

Holy Trinity Church
446 Hamilton St. Southbridge, Massachusetts 01550
A parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Western Massachusetts

The Fifth Sunday in Lent
March 17, 2024
9:15 a.m. Children's Chapel
9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

*See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way
in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. [Isaiah 43:19]*

The Rev Judith Lee, *Celebrant & Preacher*
Anne Bouvier-Monroe, *Organist*
John Grant, *Eucharistic Minister*
Lorraine Brumskine, *Lector*

Prelude: *Lamb of God* setting by Larson
Introit *Be Still and know that I am God [sung 3 times]* **Insert**
Silent Procession
Salutation Blessed be the God of our salvation:
Who bears our burdens and forgives our sin.

The Penitential Order **BCP, 351**
The Trisagion **Insert**

Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** 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 forever. Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

The First Lesson: A Reading from the Book of Jeremiah [31:31-34]

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

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

Silence

Psalm 51:1-13 *Miserere mei, Deus*

1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; *
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

2 Wash me through and through from my wickedness *

and cleanse me from my sin.

3 For I know my transgressions, *and my sin is ever before me.

4 Against you only have I sinned *and done what is evil in your sight.

5 And so you are justified when you speak *and upright in your judgment.

6 Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, *

a sinner from my mother's womb.

7 For behold, you look for truth deep within me, *

and will make me understand wisdom secretly.

8 Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; *

wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.

9 Make me hear of joy and gladness, *

that the body you have broken may rejoice.

10 Hide your face from my sins *and blot out all my iniquities.

11 Create in me a clean heart, O God, *and renew a right spirit within me.

12 Cast me not away from your presence *

and take not your holy Spirit from me.

13 Give me the joy of your saving help again *

and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

Silence

The Second Lesson: A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews [5:5-10]

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest but was appointed by the one who said to him, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"; as he says also in another place, "You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek." In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Silence

Sequence Hymn

Day by Day

Hymnal #654

Day by day, dear Lord, of thee three things I pray:

To see thee more clearly, love thee more dearly,

Follow thee more nearly, day by day.

The Holy Gospel According to John [12:20-33]

Response: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

"Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I,

when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

Sermon

The Rev. Judith Lee

Sermon Hymn

O Bless the Lord, my soul!

WLP #825

Bless the Lord my soul and bless God's holy name.

Bless the lord, my soul, Who leads me into life.

The Nicene Creed

BCP, 258

Prayers of the People

Trusting our merciful God to hear us, we pray, *Lord, let your mercy embrace us; accept our prayer*

Do a new thing in your church, O Lord. From our dry places spring forth new life. Refresh your bishops, priests, and deacons. Show us your ways, O Lord, and give us the strength to fulfill your purpose.

Lord, let your mercy embrace us; **accept our prayer**

Forgive us, gracious God, for the violence and anger in our own hearts and for the complacency we mistake for peace. Open our ears and hearts to listen to your prophets and heed their call to your purpose.

Lord, let your mercy embrace us; **accept our prayer**

O God, you know we take the blessings of this life for granted. Guide us, and the leaders of all nations, to be peacemakers who are guided by your Wisdom and Peace,

Lord, let your mercy embrace us; **accept our prayer**

You know our weakness and longing, O God. You know we are not as strong as we think we are. Give us your strength. Teach us the love of Jesus, who from the cross prayed "Father, forgive them."

Lord, let your mercy embrace us; **accept our prayer**

You are our shelter, O God, even as we struggle in the pain of conflict and confusion. You are a haven for those in trouble; you deliver the oppressed; you forgive the guilty, you roll away the disgrace of your people. We pray for those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially those we now name, silently or aloud.

Lord, let your mercy embrace us; **accept our prayer**

In you, O God, do we put our trust. It is our prayer that you may live in us, and are in you, both in this mortal life and for all eternity.

Lord, let your mercy embrace us; **accept our prayer**

Let us say together:

Lord of Love and Mercy, in your pierced hands we lay our hearts; at your pierced feet we choose our place; in your wounded side let us abide. Amen.

Prayer for the parish:

Merciful God, we are born knowing you; you created us for good works. Because we are human, we often stray from the path you have set before us. With Christ as our light to guide us through the tough and not so tough times, and with your grace and mercy to keep us humble, may we continue to be faithful followers, and share your love and light with those around us. All this we ask in Jesus' name. Amen.

The Peace

Announcements and "God Moments"

The Holy Communion

Everyone is welcome at God's Holy Table

Offertory Hymn *Be Thou my vision*

Hymnal #488

Presentation Hymn *All things come of Thee*

Insert

The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer A

BCP, 361

Sanctus #S-125 *Holy, holy, holy Lord*

The Lord's Prayer

BCP, 364

Fraction Anthem *Let us break bread together* vs. 1

Hymnal #325

Let us break bread together on our knees;

Let us break bread together on our knees.

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,

O Lord, have mercy on me.

Communion

How Beautiful

setting by Larson

Post Communion Hymn

Taize Insert

Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten

Those who seek God shall never go wanting

Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten

God alone fills us.

Prayer of Thanksgiving *in unison*

Faithful God, in this communion you increase our faith and hope and love. Lead us in the path of Christ who is your Word of Life. Amen.

Solemn Prayer over the People

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

Recessional Hymn *Lift High the Cross*

Hymnal #473

Dismissal

Postlude *What wondrous love is this?*

Variation III, D. Lasky

Music reprinted and streamed under Onelicense.net #A722242

Announcements

Vestry Highlights

Resolved

- ✓ Accepted a Covenant for Shared Clerical Leadership with Bethlehem Lutheran Church
- ✓ Authorized designation of endowed funds for the Fitzpatrick Fund Scholarship to Madisynn Segarra
- ✓ Authorized Pastor Dan to be on the Rector's Discretionary Account

Discussion

- ✓ What have we done well? Retreat with Bethlehem Lutheran; Lenten Family Night at Bethlehem Lutheran; Game night; Hymn Sing
- ✓ What could we have done better? Communication about the Lenten program

Lenten "travelling bags" are available in the narthex. Please take one for your household.

Lent Madness – a copy of the Handbook is available in the Narthex, and we will post Holy Trinity's votes every week. Please go to <https://www.lentmadness.com> to vote directly and to learn more.

Encountering God: Moving forward in a Changing Church: Our Lenten Program begins this week. A video will be posted on Mondays, and zoom discussion groups will meet on Thursdays, 7-8 pm. Go to <https://forms.gle/J1RbpdMxsdSy7Wdu9> to register.

Next Sunday-Palm Sunday: We will begin the service in the Parish Hall, to process into the sanctuary after the blessing of the palms. The Family Worship players will present a dramatic reading of the Gospel.

Holy Week Schedule:

Thursday March 28 – Maundy Thursday

7 pm Holy Eucharist with Foot Washing

Overnight Vigil: 9pm Thursday – 9am Friday

Good Friday March 29

10 am Stations of the Cross at St. Anne & St. Patrick

Noon Lunch at Holy Trinity for all children & youth

12:45 pm Scavenger Hunt for all children & youth

1-2 pm Retreat for Teens (grades 7-12) in the sanctuary
Meditative Craft for children

2-3 pm Resurrection Gardens for all children and youth

7:00 pm Service of Tenebrae

Saturday March 30: 7 pm Easter Vigil at Bethlehem Lutheran

The First Sunday of our new schedule will be April 14