

The Third Sunday in Lent

Holy Eucharist Rite II ~ 10:00 a.m.

March 7, 2021



Saint Theodore's Episcopal Church
Bella Vista, Arkansas

The Right Reverend Larry R. Benfield,
Bishop of Arkansas

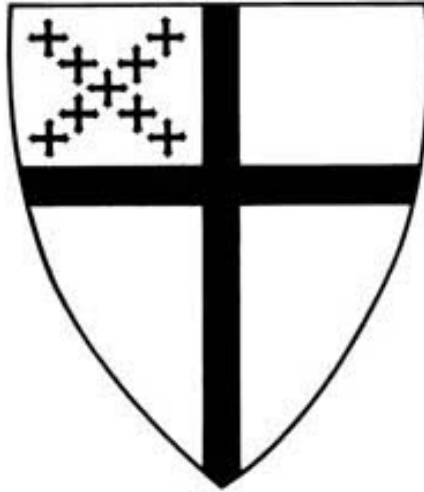
Saint Theodore's Episcopal Church

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All of the following service can be found in the
1979 Book of Common Prayer
Scripture lessons are taken from the
Revised Common Lectionary (RCL) for Year B and are from the
New Revised Standard Version of the Bible

Prelude *Prelude on "Wondrous Love"* McConnell, arr.

The People stand

Processional *Praise to the living God* **Hymn 372**

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins

People **His mercy endures for ever.**

Celebrant Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O
Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the
Lord your God with all your heart, with all your
soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.
The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself.
There is no other commandment greater than these.

Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against god and our neighbor.

Leader and People (Remain standing or kneel)

**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 Celebrant 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.

(Stand)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Celebrant Let us pray.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant **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**

A Prayer for the Power of the Spirit among the People of God

Celebrant **GOD OF ALL POWER AND LOVE**, we give thanks for your unfailing presence and the hope you provide

in times of uncertainty and loss. Send your Holy Spirit to enkindle in us your holy fire. Revive us to live as Christ's body in the world: a people who pray, worship, learn, break bread, share life, heal neighbors, bear good news, seek justice, rest and grow in the Spirit. Wherever and however we gather, unite us in common prayer and send us in common mission, that we and the whole creation might be restored and renewed, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Lessons

FIRST READING: Exodus 20:1-17

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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 19

Sung by the cantor

Antiphon

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my
heart be acceptable in your sight,
O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

- 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 judgments 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.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

For 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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Organ interlude before the Gospel

The Holy Gospel (*Stand as able*) John 2:13-22

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ
according to John.

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

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 market-place!" 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.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon (*Sit*)

Fr. Grisham

The Nicene Creed (*Stand as able*)

(BCP 358)

**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.

Prayers of the People

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Celebrant: *Loving and wise God, you have given us guidance to create societies of faithfulness and justice: Cleanse your people and drive far away from us all greed and exploitation, that we may be willing servants in your work of healing and reconciliation, as we pray: Let the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable in your sight, O God, our strength and our redeemer.*

Litanist: O Gracious One, your testimony is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent: Enlighten your Church with such zeal for your house that we may honor your name and liberate your people.

Let the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable in your sight,

People: O God, our strength and our redeemer.

Litanist: Infinite One, your judgments are true and righteous altogether: Let the message of the cross destroy the wisdom of the wise and thwart the discernment of the discerning, that the nations of the world may abandon their idolatries of power and wealth in order to participate in your divine justice and compassion.

Let the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable in your sight,

People: O God, our strength and our redeemer.

Litanist: Loving one, the firmament shows your handiwork: Look upon your world and inspire all nations and societies to follow your commandments, to live justly and honestly with

one another, and to offer compassionate relief to all in any need or under any threat.

Let the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable in your sight,

People: O God, our strength and our redeemer.

Litanist: Merciful One, your commandment is clear and gives light to the eyes: Free this community from our addictions and idols and cleanse us from our unwitting sins, our secret faults and our presumptions, that we may be whole and sound and innocent of great offence.

Let the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable in your sight,

People: O God, our strength and our redeemer.

Litanist: Compassionate One, following your will is more to be desired than much fine gold. Let your healing grace be with those for whom we pray, especially Don, Rose, Gene, Julia, Angie, Amanda, Marianne, Becky, Karen Kay, Sue, Mary, the Rector Search Committee, and all those who have contracted Covid-19 and all who care for them. *(Pause)*

Let the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable in your sight,

People: O God, our strength and our redeemer.

Litanist: The heavens declare your glory, our Creator, and we bring to you our grateful praise and thanksgiving, especially for Michael, our presiding bishop; Larry, our bishop; Lowell, our interim supply priest; and Chris, our Candidate for Holy Orders. In the diocesan cycle of prayer for St. Andrew's, Marianna; Christ Church, Mena; and the Commission on Church Architecture and Allied Arts. And we give thanks for all those in our parish family celebrating birthdays or anniversaries this week.

Let the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts
be acceptable in your sight,

People: O God, our strength and our redeemer.

Litanist: Through the crucified one—Christ the power of God
and the wisdom of God—you raise all who have died into your
eternal light; we remember especially before you all those who
have succumbed to the Corona virus. *(Pause)*

Let the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts
be acceptable in your sight,

People: O God, our strength and our redeemer.

Celebrant: *Bless and consecrate this day of rest and prayer as we
bring our intercessions to you, O Holy One, that we may continue
Christ's work to overturn all forms of exploitation and injustice and
lead your people out of the house of slavery into the house of love,
where your Spirit reigns in glory everlasting. Amen.*

The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

*Organ music is played and the people may sit
as the Celebrant prepares the Table.*

*After the Table has been prepared, the People stand
and the Celebrant says:*

All things come of thee, O Lord

People: And of thine own have we given thee.

The Holy Eucharist

The Great Thanksgiving - Prayer C (BCP 369)

The Celebrant faces the People and the following is said.

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:

Celebrant and People

**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.

(Stand or Kneel)

The Celebrant continues

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: 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 for the remembrance of me.”

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.*

Lord God of our Ancestors; God of Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebekah, Jacob and Rachel; 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.*

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.

People *AMEN.*

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

The Lord's Prayer *(Kneel as able)*

**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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread, and the following is said.

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

Celebrant The gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion is received by the Celebrant

A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.

Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

**Beloved Jesus,
I believe that you are present
in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar.
I love you above all things,
and I desire to receive you into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive you
in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood,
come spiritually into my heart.**

**I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you.
Let me never be separated from you
in this life or in the life to come. Amen.**

Closing Prayer

Celebrant says

Let us pray

Celebrant and People (BCP 365)

**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 Blessing

May you be people of honesty, justice and truth,
upholding the poor and weak, and honoring all
creation as God's Temple.

May you be wise and discerning as you proclaim
Christ crucified, the power of God and the wisdom of
God.

May the Holy Spirit defend you from all adversity
and evil, that you may follow God's commandments
which rejoice the heart and give light to the eyes.

And the blessing of our just God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you and guide you, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Dismissal

The Celebrant says the words of dismissal

People respond: **Thanks be to God.**

Organ Postlude *Interlude on “Ah, Holy Jesus”* Dixon, arr.

Participants in the Service

<i>Celebrant</i>	The Reverend Lowell Grisham
<i>Organist</i>	Robbie Hubbard
<i>Cantor</i>	Mary Addington
<i>Acolyte</i>	Wayne Whitney
<i>Readers</i>	Gwen Rakes, Sue Williams

