



The Fourth Day of Lent

March 19, 2023

WELCOME

to St. Mary's Episcopal Church

a member of the Central Michigan Episcopal Covenant

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

Big Rapids, MI

Seeking every day to love God
with our whole heart, mind, and soul, and
to love our neighbors as ourselves.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

Cadillac, MI

We strive to live out the Great
Commandment: To love the Lord with all
our heart, soul, and mind and to love our
neighbors as ourselves.

If you have a faith or are seeking one, you are always welcome here.

If you are visiting or looking for a spiritual home,
we'd love to get to know you.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II

THE WORD OF GOD

BCP, p. 355

Opening Acclamation and Collect for Purity

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

The celebrant prays the collect for purity.

The Trisagion

Celebrant Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One,

People **Have mercy upon us.**

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you**

Celebrant Let us pray. *The celebrant prays the collect of the day.*

The Lessons *All sit as able. Texts found in the bulletin insert.*

First Reading

1 Samuel 16:1-13

After the reading: **Reader** The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm

Psalm 23

Second Reading

Ephesians 5:8-14

After the reading: **Reader** The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Holy Gospel

John 9:1-41

Before the Gospel:

Celebrant Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

After the Gospel:

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Homily

Mtr. Radha Kaminski

The Nicene Creed *Said in unison, all standing as able.*

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.

The Prayers of the People

Praying the Scriptures

Intercessor Brothers and sisters, live as children of the light—for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Let us pray to the Lord saying “Light of the world, **open our eyes.**”

Lord our Shepherd, you have given your Church all that we need. Rain down on us mightily with your Spirit, that we may testify to the astonishing things you have done in our lives. We pray for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Prince, our Bishop Provisional; Anne, our Canon Missioner; Radha, our Rector; our Central Michigan Episcopal Covenant. Trinity, West Branch - Luke, Sr. Warden, Church of the Epiphany, South Haven – Jim, Interim Rector, St. John’s, Mt. Pleasant – Diane, Rector. We pray for all those in our diocese discerning calls to ministry, both lay and ordained. In particular, we pray for those in our dioceses preparing for the Sacred Order of Priests, including Joe, Barrett, Alex, Matt, and Anne Marie. We pray also for those in our dioceses preparing for the Sacred Order of Deacons, including: Abraham, John, Stephanie, Thon, Jennifer, Justin, Jessica, Julianne, Beckett, Rachel, John, Linda, Cathy, Dell, Theresa. We remember with gratitude the retired clergy of the diocese. *Silence*

Light of the world,

People Open our eyes.

Intercessor God, you are present in the valley of the shadow of death. Comfort all those around the world who know danger or violence or war. By your love, cast out all evil and fear. *Silence*

Light of the world,

People Open our eyes.

Intercessor We pray for those in positions of authority in our country and in the world, especially Joe, our president; Gretchen our governor; Carla, our mayor. *Silence*

Light of the world,

People Open our eyes.

Intercessor Lord, you make us to lie down in green pastures; you lead us by still waters. You have blessed us with a beautiful planet. May we work to preserve the holy gift of nature. *Silence*

Light of the world,

People Open our eyes.

Intercessor Lord, spread a table for those who are hungry; where there is scarcity and need in our neighborhoods, fill empty hearts, lives and cups with your abundance. By your light expose all the unfruitful works of darkness. *Silence*

Light of the world,

People Open our eyes.

Intercessor God of life, pursue the sick and sorrowful with your goodness and mercy. Reveal your works in those who are suffering. Make yourself known as Healer. We pray for those in the St. Mary's circle of prayer: Ken, Kyle, Madi, Lori, Delalia, Cindy, Don, Barb, Lonnie & Heather, Dorothea, Erin, Zack, Colleen; For those in the St. Andrew's circle of prayer: Barbara, Coleen, Kyler, Marty & Rachel, Doug, Beth, Sarah, Paula, Sally, Julane, Jack, Sharon, Richard, Susan, Carlson Family, Jessica; our family and friends in the armed forces and who are first responders: Richard, Corey, Matt, Teylor, Tony, Kim, Drew, Jon, Sabastian, Noah, Eli, Jess; And for all those we name at this time. *Silence*

Light of the world,
People **Open our eyes.**

Intercessor Reviver of Souls, give to the dying and the dead your promise of new and unending life. May we one day live with them forever in the light of Christ. *Silence*

Light of the world,
People **Open our eyes.**

The celebrant adds a concluding collect.

The Confession of Sin *Said in unison, kneeling as able.*

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
Silence may be kept.

All **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.**

Celebrant 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 Peace *All stand as able.*

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.** *The people greet each other in the name of the Lord.*

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory *The celebrant says the offertory sentence.*

After all the gifts are brought to the altar, all say in unison:

All things come of thee, O Lord. And of thine own have we given thee.

The Great Thanksgiving *All stand as able.*

Eucharistic Prayer C, BCP 369

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.**

Celebrant God of all power, Ruler of the Universe,
you are worthy of glory and praise.

People **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Celebrant At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

People **By your will they were created and have their being.**

Celebrant From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

People **Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

Celebrant Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

People By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

Celebrant And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

**All 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 people stand or kneel as able while the celebrant gives thanks to God for the reconciling work of Christ's passion and resurrection and prays over the bread and wine. Then says:

Celebrant Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

**People We celebrate his death and resurrection,
as we await the day of his coming.**

Celebrant Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

People **Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**

Celebrant Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

It is our tradition to gather in a circle to say the Lord's Prayer. You are welcome to either stand and join hands, or remain seated and we will encircle you.

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
All **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

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept. Then says:

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

The Invitation *The celebrant says the invitation.*

Everyone is welcome to receive communion. There is no one who is too old or too young, no one who has too many doubts or too few beliefs. This is the altar prepared by a loving God for all creation by the power of Jesus Christ. You, who are part of that creation, are welcome.

Please come forward down the center aisle to in front of the altar to receive communion or a blessing. If you need communion brought to you, let an usher know.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE BREAD – You can either,



Consume

Hold out your hands and then consume the bread after it is placed in your hand.



Gluten-Free

If you require a gluten-free wafer, please clasp your hands.



Blessing

If you prefer not to receive, cross your arms for a blessing.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE WINE – You can either,



Drink

Grasp the base of the chalice and guide it to your lips to drink the wine.



Intinct

Hold up the bread. The minister will take the bread, dip it for you, and hand it back to you.



*Not
Receive*

Cross your arms. The minister will hold the chalice up, but you will not drink.

Prayer after Communion

All stand or kneel as able.

Celebrant Let us pray.

All **Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Celebration of Special Days and Announcements

The Blessing

All stand as able while the celebrant blesses the people.

The Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

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