



Apostles

Anglican Church

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 10, 2024

10:55am

Liturgy for Contemporary Service
The Anglican Church in North America

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

THE BELL

OPENING SONGS

God I Look to You

(Verse)

*God, I look to You, I won't be overwhelmed
Give me vision to see things like You do
God, I look to You, You're where my help comes from
Give me wisdom, You know just what to do*

(Chorus)

*And I will love You, Lord my strength
And I will love You, Lord my shield
And I will love You, Lord my rock
Forever all my days, I will love You, God*

(Bridge)

*Hallelujah, our God reigns
Hallelujah, our God reigns
Hallelujah, our God reigns
Forever all my days, Hallelujah*

Here I Am to Worship

(Verse 1)

*Light of the world
You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes let me see
Beauty that made
This heart adore You
Hope of a life spent with You*

(Chorus)

*So here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
And You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me*

(Verse 2)

*King of all days
Oh so highly exalted
Glorious in heaven above
Humbly You came
To the earth You created
All for love's sake became poor*

(Bridge)

*And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross
And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross*

Minister: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: *His mercy endures forever.*

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS *(congregation seated)*

2 Chronicles 36:14-23

¹⁴All the leading priests and the people also were exceedingly unfaithful, following all the abominations of the nations; and they polluted the house of the LORD that he had consecrated in Jerusalem.

¹⁵ The LORD, the God of their ancestors, sent persistently to them by his messengers, because he had compassion on his people and on his dwelling-place; ¹⁶but they kept mocking the messengers of God, despising his words, and scoffing at his prophets, until the wrath of the LORD against his people became so great that there was no remedy.

¹⁷ Therefore he brought up against them the king of the Chaldeans, who killed their youths with the sword in the house of their sanctuary, and had no compassion on young man or young woman, the aged or the feeble; he gave them all into his hand. ¹⁸All the vessels of the house of God, large and small, and the treasures of the house of the LORD, and the treasures of the king and of his officials, all these he brought to Babylon. ¹⁹They burned the house of God, broke down the wall of Jerusalem, burned all its palaces with fire, and destroyed all its precious vessels. ²⁰He took into exile in Babylon those who had escaped from the sword, and they became servants to him and to his sons until the establishment of the kingdom of Persia, ²¹to fulfil the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah, until the land had made up for its sabbaths. All the days that it lay desolate it kept sabbath, to fulfil seventy years.

²² In the first year of King Cyrus of Persia, in fulfilment of the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah, the LORD stirred up the spirit of King Cyrus of Persia so that he sent a herald throughout all his kingdom and also declared in a written edict: ²³'Thus says King Cyrus of Persia: The LORD, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth, and he has charged me to build him a house at Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Whoever is among you of all his people, may the LORD his God be with him! Let him go up.'

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 122

¹ I was glad when they said unto me, *

“We will go into the house of the LORD.”

² Now our feet are standing *

within your gates, O Jerusalem.

³ Jerusalem is built as a city *

that is at unity in itself.

⁴ For there the tribes go up, even the tribes of the LORD, *

as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks unto the Name of the LORD.

⁵ For there is the throne of judgment, *

even the throne of the house of David.

⁶ O pray for the peace of Jerusalem; *

they shall prosper that love you.

⁷ Peace be within your walls *

and plenteousness within your palaces.

⁸ For my brethren and companions' sakes, *

I will wish you prosperity.

⁹ Indeed, because of the house of the LORD our God, *

I will seek to do you good.

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.*

Ephesians 2:1-10

2You were dead through the trespasses and sins ²in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. ³All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. ⁴But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us ⁵even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— ⁶and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness towards us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— ⁹not the result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

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*

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

John 6:1-15

6After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. ²A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. ³Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. ⁴Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. ⁵When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming towards him, Jesus said to Philip, 'Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?' ⁶He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. ⁷Philip answered him, 'Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.' ⁸One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, ⁹'There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?' ¹⁰Jesus said, 'Make the people sit down.' Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. ¹¹Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. ¹²When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, 'Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.' ¹³So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. ¹⁴When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, 'This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.'
¹⁵ When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

Minister: 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 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, Mark, our Bishop, Allen, our suffragan Bishop-Elect and for all the clergy and people of our Diocese and Congregation.

Father, we ask that you continue to bless our search process for a new rector. Raise up for us, we pray, a priest and pastor who will boldly proclaim your Gospel, faithfully administer your sacraments, and serve your people with love and compassion, that we may be a place for spiritual orphans and seekers.

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.

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

Celebrant: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

People: Have mercy on us.

Celebrant: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

People: Have mercy on us.

Celebrant: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

People: Grant us your 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

Lord I Need You

(Verse 1)

*Lord I come, I confess
Bowing here, I find my rest
Without You, I fall apart
You're the one that guides my heart*

(Chorus)

*Lord, I need You, oh, I need You
Every hour, I need You
My one defense, my righteousness
Oh God, how I need You*

(Verse 2)

*Where sin runs deep, Your grace is more
Where grace is found is where You are
And where You are, Lord, I am free
Holiness is Christ in me*

(Bridge)

*So teach my song to rise to You
When temptation comes my way
When I cannot stand, I'll fall on You
Jesus, You're my hope and stay*

THE DISMISSAL

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

People: *Thanks be to God.*