

St. Paul's Episcopal Church,
Bakersfield



Morning Prayer
Third Sunday in Lent

March 7, 2021

Officiant

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Philippians 1:2

The Officiant says

Dear friends in Christ, here in the presence of Almighty God, let us in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, so that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

Silence is kept

The Officiant and People together

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and 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 and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

The Officiant says

Almighty God, have mercy on us, forgive us all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

All **Amen.**

Invitatory and Psalter

The Officiant says

Lord, open our lips.

People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Officiant and People

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.

Officiant

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy:

People **Come, let us adore him.**

Officiant

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.

Psalm 100

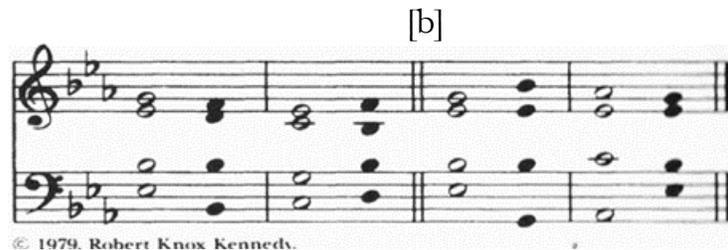
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen.

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy:

People **Come, let us adore him.**

The Psalm

Joel Haney



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

One day tells its tale to a / nother, *
and one night imparts knowledge to a / nother.

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

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

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.

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

The law of the LORD is perfect and revives the / soul; *
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the / innocent.

The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the / heart; *
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the / eyes.

The fear of the LORD is clean and endures for / ever; *
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous alto / gether.

More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine / gold, *
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the / comb.

By them also is your servant en / lightened, *
and in keeping them there is great re / ward.

Who can tell how often he of / fends? *
cleanse me from my secret / faults.

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 of / fense.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable in your / sight, *
O LORD, my strength and my re / deemer.

Psalm 19

Glory be 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. A / men.

The Lessons

First Reading

Jan Dunlap

A reading from Exodus

Then God spoke all these words: I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me. 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. 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, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments. 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. Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labor and do all your work. 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. 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. Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you. You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Exodus 20:1-17

Here ends the reading.

First Canticle: The Second Song of Isaiah

Officiant Let us turn to the Lord, and he will have compassion;
and to our God, for he will richly pardon.

People **Let us turn to the Lord, and he will have compassion;
and to our God, for he will richly pardon.**

Officiant Seek the Lord while he wills to be found; *
call upon him when he draws near.
Let the wicked forsake their ways *
and the evil ones their thoughts;
And let them turn to the Lord, and he will have compassion, *

and to our God, for he will richly pardon.

People **Let us turn to the Lord, and he will have compassion;
and to our God, for he will richly pardon.**

Officiant For my thoughts are not your thoughts, *
nor your ways my ways, says the Lord.
For as the heavens are higher than the earth, *
so are my ways higher than your ways,
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

People **Let us turn to the Lord, and he will have compassion;
and to our God, for he will richly pardon.**

For as rain and snow fall from the heavens *
and return not again, but water the earth,
Bringing forth life and giving growth, *
seed for sowing and bread for eating,
So is my word that goes forth from my mouth; *
it will not return to me empty;
But it will accomplish that which I have purposed, *
and prosper in that for which I sent it.

Isaiah 55:6-11

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.

People **Let us turn to the Lord, and he will have compassion;
and to our God, for he will richly pardon.**

Second Reading

Robert Frakes

A reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

Here ends the reading.

Second Canticle: The Song of Zechariah

Officiant God has given his people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of their sins.

People **God has given his people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of their sins.**

Officiant Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; *
he has come to his people and set them free.
He has raised up for us a mighty savior, *
born of the house of his servant David.
Through his holy prophets he promised of old,
that he would save us from our enemies, *
from the hands of all who hate us.

People **God has given his people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of their sins.**

Officiant He promised to show mercy to our fathers *
and to remember his holy covenant.
This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, *
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
Free to worship him without fear, *
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life.

People **God has given his people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of their sins.**

Officiant You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, *
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
To give his people knowledge of salvation *
by the forgiveness of their sins.

People **God has given his people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of their sins.**

Officiant In the tender compassion of our God *
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the
shadow of death, *
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Luke 1:68-79

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.

People **God has given his people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of their sins.**

Third Reading

Hank Webb

A reading from the Gospel of John

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. 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. He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking of the temple of his body. 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.

John 2:13-21

Here ends the reading.

Apostles' Creed

Officiant and People, together

**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

Officiant and 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

Officiant Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;
People **Govern and uphold them, now and always.**

Officiant Day by day we bless you;
People **We praise your Name for ever.**

Officiant Lord, keep us from all sin today;
People **Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.**

Officiant Lord, show us your love and mercy;
People **For we have out our trust in you.**

Officiant In you, O Lord, is our hope;
People **And we shall never hope in vain.**

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil

thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Collect of the Day of the Week

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. *Amen.*

Collect for Mission

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. *Amen.*

Sermon

*The Rev'd Luis M. Rodriguez,
Priest-in-Charge*

Musical Reflection

Mark Lamas

Prayers of Intercession

Intercessor

In this season of Lent, let us offer prayers to God who leads us through the wilderness and gives us water to drink.

Intercessor

For peace from on high and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord have mercy.**

Intercessor

For Justin the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael our Presiding Bishop, and David our Bishop, for the priests, for the deacons and all who minister in Christ, and for all the holy people of God, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord have mercy.**

Intercessor

For the welfare of the holy Church of God; in the Anglican Communion for The Province of the Anglican Church of the Congo and in our diocese for the people and ministry of St. Paul's, Modesto, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord have mercy.**

Intercessor

For the peace of the whole world, for those in positions of authority, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord have mercy.**

Intercessor

For open hearts and lives to the conditions under which aliens live in our country, and a willingness to meet their needs, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord have mercy.**

Intercessor

For all those who live and work in our city, and for all whose livelihoods are threatened, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord have mercy.**

Intercessor

For this community, that in the strengthening gifts of the Holy Spirit we may do that pleases our Father, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord have mercy.**

Intercessor

For us and all who bow their knees and hearts in penitence before the Lord of mercy, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord have mercy.**

Intercessor

For the blessed fruits of the Holy Spirit and the crucifixion of all self-indulgence and wicked desires, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord have mercy.**

Intercessor

For the grace to pray, fast, and give alms as the Lord wills, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord have mercy.**

Intercessor

For the destruction of demonic powers and all that lifts itself up against the anointed Son of God, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord have mercy.**

Intercessor

For deliverance from all affliction, strife, and need, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord have mercy.**

Intercessor

For all who must make a new home in a foreign place and who must navigate the changes and difficulties of the of living in a new country.

People **Lord have mercy.**

Intercessor

For Kammie, Scott, Gwen, Michelle, Ethan, Penny, Jan, Tanya, the Toia/Gonzalez family, Nancy, Roy, Maria, for all living with the effects of COVID-19, and for all who have commended themselves to our prayers, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord have mercy.**

Intercessor

For all the faithful departed, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord have mercy.**

Intercessor

Remembering the Blessed Virgin Mary, Paul our patron, Joachim, Anne, and all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ.

People **To you, O Lord.**

Officiant

O Lord, our God, mercifully hear the prayers of all who thirst and turn to you, for you choose your people to be born of water and the Spirit, and we give you glory, O Father, with your Son through the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

Announcements

Conclusion

Officiant

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

All **Amen.**

Officiant

Let us bless the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Officiant

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. *Amen.*