

# THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

# MORNING PRAYER RITE II

MARCH 22, 2020 10:30 AM

The Rev. Kevin LJ Schubert, Rector

The Rev. Jim Enelow, Deacon

Ms. Mi-Young Kim, Music Director

The mission of St. George's Episcopal Church is to worship God and share our faith through word, action, and service.

WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE WITH US. In this difficult and uncertain time, our commitment to one another as the Body of Christ is more important than ever. We don't know yet how to best express that or what our corporate worship will look like, but we'll figure it out together. We are blessed to be able to join together in prayer, even as we are unable to be together in person as we would wish.

While we are unable to gather in person, we'll be worshipping together using the liturgy of MORNING PRAYER, rather than the more familiar service of Eucharist. For centuries, Morning Prayer was the standard Sunday morning service for most Episcopal churches, until the liturgical revival of the 1960s and 70s brought communion to the center of worship for many Protestant churches. Communion cannot be administered virtually, so this time of virtual worship offers us the opportunity to revisit our history and pray together using a different form, that of Morning Prayer.

THE SEASON OF LENT is the period of forty days (excluding Sundays) leading up to Easter. It is traditionally a time of self-examination and repentance through prayer, fasting, self-denial, and reading and meditating on scripture. Lent concludes with the Easter Vigil Service on the night before Easter Day. The forty days of Lent symbolizes the forty years in which the Israelites wandered in the wilderness in search of the Promised Land. It also recalls the time Jesus spent in the wilderness in fasting and prayer, during which he was tempted. A common practice during Lent is to participate in a Lenten discipline; this can involve giving something up or taking on a new practice, in order to deepen your faith and bring you closer to Christ. We hope you will join us as the community of St. George's journeys together into the Lenten season.

# **OPENING AND WELCOME**

#### **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **OPENING SENTENCE**

Celebrant

Jesus said, "If anyone will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me."

(Mark 8:34)

Throughout the service, the words to the hymns are provided for you to sing or read as the music is played.

#### **OPENING HYMN**

# Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies

H7

- Christ, whose glory fills the skies, Christ, the true, the only Light, Sun of Righteousness, arise! triumph o'er the shades of night: Dayspring from on high, be near; Daystar, in my heart appear.
- Dark and cheerless is the morn unaccompanied by thee; joyless is the day's return till thy mercy's beams I see, till they inward light impart, glad my eyes, and warm my heart.
- 3. Visit then this soul of mine!
  Pierce the gloom of sin and grief!
  Fill me, radiancy divine;
  scatter all my unbelief;
  more and more thyself display,
  shining to the perfect day.

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

People Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,

by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us;

that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name.

Amen.

Officiant 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.

People Amen.

# THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

Celebrant Lord, open our lips.

People And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

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.

#### **INVITATORY PSALMS**

Please join in reading both invitatory psalms. The antiphon is repeated at the beginning and end.

Antiphon: The Lord is full of compassion and mercy: Come let us adore him.

Venite Come, let us sing to the Lord; \*

Psalm 95:1-7

Psalm 100

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \* and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, \*
and a great King above all gods.
In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \*
and the heights of the hills are his also.
The sea is his, for he made it, \*

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \* and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

and his hands have molded the dry land.

For he is our God.

and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. \*

Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

Jubilate Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; \*

serve the Lord with gladness

and come before his presence with a song.

Know this: The Lord himself is God; \*

he himself has made us, and we are his;

we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise; \* give thanks to him and call upon his Name.

For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; \*

and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

Antiphon: The Lord is full of compassion and mercy: Come let us adore him.

PSALM 23 DOMINUS REGIT ME

Please join in reading the psalm.

1 The LORD is my shepherd; \*

I shall not be in want.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures \* and leads me beside still waters.

3 He revives my soul \*

and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; \* for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; \*
  you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.
- 6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, \* and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

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.

# THE LESSONS

FIRST READING 1 SAMUEL 16:1-13

Reader A reading from the first book of Samuel.

The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the LORD." But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

FIRST SONG OF ISAIAH

ISAIAH 12:2-6

Please join in reading the canticle.

Surely, it is God who saves me; \*
I will trust in him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, \*
and he will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing \* from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say, \*

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

Make his deeds known among the peoples; \*

see that they remember that his Name is exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, \* and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, \* for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

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 READING EPHESIANS 5:8-14

Reader A reading from the letter to the Ephesians.

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light – for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

"Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.** 

SEQUENCE HYMN You Are Mine G 461

I will come to you in the silence,
 I will lift you from all your fear.
 You will hear My voice,
 I claim you as My choice,
 be still, and know I am near.

I am hope for all who are hopeless,
 I am eyes for all who long to see.
 In the shadows of the night,
 I will be your light,
 come and rest in Me. [REFRAIN]

**REFRAIN:** Do not be afraid, I am with you.

I have called you each by name. Come and follow me, I will bring you home;

I love you and you are mine.

 I am strength for all the despairing, healing for the ones who dwell in shame.
 All the blind will see, the lame will all run free, and all will know my name. [REFRAIN]

I am the Word that leads all to freedom,
 I am the peace the world cannot give.
 I will call your name,
 embracing all your pain,
 stand up, now walk, and live. [REFRAIN]

THIRD READING JOHN 9:1-41

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, "We see," your sin remains."

Reader The Word of the Lord. People **Thanks be to God.** 

THE APOSTLES' CREED BCP 96

I believe in God, the Father almighty,

creator of heaven and earth;

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit

and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting.

Amen.

# THE PRAYERS

Officiant The Lord be with you. People And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray.

People 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.

SUFFRAGES A BCP 97

Deacon Show us your mercy, O Lord; People And grant us your salvation.

Deacon Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

People Let your people sing with joy.

Deacon Give peace, O Lord, in all the world; People For only in you can we live in safety.

Deacon Lord, keep this nation under your care;

People And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

Deacon Let your way be known upon earth;
People Your saving health among all nations.

Deacon Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten; People Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

Deacon Create in us clean hearts, O God;
People And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

COLLECT OF THE DAY BCP 219

Officiant 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.

People Amen.

COLLECT FOR SUNDAYS BCP 98

Officiant O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of

your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the

week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People Amen.

COLLECT FOR GUIDANCE BCP 100

Officiant Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to

guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through

Jesus Christ our Lord.

People Amen.

COLLECT FOR MISSION BCP 101

Officiant Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that

everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the

knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name.

People Amen.

INTERCESSIONS

Officiant We pray for our community and the world, and for all who have requested our prayers.

Be present with your church, especially the Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui, the Most Reverend Paul Kwong, Archbishop, and with all bishops and other ministers, especially Michael, our

Presiding Bishop, Andy, Jeff, Hector, and Kai, our bishops, Kevin our rector, and Jim our deacon.

Be present with all your people, especially with Melissa our Senior Warden; with Bryan, our field seminarian, and with Joel, our sponsored seminarian; with our Vestry and other leaders; with the ministries of our parish in St. George's Day School and St. George's Court, and with this congregation.

Be present with all who govern in this and every land, especially Donald, our President, and Greg, our Governor, and the leaders of all the nations of the earth.

Be present with all those experiencing illness, need, sorrow, or any other adversity, especially Josh, Kate, Raynelle, Sister Mary Jean, Jean, Amber, Gladys, Jonas, Charles, Ralph, Kirk, Ann, Makena, Polly, Bailey, Melinda, Hans, Juan, Mary, Martha, Shubh, Ben, Gail, Colleen, Elizabeth, Linda, Leon, Tom, Alfred, Valerie, Pete, and the Dalton and Romanek families. We pray also for Zach, Dustin, Maddison, and all the men and women in our armed forces.

Be present with all who celebrate another year, especially Christina, Scott, Stephen, and Josh.

We pray for all who have died, especially Lillian and Ruth, and we thank you for the lives of all your saints.

I invite you to add your own prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings.

(Silence)

Grant these our prayers, O God, in the name of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ.

People Amen.

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING BCP 101

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies. that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM BCP 102

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting.

Amen.

#### THE DISMISSAL

Deacon Let us bless the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN Amazing Grace H 671

- Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!
   I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.
- 3. The Lord has promised good to me, his word my hope secures; he will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.
- 2. 'Twas grace first taught my heart to fear and grace my fears relieved; how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!
- 4. Through many dangers, toils and snares I have already come;'tis grace that brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
- 5. When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun, we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we first begun.

#### THE BLESSING

Officiant

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always.

People Amen.

# PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR THE FOLLOWING

# For those who are sick or facing medical issues, especially:

Josh BeckhamRalph HausserMartha SahsKate BerginKirk HoffmanShubh Schiesser

Raynelle Blech Ann Kauppi Ben Sears
Sister Mary Jean Bludau Makena Landgraf Gail Snyder
Ruth Crawford Polly Littrell Colleen Stark

Jean DaltonBailey McKennonElizabeth TennysonAmber DupuyMelinda MendezLinda WallaceGladys DykesHans MuellerLeon WegeleJonas EllwangerJuan NavarroTom Wooten

Charles Foster Mary Parker

# For those who have died and their families, especially

Lillian Brown Ruth Crawford

# For those facing difficult circumstances, especially:

The Dalton Family Valerie McKesson Lara Pete Sebert

Alfred Davalos The Romanak Family

# For those serving in the armed forces and their families, especially:

Zach Mertz Dustin Worcester Maddison Worcester

# For those who celebrate birthdays, especially:

Christina Fultz (Mar 23) Stephen Milburn (Mar 25) Scott Hoffman (Mar 25) Josh Beckham (Mar 26)

#### For those who celebrate anniversaries, especially:

Matt & Christie Curtis (Mar 28)

# In the Anglican cycle of prayer: In the Diocese of Texas cycle of prayer:

Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui,

The Most Reverend Paul Kwong, Archbishop

St. John's, Sealy

St. Mary's, Bellville

St. Paul's, Navasota

Names can be added to this list by emailing Jennifer at stgeorgeaustin@gmail.com.

# St. George's Episcopal Church

4301 North IH 35 • Austin, TX 78722
Office Phone: 512.454.2523
Website: www.sgchurch.org
E-mail: stgeorgeaustin@gmail.com
Church office hours: Monday – Thursday, 9 am – 2 pm