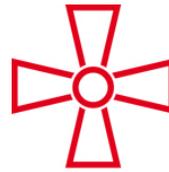


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St George's
ANGLICAN CHURCH
OPENING DOORS, MINDS, AND HEARTS

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The Third Sunday in Lent

March 7, 2021

10:15 am

Morning Prayer

The Book of Alternative Services

HYMN 420 Praise the Lord, Ye Heavens Adore Him

1. Praise the Lord, ye heavens, adore him;
praise him, angels in the height;
sun and moon rejoice before him;
praise him, all ye stars of light!
Praise the Lord for he hath spoken;
worlds his mighty voice obeyed;
laws which never shall be broken
for their guidance hath he made.
2. Praise the Lord, for he is glorious;
never shall his promise fail;
God hath made his saints victorious;
sin and death shall not prevail.
Praise the God of our salvation!
Hosts on high, his power proclaim;
heaven and earth, and all creation,
laud and magnify his name.

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Officiant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with you all.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.
We thank you, O God, that you have again brought us together on the Lord's Day to
praise you for your goodness and to ask your blessing. Give us grace to see your hand in

the week that is past, and your purpose in the week to come; through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

CONFESSION

Officiant Dear friends in Christ,
as we turn our hearts and minds
to worship almighty God,
let us confess our sins.

(Silence is kept.)

Officiant Most merciful God,
People **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 neighbours 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 Merciful God,
grant to your faithful people pardon and peace,
that we may be cleansed from all our sins
and serve you with a quiet mind;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

TRISAGION **707** (Sung 3 times)

All **Holy God,
holy and mighty,
holy immortal one,
have mercy upon us.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Officiant Let us pray,
All Father of mercy,
alone we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves.
When we are discouraged by our weakness,
strengthen us to follow Christ,
our pattern and our hope;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD *(Please be seated)*

Reader A reading from the Book of Exodus (20:1-17)

Then God spoke all these words:

² I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³ you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴ You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵ You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶ but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷ You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸ Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹ For six days you shall labour and do all your work. ¹⁰ But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹ For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹² Honour your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³ You shall not murder.

¹⁴ You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵ You shall not steal.

¹⁶ You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

¹⁷ You shall not covet your neighbour's house; you shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour.

The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Reader Psalm 19

¹ The heavens declare the glory of God, *
and the firmament shows his handiwork.

² One day tells its tale to another,
* and one night imparts knowledge to another.

³ Although they have no words or language, *
and their voices are not heard,

⁴ Their sound has gone out into all lands, *
and their message to the ends of the world.

⁵ In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; *
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber; it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

⁶ It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; *
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.

- ⁷ The law of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul; *
the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.
- ⁸ The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart; *
the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes
- ⁹ The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever; *
the judgements of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.
- ¹⁰ More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, *
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.
- ¹¹ By them also is your servant enlightened, *
and in keeping them there is great reward.
- ¹² Who can tell how often he offends? *
cleanse me from my secret faults.
- ¹³ Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; *
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.
- ¹⁴ Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, *
O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

Reader The Holy Gospel according to John (2:13-22)

¹³ The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴ In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money-changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵ Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶ He told those who were selling the doves, 'Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a market-place!' ¹⁷ His disciples remembered that it was written, 'Zeal for your house will consume me.' ¹⁸ The Jews then said to him, 'What sign can you show us for doing this?' ¹⁹ Jesus answered them, 'Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.' ²⁰ The Jews then said, 'This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?' ²¹ But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²² After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

HYMN 607 Come, Let Us to the Lord Our God

1. Come, let us to the Lord our God
with contrite hearts return.
Our God is gracious, nor will leave
the desolate to mourn.
2. His voice commands the tempest forth
and stills the stormy wave;
and though his arm be strong to smite,
'tis also strong to save.

3. Long hath the night of sorrow reigned;
the dawn shall bring us light.
God shall appear, and we shall rise
with gladness in his sight.
4. Our hearts, if God we seek to know,
shall know him, and rejoice;
his coming like the morn shall be,
like morning songs his voice.
5. As dew upon the tender herb
diffusing fragrance round,
as showers that usher in the spring
and cheer the thirsty ground,
6. so shall his presence bless our souls
and shed a joyful light.
That hallowed morn shall chase away
the sorrows of the night.

THE APOSTLE'S CREED (*standing as you are able*)

Celebrant Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,
All **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 OF THE PEOPLE (*sitting or standing*)

With confidence and trust let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy."
For the one holy catholic and apostolic Church throughout the world, we pray to you, Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those preparing for baptism or confirmation and for their teachers and sponsors, we pray. Lord be with all who are seeking and exploring the Christian faith; strengthen also all those who are new to the faith.

Lord, have mercy.

We pray for Todd our Bishop; Marinez Bishop of our companion Diocese of Amazonia; Michael and Susan Bishops of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada; Linda our Primate; Mark National Indigenous Archbishop; Ann our Metropolitan; the whole order of Bishops; Megan our Archdeacon; and Margaret our priest.

Lord, have mercy.

For all the leaders of the nations, we pray. Remembering especially our Sovereign Lady, Queen Elizabeth; Justin our Prime Minister; Doug our Premier; Dave and Les our Mayors; and all members of city and regional council.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the world. We pray especially for Ethiopia, Yemen, Syria; Congo; and Myanmar. May a spirit of respect and reconciliation grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who are sick, we pray. Lord send your healing power and comfort on all who suffer in our families; parish communities; and the whole world. We pray especially this day for Prince Phillip.

Lord, have mercy.

For an end to this pandemic, we pray.

Lord, have mercy.

We pray for our local communities of Waterloo and New Hamburg. May the good works of our parishes be a shining light of hope in our neighbourhoods and beyond.

Lord, have mercy.

For all whom we have injured or offended, we pray to you, Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For grace to amend our lives and to further the reign of God, we pray to you, Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have passed from this life in faith and obedience, and those whose faith is known to you alone, let us ask the peace of Christ.

Lord, have mercy.

Almighty God, you have promised to hear those who pray in the name of your Son. Grant that what we have asked in faith we may obtain according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HYMN 394 Eternal, Unchanging

1. Eternal, Unchanging, we sing to your praise;
your mercies are endless, and righteous your ways;
your servants proclaim the renown of your name.
You rule in omnipotence, ever the same.

2. Again we rejoice in the world you have made,
your mighty creation in beauty arrayed;
we thank you for life and we praise you for joy,
for love and for hope that no power can destroy.
3. We praise you for Jesus, our Master and Lord,
the might of his Spirit, the truth of his word,
his comfort in sorrow, his patience in pain,
the faith sure and steadfast that Jesus shall reign.

OFFERTORY

All **Yours, Lord, is the greatness,
the power, the glory, the splendour,
and the majesty;
for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.
All things come from you,
and of your own do we give you. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Officiant Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all you have done for us. We thank you for the splendour of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love. We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side. We thank you for setting us tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us. We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone. Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom. Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know Christ and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. **Amen.**

Officiant Almighty God,
All **you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common
supplications to you, and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that
when two or three are gathered together you will hear their requests. Fulfil now 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 eternal life; for you, Father, are good and loving,
and we glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, in the Holy Spirit, now and
for ever. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,
All **Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.**

Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

THE DOXOLOGY

Officiant Glory to God,
All whose power, working in us,
can do infinitely more
than we can ask or imagine.
Glory to God from generation to generation,
in the Church and in Christ Jesus,
for ever and ever. Amen.

DISMISSAL

Leader Reconciled to God through Christ and made a new creation, go in peace to love and
serve the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

For the Upcoming Week

Questions for Reflection

The third Sunday of Lent focuses on the gift of God's law (Exod. 20:1–17). John Calvin (1509–1564) described three uses for the Ten Commandments: First, they show us how to live before God and neighbour, and expose our sins in failing to live as God intends. Second, they instruct our civic or common life, showing us how to live responsibly in the freedom God gives. Third, rather than show us what we must do in order to *receive* God's grace and love, the commandments show us how we should live *because* we are a people who have already received God's grace and love in Jesus Christ. Does God's law restrict or enhance our freedom as human beings?

Household Prayer: Morning

God of heaven and earth,
I listen this morning for the sound of your glory:
in the songs of birds,
in quiet conversations that begin the day,
in easy laughter among friends,
in sunlight's warmth,
pattering rain, or silent snowfall.
Give me ears to hear your glory in its many forms.
Give me eyes to see your glory in its many guises.
Throughout this day, I, too, will proclaim your glory,
your grace, and your love
so that I may be a part of the chorus of praise
that stretches to the ends of the earth.
In Christ's name I pray. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

God of freedom,
I thank you for claiming me as your own
and for setting me in the midst of the community of faith.
Today the news was filled with stories of people
who do not live according to your commandments,
with grievous results.
Lives are shattered
as your ancient tablets of stone are broken again and again.
And I struggle, too, in my own ways,
to live before you and my neighbors
in faithfulness, generosity, and love.
As the day comes to an end,
I pray for forgiveness for myself
and for this weary world,
confident of your grace and mercy.
Send your gift of Sabbath rest,
and let me sleep in peace as, over and around me,
night declares to night your power and glory.
In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Words to all hymns from Common Praise (1998)