



Apostles

Anglican Church

The Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 26, 2023

Liturgy for Contemporary Service
The Anglican Church in North America

Prayer as we prepare to welcome a refugee family ...

Lord Jesus, you have revealed the Father's love for us and sent the Holy Spirit to be our helper. Renew in us the selfless and sacrificial heart you modeled on the cross. Empower us to expand the family of God by opening our lives in the welcoming embrace of the lost, the longing, the hurt, the poor, the foreigner, the widow, the orphan, and the stranger. Enable us to see every person as you do: treasured, worthy of love, and infinitely valuable. Enliven in us the true markers of those called by your name: people of love, forgiveness, generosity, hospitality, and unity. We will follow you wherever you lead us, Almighty God. Amen.

- Trevor Durbin

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

THE BELL

OPENING SONGS

Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery

(Verse 1)

*Come behold the wondrous mystery
In the dawning of the King
He the theme of heaven's praises
Robed in frail humanity*

*In our longing, in our darkness
Now the light of life has come
Look to Christ, who condescended
Took on flesh to ransom us*

(Verse 2)

*Come behold the wondrous mystery
He the perfect Son of Man
In His living, in His suffering
Never trace nor stain of sin*

*See the true and better Adam
Come to save the hell-bound man
Christ the great and sure fulfillment
Of the law; in Him we stand*

(Verse 3)

*Come behold the wondrous mystery
Christ the Lord upon the tree
In the stead of ruined sinners
Hangs the Lamb in victory*

*See the price of our redemption
See the Father's plan unfold
Bringing many sons to glory
Grace unmeasured, love untold*

Break Every Chain

(Verse)

*All sufficient sacrifice
So freely given
Such a price
Bought our redemption
Heaven's gates swing wide*

*There is power in the name of Jesus
There is power in the name of Jesus
There is power in the name of Jesus*

*To break every chain
Break every chain
Break every chain*

Minister: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: *His mercy endures forever.*

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 this 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 LESSONS *(congregation seated)*

Ezekiel 37:1-14

37The 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. ²He led me all round them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³He said to me, 'Mortal, can these bones live?' I answered, 'O Lord GOD, you know.' ⁴Then he said to me, 'Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶I 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.' ⁷So 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. ⁸I 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. ⁹Then 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.' ¹⁰I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. ¹¹Then 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." ¹²Therefore 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. ¹³And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴I 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.*

Psalm 130

¹ Out of the deep have I called unto you, O LORD; *
Lord, hear my voice.

² O let your ears consider well *
the voice of my supplications.

³ If you, LORD, were to mark what is done amiss, *
O Lord, who could abide it?

⁴ For there is mercy with you; *
therefore you shall be feared.

⁵ I wait for the LORD; my soul waits for him; *
in his word is my trust.

⁶ My soul waits for the Lord, *
more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning.

⁷ O Israel, trust in the LORD, for with the LORD there is mercy, *
and with him is plenteous redemption;

⁸ And he shall redeem Israel *
from all their sins.

All: *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.*

Romans 6:15-23

¹⁵ What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! ¹⁶Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? ¹⁷But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, ¹⁸and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. ¹⁹I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification. ²⁰When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. ²²But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. ²³For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Gospel (*congregation standing*)

***What love could remember no wrongs we have done
Omniscient, all knowing, He counts not their sum
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more***

***Praise the Lord, His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness, new every morn
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more***

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

People: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

John 11:17-44

¹⁷ When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. ¹⁸ Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹ and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹ Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.' ²³ Jesus

said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' ²⁴ Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' ²⁵ Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' ²⁷ She said to him, 'Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.'

²⁸ 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.' ²⁹ And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹ 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. ³² 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.' ³³ When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴ He said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to him, 'Lord, come and see.' ³⁵ Jesus began to weep. ³⁶ So the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!' ³⁷ But some of them said, 'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?' ³⁸ Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹ 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 for four days.' ⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?' ⁴¹ So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upwards and said, 'Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴² 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.' ⁴³ When he had said this, he cried with a

loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' ⁴⁴The 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.'

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

*What riches of kindness He lavished on us
His blood was the payment, His life was the cost
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more*

*Praise the Lord, His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness, new every morn
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more*

THE SERMON

The Rev. F. Martin Gornik

THE APOSTLES' CREED *(congregation stand)*

*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 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 *(congregation standing or kneeling)*

Let us pray for the Church and for the world, saying, “hear our prayer.”

For the peace of the whole world, and for the well-being and unity of the people of God.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

For Foley, our Archbishop, and Mark, our Bishop, and for all the clergy and people of our Diocese and Congregation.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

For all those who proclaim the Gospel at home and abroad; and for all who teach and disciple others.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

For our brothers and sisters in Christ who are persecuted for their faith.

Our God of justice and mercy, we pray for Christians who suffer as victims of violence and injustice. We ask you to protect those for whom the threat of violence is a daily experience, whether from authorities, hostile local communities or extremists. We remember your people who have been displaced. We entrust them to You, the faithful,

righteous God of the whole world, who will always do right, in the name of Your holy and righteous Son Jesus Christ.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:

People: *Hear our prayer.*

For our nation, for those in authority, and for all in public service especially Joe, our president, Andy, our governor, and Linda, our mayor.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:

People: *Hear our prayer.*

For all those who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:

People: *Hear our prayer.*

For all those who have departed this life in the certain hope of the resurrection, in thanksgiving let us pray.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:

People: *Hear our prayer.*

Heavenly Father, grant these our prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. ***Amen.***

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION OF SIN

***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, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

THE PEACE *(congregation standing)*

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And with your spirit.

THE OFFERTORY

The Doxology *(congregation standing)*

***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! Amen.***

THE SURSUM CORDA

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with your spirit.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

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

***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.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had sinned against you and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent your only Son Jesus Christ into the world for our salvation. By the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary he became flesh and dwelt among us. In obedience to your will, he stretched out his arms upon the Cross and offered himself once for all, that by his suffering and death we might be saved. By his resurrection he broke the bonds of death, trampling Hell and Satan under his feet. As our great high priest, he ascended to your right hand in glory, that we might come with confidence before the throne of grace.

On the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is my Body, which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for 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 in remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Word and Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Sanctify us also, that we may worthily receive this holy Sacrament, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us and we in him. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us with all your saints into the joy of your heavenly kingdom, where we shall see our Lord face to face.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your Name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

And 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 forever. Amen.

THE FRACTION

*Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world
Have mercy on us, Lamb of God
Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world
Have mercy on us, Lamb of God
Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world
Have mercy on us, grant us peace*

THE MINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

THE PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Dear Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to possess you within my soul. And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you, together with all your faithful people gathered around every altar of your Church, and I embrace you with all the affections of my soul. Never permit me to be separated from you.
Amen.

THE PRAYER OF CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

***Heavenly Father,
We thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.***

***And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.***

THE BLESSING

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. ***Amen.***

THE RECESSIONAL *(congregation standing)*

CLOSING SONG

Jesus Paid It All

(Verse 1)

*I hear the Savior say
Thy strength indeed is small
Child of weakness watch and pray
Find in Me thine all in all*

(Chorus)

*Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe
Sin had left a crimson stain
He washed it white as snow*

(Verse 2)

*Lord, now indeed I find
Thy power and Thine alone
Can the lepers spots
And melt the heart of stone*

(Verse 3)

*And when before the throne
I stand in Him complete
Jesus died my soul to save
My lips shall still repeat*

(Bridge)

*Oh, praise the One who paid my debt
And raised this life up from the dead*

THE DISMISSAL

Minister: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.