



— THE —
TABLE

Online Worship
Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 22, 2020

Gathering as the Body of Christ

Call to Worship and Silence

Where you see a + in the booklet, you may make the sign of the cross.

Opening Acclamation & Collect for Purity

Celebrant Bless the + Lord who forgives all our sins,
People **His mercy endures forever.**

Celebrant and People together pray

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Summary of the Law

Matthew 22:37-40

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.

The Trisagion

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

The Confession and Absolution

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence is kept.

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.

The Priest says

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.

The Collect

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant continues

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.**

————— *Listening for the Word of God* —————

Old Testament Reading

1 Samuel 16:1-13

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsive Psalm Reading

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd.

I lack nothing.

He lets me rest in grassy meadows;

he leads me to restful waters; he keeps me alive.

He guides me in proper paths

for the sake of his good name.

Even when I walk through the darkest valley,

I fear no danger because you are with me.

Your rod and your staff—

they protect me.

You set a table for me

right in front of my enemies.

You bathe my head in oil;

my cup is so full it spills over!

Yes, goodness and faithful love

will pursue me all the days of my life,

and I will live in the Lord's house as long as I live.

New Testament Reading

Ephesians 5:8-14

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

John 9:1-41

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

...The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Apostles' Creed

**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 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 Homily

In the name of the + Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Prayers of the People

A Litany Amidst the COVID-19 Outbreak, by Michael Kurth

God the Father,
Have mercy on us.

God the Son,
Have mercy on us.

God the Holy Spirit,
Have mercy on us.

Holy Trinity, one God,
Have mercy on us.

Most merciful God, we come to you in this time of anxiety and uncertainty surrounding the outbreak of COVID-19. As the sorrows of our heart and mind increase, we beseech you to save us from all trouble and fear. Cast away all works of darkness. Be our rock, a castle to keep us safe. For the Lord is our stronghold and sure defense, and he will be our Savior.

For all who have died: receive them into the arms of your mercy, grant them eternal peace, and surround those who mourn with your healing grace.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For those directly infected with the virus: help them recover in good health and restore them in body, mind and spirit. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For those at high risk of infection, especially the elderly, those with underlying illnesses, the marginalized, and the poor: keep them healthy and free from all sickness. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For those in quarantine, the shut-in, and the infirmed: help them find peace, keep them in good health, and renew their mind and spirit.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For all hospitals, doctors, nurses, and staff: protect them as they minister to the sick, relieve all stress, and provide the resources and space to meet the needs of all the infirmed. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For first responders: guard them from all harm, and grant them strength and courage as they respond to all calls for help. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For service industry workers and those forced to work as their community shuts down: keep them healthy, bestow the resources to best care for themselves and their families, and assure them in times of financial and medical anxiety.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For those experiencing financial loss and uncertainty of resources: have mercy on them, alleviate any fear, and provide for them daily bread and wage.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For the leaders of this nation and the world: help them make sound and safe decisions to best secure the future of our planet. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all schools, students, teachers, administrators and school staff: as schools remain open, keep them healthy and in good spirit to learn; as schools close, feed those who will go hungry without guaranteed meals and shelter all students have no place to live. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all scientists and those working to find a cure: inspire them towards your truth, and help them discover and disseminate a vaccine and cure.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For all media and journalists: protect them from all harm in their reporting, and move them to be a vector of truth and certainty, and never fear or panic.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For all places of worship: embolden them to be beacons of hope and love, and help us to gather however and wherever we can – be it in person or online – to give you praise. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the leaders of our church: help them minister to their flock; fortify them to be faithful pastors, to persevere in prayer, and to build up the family of God in new and creative ways. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the young: spare them from harm and fear, and keep them a joyful sign of your love and light. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all parents: build in them strength and fortitude for the time ahead, and give them the words and witness to be wise counselors and compassionate caregivers. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For calm amidst the storm: as the waves toss our boat and we wonder “do you not care?”, remind us to not be afraid, that with you all things are possible, and that even the wind and sea obey you. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Stir up in us a spirit of compassion and tenacity for the time ahead. **Amen.**

Move us to check-in with loved ones at high risk of infection and those in quarantine. **Amen.**

Ease our fear and anxiety, that we may share our resources rather than hoard them, and extend a helping hand to those in need. **Amen.**

Inspire us to share the Good News of your love and hope. **Amen.**

All this we ask through your son Jesus Christ our Lord: healer of the sick, ruler of the tempestuous sea, and Savior of the world. **Amen.**

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

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

————— *Communing at the Table: Holy Eucharist* —————

Offertory & Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
 Praise him all creatures here below
 Praise him above ye heavenly host
 Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Amen.

The Sursum Corda

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give him thanks and praise!**

The Celebrant continues

It is right, our duty and our joy, 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:

The Sanctus

**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.**

The Prayer of Consecration

The Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: in your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had sinned against you and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent your only Son Jesus Christ into the world for our salvation. By the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary he became flesh and dwelt among us.

In obedience to your will, he stretched out his arms upon the Cross and offered himself once for all, that by his suffering and death we might be saved. By his resurrection he broke the bonds of death, trampling Hell and Satan under his feet. As our great high priest, he ascended to your right hand in glory, that we might come with confidence before the throne of grace.

On the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke 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, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for 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 in remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

Celebrant and People

**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, and we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Word and Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Sanctify us also, that we may worthily receive this holy Sacrament, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us and we in him. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us with all your saints into the joy of your heavenly kingdom, where we shall see our Lord face to face.

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 forever. **AMEN!**

The Lord's Prayer

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

**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 our tresspasses,
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 forever and ever. Amen.**

The Fraction

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

The Prayer of Humble Access

We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table; but you are the same Lord whose character is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

The Ministration of Communion

The Celebrant says the following invitation

Behold the Lamb of God;
Behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.

The Celebrant receives the Sacrament in both kinds on behalf of the Church while the Agnus Dei is sung.

The Agnus Dei

- Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
- Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
- Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world,
grant us thy peace.

Prayer For Spiritual Communion

Dear Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to possess you within my soul. And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you, together with all your faithful people gathered around every altar of your Church, and I embrace you with all the affections of my soul. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

Song: True Bread

Gracious, Loving Father / Who gave his blessed Son
Christ came down from heaven / True Bread who gives life

Evermore give us this Bread (x3)
...that he may live in us

Merciful and mighty / Savior of the world
Quench our souls that yearn for / True Bread who gives life

Evermore give us this Bread (x3)
...that we may live in him

Comforter and Healer / Empower us to serve
Fill our flesh and souls with / True Bread who gives life

Evermore give us this Bread (x3)
...that we may live as one.

The Post Communion Prayer

Heavenly Father, 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.

Sending into Mission

Announcements

Sending and Blessing

A Priest gives a blessing, ending with

... And the blessing of God Almighty, the + Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

The Deacon dismisses the People with these words

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

Thanks be to God!