

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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Fifth Sunday in Lent
Sunday March 26, 2023

Sunday Worship: 10:00AM
Office Hours: 8:15am until 3:00pm Monday- Thursday.

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

The Holy Eucharist

Chiming of the Hour

Announcements

The Prelude

The Gathering Hymn *Hail, thou once despised Jesus!* Hymn 495

THE WORD OF GOD

Celebrant: *Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins*

People:* *His mercy endures forever.

The Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

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

People:* *Have mercy upon us.

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The First Lesson: Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD."

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act," says the LORD.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

***People:* Thanks be to God**

The Response: Psalm 130

1 Out of the depths have I called to you, O LORD;
LORD, hear my voice; *
let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.

**2 If you, LORD, were to note what is done amiss, *
O Lord, who could stand?**

3 For there is forgiveness with you; *
therefore you shall be feared.

**4 I wait for the LORD; my soul waits for him; *
in his word is my hope.**

5 My soul waits for the LORD,
more than watchmen for the morning, *
more than watchmen for the morning.

**6 O Israel, wait for the LORD, *
for with the LORD there is mercy;**

7 With him there is plenteous redemption, *
and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

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

The Epistle: Romans 8:6-11

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law-- indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

***People:* Thanks be to God**

The Sequence Hymn *Breathe on me, Breath of God* Hymn 508

The Gospel: John 11:1-45

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

***People:* Glory to you Lord Christ**

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother

would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.” Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” She said to him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.”

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.” And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.” Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?” So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.” When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**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

Intercessor Come from the four winds, O God, and as we journey to the cross and Easter, breathe new life into our bones and hear our voice, as we pray for the Church and the world, saying, Hear our prayer.

For the Church: especially for Michael our Presiding Bishop and Kevin, bishop, and Liz our Priest, that the life and resurrection of Christ may shine through us and fill us with hope and peace, we pray to you, O God. **Hear our prayer.**

For this parish family, and those of Christ Church and St Marks, that our faith in Christ will transform our fears into hope, selfishness into love, and deaths into new life, we pray to you, O God. **Hear our prayer.**

For all who daily confront the death-dealing forces of our society, that they may bring the light of Christ to those struggling with the darkness of abuse, addictions, violence or disease, and find healing and hope, we pray to you, O God. **Hear our prayer.**

For those who live in places of conflict and war, that God will turn hearts from violence, protect them from further harm, and heal the wounds of body, mind, and spirit, we pray to you, O God. **Hear our prayer.**

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 our prayer.**

For ourselves and for all those in need of our prayers.....that we may feed on the bread of life and not the bread of anxiety, we pray to you, O God. **Hear our prayer.**

For those who mourn the death of loved ones, that they may know the compassionate presence of Christ in their lives, we pray to you, O God. **Hear our prayer.**

In the communion of blessed Mary, the God-bearer and all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, to Christ our God. **To you, O Lord our God.**

Celebrant Blessed are you, God of abundant life, who called your Son from the grave. Receive the prayers we offer this day and grant us a share in his work to bring healing, hope and reconciliation to all the earth, through him in whom we live and move and have our being, our Savior Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Confession and Absolution

BCP page 360

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**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.**

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

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

HOLY COMMUNION

The Officiant may begin the Offertory with one of the sentences on page [376](#), or with some other sentence of Scripture.

The Offertory *All my hope on God is founded* Hymn 665

The Doxology: *Praise God from whom all blessings flow*
Hymn 380, v. 3

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

The Eucharistic Prayer A BCP page 361

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 thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

The Sanctus S124

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 Lord's Prayer

***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 Fraction Anthem

S161

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.**

The Communion

All Baptized Christians are invited to the Lord's Table to receive the Sacrament.

Communion Meditation

The Post Communion Prayer

BCP page 365

Let us pray.

**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

The Parting Hymn *I am the bread of life* Hymn 335 v. 1-3

The Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Postlude

Our Ministers Today:

Celebrant and Preacher: The Rev. Elizabeth Grohowski

Organist: Joyce Printz

Altar Guild: Gaby Warriner & Barb Undercoffler

Announcements: Lynne Graham

Camera & Broadcast: Andrew Wurth

Acolyte: Benjamin Zalewski or Sean Eckert

Lector: Nancy Dooling

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Acclamation, collects, psalm, Eucharistic Prayer A, Lord's Prayer, and Blessing taken from The Book of Common Prayer, 1979. Public domain.

Prayers of the People by the Rev. Canon Cliff Carr.

Hymnal 1982: 495 Hail, thou once despised Jesus!, 508 Breathe on me, Breath of God, 665 All my hope on God is founded, 335 I am the bread of life, Copyright information on sheet music. Service music (text only) – *Gloria*-S280 Setting: Robert Powell, *Praise God from whom all blessings flow* Hymn 380, v. 3 -Old 100th, melody from *Pseumes octante trois de David*, 1551, alt.; harm. after Louis Bourgeois (1510? - 1561?), *Sanctus* -S124 Setting from *New Plainsong*, David Hurd (b. 1950), *Agnus Dei* -S161 Setting from *New Plainsong*, David Hurd (b. 1950) Reprinted/ Podcast/ Streamed with permission under One License #A-740835. All Rights Reserved