

# **Welcome to St. Mark's Church**

*We are glad you have come to worship here this morning.  
Please join us in prayerful meditation before the service.  
We ask that you turn off cell phones, pagers and other electronic devices.*

## **First Sunday in Lent March 7, 2021 Holy Eucharist: Rite II 10:30 AM**

**Prelude** Prelude in E minor ("Little")

J.S. Bach

### **The Word of God**

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.  
*People* His mercy endures for ever.  
Amen.

### **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.

### **The Kyrie**

*Celebrant* Lord have mercy.  
*People* Christ have mercy.  
*Celebrant* Lord have mercy.

### **The Collect of the Day**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* And also with you.  
*Celebrant* Let us pray.

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.*

### **First Lesson**

Exodus 20:1-17

*The Lector first says*  
A reading from Exodus

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.**

**Meditation** The glory of these forty days

*Erbalt uns, Herr*

**Psalm 19** (*said aloud in unison*)

Caeli enarrant

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 Lesson**

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

*The Lector first says*

A reading from 1 Corinthians

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 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.**

**Meditation** God the sculptor of the mountains

*Sandria/Thornburg, Hancock*

## **The Gospel**

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

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

**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.

*Reader* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**Homily**

The Rev. Perry Scruggs

**The Nicene Creed**

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.

*Silence*

### **Intercessions/Prayers of the People**

*The Reader bids the Intercessions with these words*

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;  
*That we all may be one.*

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;  
*That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

Remembering especially Robert our Bishop, Don and Paul our Assisting Bishops, Michael our Presiding Bishop, we pray for all priests and deacons, and for the people of our companion and partner Diocese of Cape Coast;  
*That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.*

Remembering Joe our President, Brian our Governor, David our Mayor, and Jevin our Chairperson, we pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;  
*That there may be justice and peace on the earth.*

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
*That our works may find favor in your sight.*

Remembering especially Geneva, Joan, Debora, Carol, Tanner, Tracey, Cathie, Jeri, Jane, Amanda, Carolyn, Brenda, Paul, Sue, Sandy & Rick, Bee, Rose, Ethel, Doris, Carol, Bill, Celia, Abbie, Susan, Mark, Ryan, Norma, Walt, Edward, Marcus & Rebecca, Bob F., Katie, Linda, Janelle, Beverly F., Colleen, Shana, Sandra Paula, Beverly P., Ellen Sue, Carolyn & Ray, Regina, David, Nikki, Amanda, Bill, Mike, Addie, Alan, Bo & Toni, and Rt. Rev. Robert Wright, have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
*That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Give to the departed eternal rest,  
*Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
*May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.*

*Silence*

We give thanks for caregivers, for home helpers and social workers, and for all of those who find themselves on the frontlines of this coronavirus pandemic: Research scientists, physicians, nurses, respiratory therapists, paramedics, firefighters, police officers, chaplains, and cleaning staff;

We offer thanks for those essential workers who continue to provide for our essential needs: Agricultural and other food workers, retail workers, transportation workers, and those who off load supplies and stock the shelves;

We pray for teachers and for the school year that continues, that they may be inspired to patiently nurture the minds of those in their charge and we pray earnestly for the health and safety of all students and teachers;

We pray for those who serve to protect the freedoms we enjoy;

Blane, Aaron, Ashlyn, Allison, Kevin, Ben, Mark D., Jordan, Jonathan, Matthew H., Matthew K., Michael, Rebekah, Todd, Chris, Lindsay, and Mark W.

Lord, we pray for our new rector The Rev Rick Tiff, who will be coming to us soon; that his transition may be made smooth and our thanks along with his welcome be felt deeply

*At the end of the Intercessions, the Celebrant adds the following concluding Collect.*

LORD, make us have perpetual love and reverence for your holy Name, for you never fail to help and govern those whom you have set upon the sure foundation of your loving-kindness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Silence*

### **The Confession and Absolution**

*The Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

Celebrant and People *(said aloud in unison)*

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 Bishop when present, or the Priest, stands and 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.**

### **The Peace**

*All stand. The Celebrant says to the people*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

## The Holy Communion

### The Great Thanksgiving

*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 God thanks and praise.**

*The Celebrant proceeds*

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 for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*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.**

*The people stand or kneel.*

*Then the Celebrant continues*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, 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; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, 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."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

*Celebrant and People*

We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;

*The Celebrant continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in

subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. 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 for ever. **Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer** *Celebrant and People*

*And now as our savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,*

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

*Celebrant* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation*

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. (Consume the Body of Christ, the Bread of Heaven.)

*Celebrant* Let us Pray  
*People and Celebrant*

**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 Dismissal**

*Celebrant* Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who journey with us. So be swift to love, make haste to be kind, and go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Organ Postlude** Fugue in E minor ("Little")

J.S. Bach

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Assisting in Service Today  
The Rev. Perry Scruggs, *Clergy and Celebrant*  
Beth Nichols, *Music Director*  
Barry & Beth Pulliam, *Singers*  
Meredith & Price Andersen, *Readers*  
Blake Bennett or Alex Brown, *Tech. Team Leaders*



*Thank you for worshiping with us today.*