. Rob Merritt CEC Senior Warden
Mrs. Dee Puckett CEC Junior Warden



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March 11, 2018

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

Sometimes called Laetare Sunday

Welcome to this Place of Prayer

If you are new or visiting this congregation for the first time we invite you to fill out a Visitor's Card (found on the rack in front of you) and place it in the collect plate as it is passed. We are honored you have chosen to worship with us today and hope that you will continue your faith journey here.

This bulletin will help guide you through today's service. The abbreviation "H" stands for "Hymnal." This is the larger red book located on the shelf in front of you. That music noted as "H-S" followed by a number is service music, and is found in the very first pages of the Hymnal. "BCP" is our abbreviation for "Book of Common Prayer," which is the smaller red book.

The Liturgy of the Word

Hymn *Guide me, O thou great Jehovah* H 690

The Reading of the Decalogue BCP 350

During Lent we are reminded of God's Law, as symbolized by the Ten Commandments. Following the reading of each of the Commandments, please respond with, *Amen. Lord have mercy.*

The Trisagion H-S 102

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy upon us.

The Collect *Our collective prayer for the day.*

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*