

Fifth Sunday in Lent
April 6, 2025



Episcopal Church of the Good Samaritan
www.GoodSamaritanEpiscopal.church
The Holy Eucharist, Rite I
The Rev. Dr. Richard Effinger

Prelude O Sacred Head, Once Wounded Johan Kuhnau

Hymn 398 **I sing the almighty power of God**

The Word of God

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.

People: **His mercy endureth for ever.**

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

Kyrie S 91

Lord, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Collect

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

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 Word of God

Hebrew Scripture

Isaiah 43:16-21

Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Psalm

Psalm 126

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, *
then were we like those who dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter, *
and our tongue with shouts of joy.

Then they said among the nations, *
"The Lord has done great things for them."

The Lord has done great things for us, *
and we are glad indeed.

Restore our fortunes, O Lord, *
like the watercourses of the Negev.

Those who sowed with tears *
will reap with songs of joy.

Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, *
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

The Epistle

Philippians 3:4b-14

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Hymn 149 (vv. 1-2)

Eternal Lord of love

The Gospel

John 12:1-8

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

People: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and

used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to thee, Lord Christ.

Hymn 149 (vv. 3) Eternal Lord of love

The Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Rick Effinger

The Nicene Creed

BCP p. 358

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 worshipped 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

BCP p. 328

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, o heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers, especially Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Douglas, our Bishop; and Rick, our Priest, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, especially Donald, our President; Ron, our governor; and Bruce, our mayor, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O lord, to comfort and succor all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

Confession

Celebrant: Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against thee in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved thee with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in thy will, and walk in thy ways, to the glory of thy Name. Amen.

Absolution

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto 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

BCP p. 360

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

People: And with thy spirit.

(Share a greeting, a wave, a nod with your fellow parishioners.)

Announcements and Birthday and Anniversary Blessings

Offertory Anthem

Ah, Holy Jesus

arr. Barbara Wallace

Doxology

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 HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer II

BCP p. 340

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up unto the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks unto our Lord our God.

People: It is meet and right so to do.

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was in every way tempted as we are, yet did not sin; by whose grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer unto ourselves, but unto him who died for us and rose again.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

Sanctus S 114

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:

Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.

Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Kneel or stand as you are able.

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, 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, he 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 remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, o merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

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

Celebrant and People: 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, forever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Agnus Dei S158

**O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.**

Prayer of Humble Access

Celebrant and People: We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies, We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Hymn 318 **Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face**

Post Communion Prayer

BCP p. 339

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Celebrant and People: Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in, through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

Solemn Prayer

Kneel as you are able.

Celebrant: Bow down before the Lord.

Look with compassion, O Lord, upon this your people; that, rightly observing this holy season, they may learn to know you more fully, and to serve you with a more perfect will; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn 441 **In the Cross of Christ I glory**

The Dismissal

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Postlude in C

P. Rasmussen

Thank you for worshiping with us today

ANNOUNCEMENTS
(Read more in the eNews)

Fellowship

Please join us for fellowship after the service. It's a wonderful time to enjoy each other's company and have something light to eat.

Healing Eucharist - Wednesday, 12:05 p.m.

FAST Nehemiah Action – Monday, April 7th at 7:00 p.m.

First Baptist Church, Gandy Blvd., St. Petersburg

Join us for the FAST (Faith and Action for Strength Together) Nehemiah Action as we gather with congregations from across the area to advocate for justice in our community. This year, FAST is focusing on critical issues including water quality and affordable housing. Your presence makes a powerful statement—when we show up together, we can drive meaningful change. Let's stand united for justice!

Easter Flower Offering

Help us fill the church with beautiful flowers for Easter! Offering envelopes are available on the counter in the Narthex. If you'd like to include a dedication in the Easter bulletin, please let us know whether it's:

To the Glory of God or In Thanksgiving or In Memory Of

And don't forget to include the names of those you wish to honor. If you're mailing your gift, just write "**Easter Flowers**" on the envelope or memo line of your check. Thank you for helping us celebrate the joy and hope of Easter!

Final Lenten Book Study – Tuesday, April 8th, 6:00 p.m.

Join us for the final evening of our Lenten journey through *The Dream of God* by Verna Dozier. We'll begin with a simple meal of soup and salad, followed by a discussion of Chapter 5. Let's come together one last time for reflection, fellowship, and thoughtful conversation. All are welcome!

April Outreach Collection: Lunch Box Favorites!

This month, we're focusing on *lunch-time essentials* to support local families in need. Our April outreach collection includes non-perishable lunch items such as:

Peanut butter and jelly, canned tuna or chicken, crackers and canned soups, pickles and relish, applesauce and fruit cups, granola bars and trail mix

These items help provide quick, nutritious meals for children and adults alike. All donations will be shared with those experiencing food insecurity. Thank you for your continued generosity and compassion!

The Lenten Challenge: 40 Items in 40 Days – Final Week!

As we enter the final week of Lent, there's still time to take part in this meaningful challenge! Each day, set aside one item—clothing, accessories, or something you no longer use—and place it in a donation bag. By Easter, you'll have 40 items ready to bless someone else. Donations can be brought to the Good Samaritan Thrift Store, where your gently used items will find new life. Let's finish strong and give generously!

Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday, April 13, 9:30 am

Liturgy of the Palms and procession to the church.

Maundy Thursday, April 17, 6:00 pm

Solemn Eucharist (incense) with foot washing, stripping of the Altar, setting of the Altar of Repose and the Watch.

Good Friday, April 18

9:00 am Mass of the Pre-sanctified

12:00 noon Good Friday liturgy

3:00 pm Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday, April 19, 7 pm

The Great Vigil of Easter

Solemn High Eucharist (incense and chanting)

Easter Day, April 20, 9:30 am

Easter Eucharist with festive fellowship