



**Morning Prayer on the Third Sunday in Lent
March 7, 2021
9:00am**

Welcome

A Penitential Order

Book of Common Prayer (BCP), pg. 351

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

The Decalogue

BCP, pg. 350 (revised)

Hear the commandments of God to his people: I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. You shall have no other gods but me.
Lord have mercy on us and move our hearts to keep this law.

You shall not make for yourself any graven image, nor the likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or in the earth beneath, or in the water under the earth; you shall not bow down to them, nor worship them.
Lord have mercy on us and move our hearts to keep this law.

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.
Lord have mercy on us and move our hearts to keep this law.

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.
Lord have mercy on us and move our hearts to keep this law.

Honor your father and your mother.
Lord have mercy on us and move our hearts to keep this law.

You shall not commit murder.
Lord have mercy on us and move our hearts to keep this law.

You shall not commit adultery.
Lord have mercy on us and move our hearts to keep this law.

You shall not steal.
Lord have mercy on us and move our hearts to keep this law.

You shall not be a false witness against your neighbor.
Lord have mercy on us and move our hearts to keep this law.

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.
Lord have mercy on us, and write all these laws on our hearts, we pray.

Leader

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *1 John 1: 8, 9*

Leader

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to set forth his praise, to hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship him, let us with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

All

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.

Leader

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins, through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Invitatory and Psalter

BCP p. 80

Leader Lord, open our lips.

People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

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 for ever. Amen.**

Leader

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy: Come let us adore him.

BCP p. 81

Venite

Psalms 95: 1-7

BCP p. 82

**Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.
For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.
In his hand are the caverns of the earth, and the heights of the hills are his also.
The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands have molded the dry land.
Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!**

Psalm 19

BCP p. 606

- 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 statues 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 forever;
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 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.

At the end of the Psalm is said

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

The Lessons

First Reading *1 Corinthians 1: 18-25*

The Message

The Message that points to Christ on the Cross seems like sheer silliness to those hellbent on destruction, but for those on the way of salvation it makes perfect sense. This is the way God works, and most powerfully as it turns out. It's written,

I'll turn conventional wisdom on its head,
I'll expose so-called experts as shams.

So where can you find someone truly wise, truly educated, truly intelligent in this day and age? Hasn't God exposed it all as pretentious nonsense? Since the world in all its fancy wisdom never had a clue when it came to knowing God, God in his wisdom took delight in using what the world considered stupid—*preaching*, of all things!—to bring those who trust him into the way of salvation.

²²⁻²⁵ While Jews clamor for miraculous demonstrations and Greeks go in for philosophical wisdom, we go right on proclaiming Christ, the Crucified. Jews treat this like an *anti*-miracle—and Greeks pass it off as absurd. But to us who are personally called by God himself—both Jews and Greeks—Christ is God's ultimate miracle and wisdom all wrapped up in one. Human wisdom is so cheap, so impotent, next to the seeming absurdity of God. Human strength can't begin to compete with God's "weakness."

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 14 A Song of Penitence *Pantokrator*

BCP p. 90

O Lord and Ruler of the hosts of heaven,

God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and of all their righteous offspring:

You made the heavens and the earth, with all their vast array.

All things quake with fear at your presence; they tremble because of your power.

But your merciful promise is beyond all measure; it surpasses all that our minds can fathom.

O Lord, you are full of compassion, long-suffering, and abounding in mercy.

You hold back your hand; you do not punish as we deserve.

In your great goodness, Lord, you have promised forgiveness to sinners,
that they may repent of their sin and be saved.

And now, O Lord, I bend the knee of my heart, and make my appeal, sure of your gracious goodness.

I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned, and I know my wickedness only too well.

Therefore I make this prayer to you: Forgive me, Lord, forgive me.

Do not let me perish in my sin, nor condemn me to the depths of the earth.

For you, O Lord, are the God of those who repent, and in me you will show forth your goodness.

Unworthy as I am, you will save me, in accordance with your great mercy,
and I will praise you without ceasing all the days of my life.

For all the powers of heaven sing your praises, and yours is the glory to ages of ages. Amen.

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

Second reading *John 2: 13-22*

Common English Bible

¹³It was nearly time for the Jewish Passover, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴He found in the temple those who were selling cattle, sheep, and doves, as well as those involved in exchanging currency sitting there. ¹⁵He made a whip from ropes and chased them all out of the temple, including the cattle and the sheep. He scattered the coins and overturned the tables of those who exchanged currency. ¹⁶He said to the dove sellers, “Get these things out of here! Don’t make my Father’s house a place of business.” ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it is written, *Passion for your house consumes me.*^[a]

¹⁸Then the Jewish leaders asked him, “By what authority are you doing these things? What miraculous sign will you show us?”

¹⁹Jesus answered, “Destroy this temple and in three days I’ll raise it up.”

²⁰The Jewish leaders replied, “It took forty-six years to build this temple, and you will raise it up in three days?”²¹ But the temple Jesus was talking about was his body.²² After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered what he had said, and they believed th

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 16 The Song of Zechariah *Benedictus Dominus Deus*

BCP p. 92

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; he has come to his people and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty savior, born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old, that he would save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all who hate us.

He promised to show mercy to our father and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

Free to worship him without fear, holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way.

To give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

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

Reflection

The Rev. Dr. Becky Coerper

The Apostles' Creed *Leader and people together.*

BCP p.96

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 power of 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

BCP p. 97

Leader The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Leader Let us pray.

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 he kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Intercessory Prayers B

BCP p. 97

Verse: Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;

Response: **Govern and uphold them, now and always.**

Verse: Day by day we bless you;

Response: **We praise your Name forever.**

Verse: Lord keep us from all sin today;

Response: **Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.**

Verse: Lord, show us your love and mercy;

Response: **For we put our trust in you.**

Verse: In you, Lord, is our hope;

Response: **And we shall never hope in vain.**

The Prayer of the Day

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.**

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

In the Diocese of Central New York, we pray for the people of Grace Episcopal Church, Baldwinsville and their priest, The Very Rev. Cathy Carpenter; and for the people of St. David's Episcopal Church, Barneveld. In our Companion Diocese we pray for the people of Misión San Romero de América and their priest, The Rev. Mario Benítez. In the Episcopal Church, we pray for the people of the Diocese of Fort Worth and their bishop the Rt. Rev. J. Scott Mayer. In the Anglican Communion, we pray for the people of the Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo and their Bishop the Most Reverend Zacharie Masimango Katanda. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Sundays

O God, you make us glad, with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A prayer for our nation

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart and especially the hearts of the people of this land, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace. You O God, have bound us together in a common life. Help us, in the midst of our struggles for justice and truth, to confront one another without hatred or bitterness, and to work together with mutual forbearance and respect; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Prayer for the mission of the Church

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Announcements

Birthday and Anniversary Blessing

May the strength of God pilot you. May the power of God preserve you. May the wisdom of God instruct you. May the hand of God protect you. May the way of God direct you. May the shield of God guard you against the snares of evil and the temptations of the world. May the Spirit of God bless you in the coming year.
Adapted from Patrick, c.389 - c.46

The General Thanksgiving

BCP p. 101

Leader and People

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. **Amen.**

The Leader concludes with the following

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.** *Ephesians 3: 20,21*