

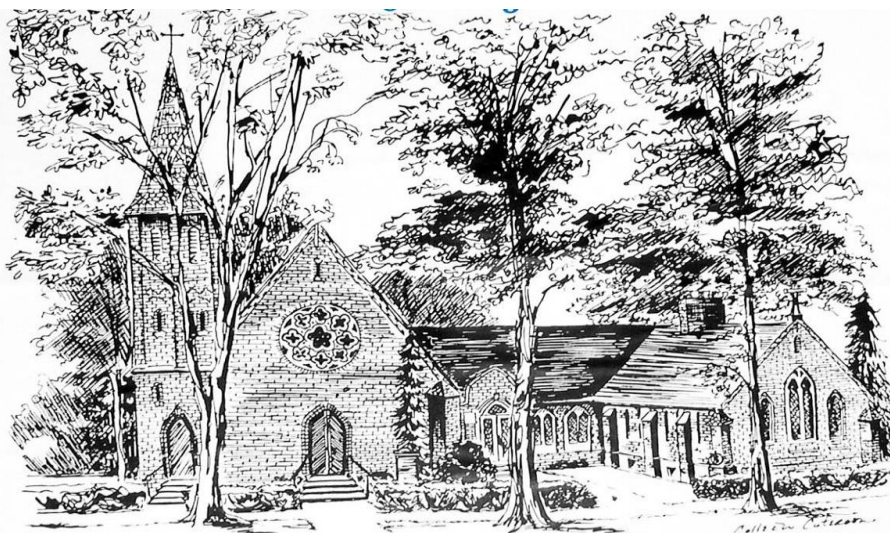
# St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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## Service of Morning Prayer

The Third Sunday in Lent  
Sunday, March 7, 2021

Sunday Worship: 10:00AM - Online  
Office Hours: 8:15am until 1:00pm Monday – Thursday

Serving Montrose and surrounding communities  
With God's Love through Jesus Christ  
Since 1831

## SERVICE OF MORNING PRAYER

### RINGING OF THE BELL BY ORGAN

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

*Sursum Corda*

R. G. Hailing

### OPENING SENTENCE

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

### CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

***Almighty God, Source of all that is, Giver of every good gift:***

***You create all people in your image and call us to love one another as you love us. We confess that we have failed to honor you in the great diversity of the human family. We have desired to live in freedom, while building walls between ourselves and others. We have longed to be known and accepted for who we are, while making judgements of others based on the color of skin, or the shape of features, or the varieties of human experience. We have tried to love our neighbors individually while yet benefitting from systems that hold those same neighbors in oppression.***

***Forgive us, Holy God.***

***Give us eyes to see you as you are revealed in all people. Strengthen us for the work of reconciliation rooted in love. Restore us in your image, to be beloved community, united in our diversity, even as you are one with Christ and the Spirit, Holy and undivided Trinity, now and forever. Amen.***

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

### THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

Lord, open our lips.

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

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

### THE JUBILATE Psalm 100

**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 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 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.**

*Reader:* Glory be to the Father, to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

*People:* **As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen**

## **THE LESSONS**

### **THE OLD TESTAMENT 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 labour 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

**THE THIRD SONG OF ISAIAH** Isaiah 60:1-3, 11a, 14c, 18-19

**Arise, shine, for your light has come,\*  
and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.  
For behold, darkness covers the land;\*  
deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.  
But over you the Lord will rise,\*  
and his glory will appear upon you.  
Nations will stream to your light,\*  
and kings to the brightness of your dawning.  
Your gates will always be open;\*  
by day or night they will never be shut.  
They will call you, The City of the Lord,\*  
The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.  
Violence will no more be heard in your land,\*  
ruin or destruction within your borders.  
You will call your walls, Salvation,\*  
and all your portals, Praise.  
The sun will no more be your light by day;\*  
by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.  
The Lord will be your everlasting light,\*  
and your God will be your glory.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:\*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**THE EPISTLE READING - 1 Corinthians 1:18-25**

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

**The Song of the Redeemed** Revelation 15:3-4

***O ruler of the universe, Lord God,  
great deeds are they that you have done,\*  
surpassing human understanding.***

***Your ways are ways of righteousness and truth,\*  
O King of all the ages.  
Who can fail to do you homage, Lord,  
and sing the praises of your Name?\****  
***for you only are the Holy One.  
All nations will draw near and fall down before you,\*  
because your just and holy works have been revealed.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:\****  
***as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.***

## **ORGAN MEDITATION**

### **THE GOSPEL - John 2:13-22**

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.

***Celebrant:*** The Gospel of the Lord.  
***People:*** Praise to you, Lord Christ

## **THE HOMILY**

### **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 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**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us 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 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 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.*

### **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Gathered in God's house, let us offer our prayers to God who embraces us with steadfast love, saying, *for your mercy is great.*

For the Church, and especially for Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and Kevin our bishop, and the local clergy who support us, Charles and Melinda, that we may faithfully proclaim Christ crucified and lead others into the mystery of God's love. Hear us, O God, ***for your mercy is great.***

For this parish family, and those of Christ Church and St Marks, that in this Lenten time, we may grow in our awareness of our dignity as temples of the Holy Spirit. Hear us, O God, ***for your mercy is great.***

For an end to violence and injustice, that God will heal the brokenness in our society that devalues human life. and inspire leaders to work toward protecting the innocent and vulnerable from harm. Hear us O God, ***for your mercy is great.***

For a deepening of prayer in our lives, that we may find ways to make room for God and deepen our dedication to the word Jesus has spoken. Hear us O God, ***for your mercy is great.***

For those recovering from winter storms, the homeless, the hungry, and the unemployed, and all those sickened by the coronavirus, that they may see the power of God in the hands of those who come to their aid. Hear us, O God, ***for your mercy is great.***

For those in need of our prayers, remembering especially..... that they find strength in the arms of Christ embracing them from the cross. Hear us, O God, **for your mercy is great.**

For those suffering from addiction and for those who love and support them, that we share God's healing love through our unity in witness and action. Hear us, O God, **for your mercy is great.**

For those who have died, remembering especially ..... that they may be raised up from death to eternal joy with Christ. Hear us O God, **for your mercy is great.**

Lifting our voices with all creation, with Mary, the God-bearer, and all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ. **To you, O Lord our God.**

*Celebrant* Holy is your Name, O God. Incline our hearts to keep your commandments and hear the prayers we offer this day. In this Lenten time, may we open ourselves to the gift of your Spirit and become living temples of your love. Glory to you for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### **THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING**

***Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up ourselves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.***

### **THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL**

Let us bless the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### **POSTLUDE**

*Stabat Mater Dolorosa*

Edmond Lemaigre

**Officiant: John Warriner**

**Announcements & Lector: Lynne Graham**

**Organist: Mary Ann DeWitt**