THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II — 10:15 A.M. SUNDAY, MARCH 30, 2025

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Welcome to St. John's! We invite you to help create the experience of silence before our service. Our hope is to calm our hearts as we prepare to enter into an intensity of shared presence. To ensure newcomers feel welcomed, position prompts are provided throughout our bulletins. If standing or kneeling is uncomfortable for you, please know it is fine to remain seated.

Prelude Deep River

Arr. M. Hogan (1957-2003)

Sung By Phred Mileski

All rise at the sound of the church bell.

Hymn 690, standing Guide me, O thou great Jehovah

CWM RHONDDA

A Penitential Order: Rite Two, standing

BCP p. 351

Presider Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People His mercy endures for ever.

Presider Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is

the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these." Mark 12:29-31

Confession of Sin

Presider Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

The people kneel as able. A moment of reflective silence is kept.

People 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.

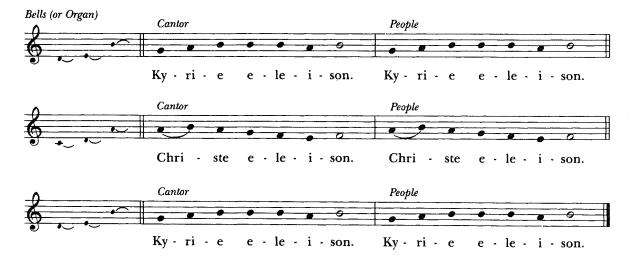
Presider Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord

Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit

keep you in eternal life. Amen.

Kyrie eleison S-359

D. Beyer



Collect of the Day, standing

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray

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 LITURGY OF THE WORD

You may be seated.

The First Lesson: Joshua 5:9-12

The Lord said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

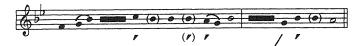
People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 32 Beati quorum

Plainchant Tone III.4

A cantor sings the antiphon at the beginning, then the congregation and choir immediately repeat it, singing it again where indicated; a cantor sings the verses to plainchant.





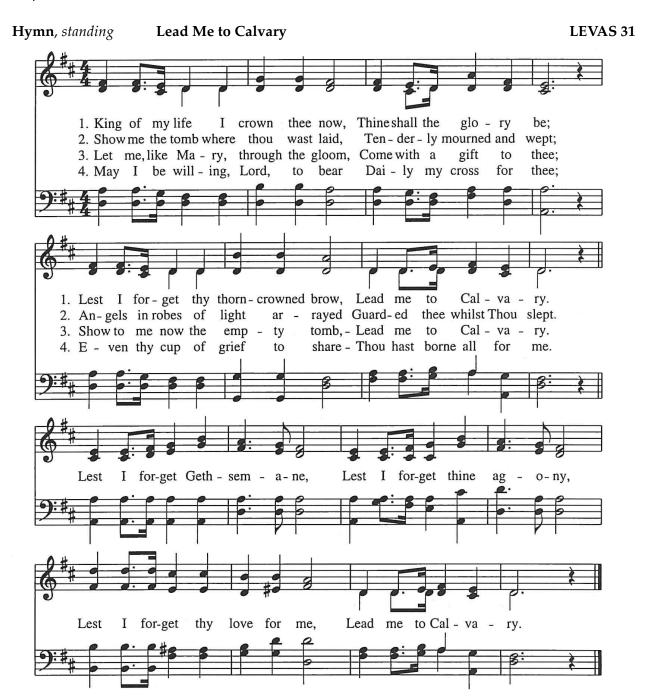
- 1 Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, * and whose sin is put away!
- 2 Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, * and in whose spirit there is no guile!
- 3 While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, * because of my groaning all day long.
- 4 For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; * my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer. [ANTIPHON]
- 5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you, * and did not conceal my guilt.
- 6 I said," I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." * Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.
- 7 Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; * when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.
- 8 You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; * you surround me with shouts of deliverance. [ANTIPHON]
- 9 "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; * I will guide you with my eye.
- 10 Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; * who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."
- 11 Great are the tribulations of the wicked; * but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.
- 12 Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord; * shout for joy, all who are true of heart. [ANTIPHON]

The Epistle: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

From now on, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.



The Holy Gospel: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32, standing

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

All the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." So Jesus told them this parable:

"There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands." So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe--the best one--and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

"Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found."'

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon "How Odd, A Lenten Celebration" The Rev. Wilbert "Wilk" Miller A quiet time for reflection follows the sermon.

The Nicene Creed, standing

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.

The Prayers of the People, standing

Intercessor: In this holy season of Lent let us turn to God in prayer.

Silence is observed.

Intercessor: For the Church, that we will grow in our awareness of God's abundant love for

us. God of love,

The People: hear our prayer.

Intercessor: For the grace of transformation, that God will lead us to live as children of the

light. God of love,

The People: hear our prayer.

Intercessor: For the gift of hope, that God will fill our hearts with joy and expectation, and

will give strength to those who are suffering. God of love,

The People: hear our prayer.

Intercessor: For all who do not know God's forgiveness, that they may know they are loved

and be open to a new relationship with God. God of love,

The People: hear our prayer.

Intercessor: For all who seek to grow in their faith, that they may come to know Christ more

each day and express their faith through deeds of light. God of love,

The People: hear our prayer.

Intercessor: For all who serve the greater good, that God will guide and protect them and

bring them home safely. God of love,

The People: hear our prayer.

Intercessor: For all those who cry out to you during this season of Lent as we walk under the

shadow of the cross, especially Jinny Buracchi, Brandon, Connie Cliffe, Tony Custodio, Roger Deakin, Sherley Furgueson, Jeff Going, Raymond Guarino, Nancy Gould, Erna Jensen, Ken Kezer, Astrid Pensa, Gianna Porcelli, Marguerite Quigley, Dorothy Rider, Janet Schuman-Andrew, Kathe Woodside and all those we now name before you...that they may find comfort in your eternal presence.

God of love,

The People: hear our prayer.

Intercessor: Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask: good things which

we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son

Jesus Christ our Lord.

The People: **Amen.**

The Peace, all standing

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Then the ministers and people may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Welcome and Announcements, you may be seated

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

Offertory Sentence

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *The congregation's offering for the mission and ministry of the church is received. Please be seated.*

Anthem Sing My Soul, His Wondrous Love

N. Rorem (1923-2022)

Sing, my soul, His wondrous love, Who from yon bright throne above, Ever watchful o'er our race, Still to man extends His grace. Heaven and earth by Him were made, All is by His scepter swayed; What are we the He should show

Presentation, standing

The congregation's gifts of bread, wine, and money are presented and placed on the Holy Table. Weekly donations to the Shoreline Pantry are placed before the Altar.

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer C

BCP p. 369

Presider The Lord be with you.

PeopleAnd also with you.PresiderLift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Presider God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

People Glory to you for ever and ever.

Presider At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space,

galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island

home.

People By your will they were created and have their being.

Presider From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with

memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

People Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Presider Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you

revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and

peace.

People By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

Presider And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets,

apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to

you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Sanctus S-124 D. Hurd



Ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, heav-en and



earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

The people stand or kneel, as the Presider continues

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord. On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving, *People:* We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming. Lord God of our Ancestors: God of Abraham, Sarah, and Hagar, Isaac and Rebecca, and Jacob, Leah, Rachel, Bilhah, and Zilpah; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

People: Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **Amen.**

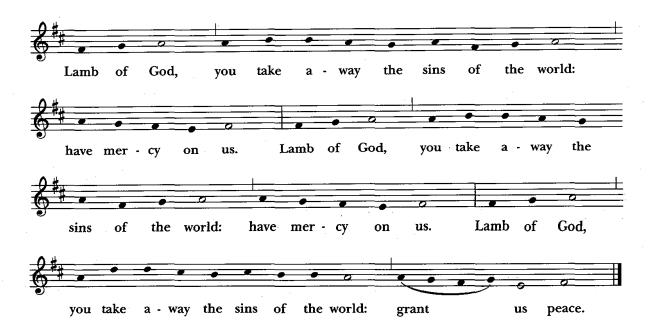
The Lord's Prayer

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to 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 the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Fraction Anthem S-161 D. Hurd



The Invitation to Communion

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God. Holy things for holy people.

All seeking God are welcome at Christ's Table to receive Holy Communion or a blessing. For a blessing, place your hands across your chest. Gluten-free bread is available for those requiring it. Please indicate this by holding one arm across your chest. If you are unable to come forward, ask an usher or someone nearby to request that communion be brought to you.

Hymn 693 Just as I am, without one plea

WOODWORTH

Prayer after Communion, standing

Presider

Let us pray.

People

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, standing

Hymn 559, standing Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us

DULCE CARMEN

As we go forth, we set aside the word "Alleluia" until Easter Day, embracing this season of reflection and renewal.

The Dismissal

Presider

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Ach wir arme Sünder Verse 3

M. Weckmann (1616-1674)

Preparing Our Funeral Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. — Parish Hall

Our interim Pastor Wilbert "Wilk" Miller will lead participants in examining Jesus' passion and death. This will be an excellent way to delve more deeply into the events of Holy Week.

April 1

Jesus Thinking about His Own Passion

April 8

Jesus Thinking about His Own Death

Compassion and Mercy in Caring for Others Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. — Parish Hall

St. John's member Dan Evangelisti will help participants create skills to deal with friends and family who are dying. Compassion and mercy are powerful responses to human need and suffering, especially in how we care for others at the time of human dying; they are also important to our spiritual and moral lives, widening our hearts and minds in relationship to God and neighbor.

April 15

A Call to Compassion and Action

April 22

A Call to Be Merciful and Respectful

Tuesday Morning Eucharist in Lent "Keep Watch, Dear Lord"

11:15 a.m. — (Immediately following Bible Study)

One of the most beloved evening prayers in the Book of Common Prayer is:

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. Amen.

At the 1/2 hour Tuesday morning Eucharist in Lent, we will hear homilies on this prayer.

April 1

(4th Week in Lent)..."Shield the Joyous"

April 8

(5th Sunday in Lent) "The Suffering, Afflicted, & Weary"

April 15

(Tuesday in Holy Week) "The Dying"

CLERGY & PARISH STAFF

The Rev. Wilbert "Wilk" Miller, *Interim Pastor* wilk@stjohnsessex.org/860-767-8095 x.12

Chelsea DiDonato, Communications Director & Parish Administrator

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Anthony Pandolfe Jr., *Director of Music & Organist* anthony@stjohnsessex.org/860.767.8095 x.17

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Manuel Matute, Sexton Dayle Larson, Bookkeeper

VOLUNTEER MINISTRY LEADERS

Nancy Haslam, Prayer Shawl Ministry
Marlene Going, Weekly Food Collection
Stephanie Patterson, Altar Guild
Peggy Tuttle, Pastoral Care Card Ministry
Jennifer Miller, Meal Ministry
Ernie Brainard, Candle Master
Nat Eddy, Outreach Committee
Jan Perruccio, Newcomers Committee

VOLUNTEER PROFESSIONALS

Bill Scharfenstein, Building and Grounds Greg Perruccio, Stewardship Chair John Rogers, Treasurer Clio Coles, Assistant Treasurer Shawn Honan, Investment Oversight Committee

VESTRY Scott Konrad, *Warden*; Sandy Loether, *Warden*; Anne Littlefield, *Vestry Clerk*; John Rogers *Treasurer*; Carol Beisser, Lois Blood Bennett, Tony Custodio, Nat Eddy, Wesley Henry, Stephanie Patterson, Patti Pickering, Rob van der Horst, Kevin Walsh



WORSHIP

SUNDAYS | Holy Eucharist — 8:00 & 10:15 a.m.

TUESDAYS | Bible Study — 10:00 a.m.

TUESDAYS | Midweek Holy Eucharist — 11:15 a.m.

THURSDAYS | Evening Light: A Journey through Compline & Evensong 6:15 p.m.

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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