

**ALL SAINTS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT**

March 23, 2025 - 8:00 AM *(No music)*

10:15 AM *(with music)*

HOLY EUCHARIST - RITE II



The Reverend Kathryn L. King, Rector
The Reverend Mary Frances Schjonberg, Priest Associate
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THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

Prelude: *Wer nur den lieben Gott lasst walten*

J.S. Bach

*The ringing of the bell signals that our worship is about to begin.
Please stand as you are able.*

Welcome

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

Silent Procession

A Penitential Order

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Confession and Absolution

Kyrie #S91, "Lord, have mercy upon us"

Healy Willan

Collect 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.*

Opening Hymn #392, "Come, we that love the Lord"

Vineyard Haven

[Note: The Bible translations in Lent are taken from The Message by Eugene Peterson.]

A Reading from Exodus (3:1-15)

Katharine Benziger/Sharon Babb

Moses was shepherding the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law, the priest of Midian. He led the flock to the west end of the wilderness and came to the mountain of God, Horeb. The angel of God appeared to him in flames of fire blazing out of the middle of a

bush. He looked. The bush was blazing away but it didn't burn up. Moses said, "What's going on here? I can't believe this! Amazing! Why doesn't the bush burn up?"

God saw that he had stopped to look. God called to him from out of the bush, "Moses! Moses!"

He said, "Yes? I'm right here!"

God said, "Don't come any closer. Remove your sandals from your feet. You're standing on holy ground." Then he said, "I am the God of your father: The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob."

Moses hid his face, afraid to look at God.

God said, "I've taken a good, long look at the affliction of my people in Egypt. I've heard their cries for deliverance from their slave masters; I know all about their pain. And now I have come down to help them, pry them loose from the grip of Egypt, get them out of that country and bring them to a good land with wide-open spaces, a land lush with milk and honey, the land of the Canaanite, the Hittite, the Amorite, the Perizzite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite.

"The Israelite cry for help has come to me, and I've seen for myself how cruelly they're being treated by the Egyptians. It's time for you to go back: I'm sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the People of Israel, out of Egypt."

Moses answered God, "But why me? What makes you think that I could ever go to Pharaoh and lead the children of Israel out of Egypt?"

"I'll be with you," God said. "And this will be the proof that I am the one who sent you: When you have brought my people out of Egypt, you will worship God right here at this very mountain."

Then Moses said to God, "Suppose I go to the People of Israel and I tell them, 'The God of your fathers sent me to you'; and they ask me, 'What is his name?' What do I tell them?"

God said to Moses, "I-AM-WHO-I-AM. Tell the People of Israel, 'I-AM sent me to you.'"

God continued with Moses: "This is what you're to say to the Israelites: 'God, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob sent me to you.' This has always been my name, and this is how I always will be known.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm appointed for today is a portion of Psalm 63 (63:1-8). We will read it responsively by half verse.

God—you're my God!

I can't get enough of you!

I've worked up such hunger and thirst for God,

traveling across dry and weary deserts.

So here I am in the place of worship, eyes open,

drinking in your strength and glory.

In your generous love I am really living at last!

My lips brim praises like fountains.

I bless you every time I take a breath;

My arms wave like banners of praise to you.

I eat my fill of prime rib and gravy;

I smack my lips. It's time to shout praises!

If I'm sleepless at midnight,

I spend the hours in grateful reflection.

Because you've always stood up for me,

I'm free to run and play.

I hold on to you for dear life,

and you hold me steady as a post.

A Reading from 1 Corinthians (10:1-13)

Katharine Benziger/Michael Ling

Remember our history, friends, and be warned. All our ancestors were led by the providential Cloud and taken miraculously through the Sea. They went through the waters, in a baptism like ours, as Moses led them from enslaving death to salvation life. They all ate and drank identical food and drink, meals provided daily by God. They drank from the Rock, God's fountain for them that stayed with them wherever they were. And the Rock was Christ. But just experiencing God's wonder and grace didn't seem to mean much—most of them were defeated by temptation during the hard times in the desert, and God was not pleased.

The same thing could happen to us. We must be on guard so that we never get caught up in wanting our own way as they did. And we must not turn our religion into a circus as they did: "First the people partied, then they threw a dance." We must not be sexually promiscuous; they paid for that, remember, with 23,000 deaths in one day! We must never try to get Christ to serve us instead of us serving him; they tried it, and God

launched an epidemic of poisonous snakes. We must be careful not to stir up discontent; discontent destroyed them.

These are all warning markers—danger!—in our history books, written down so that we don't repeat their mistakes. Our positions in the story are parallel—they at the beginning, we at the end—and we are just as capable of messing it up as they were. Don't be so naive and self-confident. You're not exempt. You could fall flat on your face as easily as anyone else. Forget about self-confidence; it's useless. Cultivate God-confidence.

No test or temptation that comes your way is beyond the course of what others have had to face. All you need to remember is that God will never let you down; he'll never let you be pushed past your limit; he'll always be there to help you come through it.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation (*omit Amen*)



THY Gospel, Jesus, we believe,
And for thy help we pray,
That we in thought and word and deed,
Thy Gospel may obey. Amen.

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (13:1-9)

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

About that time some people came up and told him about the Galileans Pilate had killed while they were at worship, mixing their blood with the blood of the sacrifices on the altar. Jesus responded, “Do you think those murdered Galileans were worse sinners than all other Galileans? Not at all. Unless you turn to God, you, too, will die. And those eighteen in Jerusalem the other day, the ones crushed and killed when the Tower of Siloam collapsed and fell on them, do you think they were worse citizens than all other

Jerusalemites? Not at all. Unless you turn to God, you, too, will die.”

Then he told them a story: “A man had an apple tree planted in his front yard. He came to it expecting to find apples, but there weren’t any. He said to his gardener, ‘What’s going on here? For three years now I’ve come to this tree expecting apples and not one apple have I found. Chop it down! Why waste good ground with it any longer?’

“The gardener said, ‘Let’s give it another year. I’ll dig around it and fertilize, and maybe it will produce next year; if it doesn’t, then chop it down.’”

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Repeat the Gospel Acclamation (*omit Amen*)

The Sermon

The Rev. Kathryn L. King

A period of silence is kept after the sermon

Nicene Creed

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The Prayers of the People

In this season of repentance and renewal, let us pray for the concerns of the Church and the world, saying “God, in your mercy, **Renew us.**”

For the whole Church of God, and for all its members:

May the Church truly become the unified body of Christ, hearing and living out God’s call in the world. We pray for all baptized Christians in their ministries, for Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Sally, our bishop; and for all clergy and other ministers.

God, in your mercy,

Renew us

For our nation and every nation:

May all people learn to live together in peace, respecting one another’s differences and autonomy. May all leaders be ever mindful of their responsibilities to their own people and others in the world. We pray for our President, Congress, Courts, state and local officials, and for all leaders around the world.

God, in your mercy,

Renew us

For this community and all communities:

May we live together in love and harmony, striving for the building up of all members, for wholeness and justice, striving until none are left behind.

God, in your mercy,

Renew us

For the concerns of the whole world:

May those who face natural disasters find grace and relief; may those who face conflict and war find a loving spirit; and may all of us come to treat our neighbors as ourselves so that we and all this world may truly come to be God's new creation.

God, in your mercy,

Renew us

For all those who are in any pain or sorrow:

May they come to know your love and care and be brought to wholeness; for those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; for the poor, the persecuted, and those in prison; for those who are lonely, homeless, or hungry; for all those we now remember especially **Glenda, Phyllis, Anne, Clayton, Sandy McIntyre, Greta, Edward H., Jason, Florence, Barb, Dominic, Hannah, Jen T., Sharon, Greg, Laurie, Joyce, Jim W., Martha H., Sarah, Laura, Alfredo, Linda R., Ian, Megan, Paula, Katherine C., Jorgy, Pat, Yolande, Jen, Jim, Priscilla, Patti, Sherry, Emily, Sabina, Jean Richards, and J.A. Brown.**

God, in your mercy,

Renew us

For all the blessings of this life:

May we truly celebrate the life we have been given and our time with one another; for new beginnings, anniversaries, and birthdays (especially **Pam Cannon, George Flynn,** and **Wayne Morse**), and for all the joys of this life; we thank you for all other thanksgivings we now offer, silently or aloud

God, in your mercy,

Renew us

For all who have died:

May those who now live in the joy of God's presence find their rest in God's peace.

God, in your mercy,
Renew us

[The Celebrant will add a concluding collect.]

The Peace

Please share the peace with those in your pew and a distanced greeting with others.

Offertory Sentence

Offertory Anthem, *What Wondrous Love Is This*

arr. Eric Routley

Doxology

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Please remember that there are no Alleluias during Lent or Eastertide

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer B

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Sanctus #S124

The Lord's Prayer

The Breaking of the Bread

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Agnus Dei #S161



The Communion of the People

All are welcome to receive Communion. If you are unable to go to the Altar, please notify an Usher. Communion will be brought to you. Those who desire to receive the wine may do so in one of two ways that align with our updated Diocesan guidelines. If you choose to drink from the chalice, after consuming the bread, please help the Lay Eucharistic Minister guide it to your lips by holding the chalice by its stem.

Alternatively, you may receive the wine by intinction by handing the bread to the Eucharistic Minister who will dip the host into the consecrated wine and hand it back to you. It is available to all but required of none.

Communion Hymn# 635, "If thou but trust in God to guide thee"

G. Newmark

The Post-Communion Prayer

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The Solemn Prayer over the people

(Please kneel or bow as you are able.)

Celebrant: Bow down before the Lord.

Please be seated for brief announcements.

Closing Hymn #344, "Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing"

St. Agnes

The Dismissal

Postlude: *Basse de Cromorne*

Louis-Nicolaus Clerambault

Service Participants

Celebrant: The Rev. Kathryn L. King

Verger: Clayton Smith

Chalice: Rick Hager

Acolytes: 8:00 – Dick Hewson 10:15 – Evan Veenboer

Lectors: 8:00 – Katharine Benziger 10:15 – Sharon Babb, Michael Ling

Altar Guild: Linda Gyurko, Lois Eberhart

Hospitality: Sharon Babb and Mary Frances Schjonberg

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome John! We are thrilled to welcome **John Milas**, our new Minister of Music, who began his tenure with All Saints last Sunday. We are blessed to have someone with John's skills, experience, and heart for the service of Jesus joining our staff. If you haven't had a chance yet, please join in welcoming him.

Lenten Series 2025 This year, we're using The Discovery Series, produced by the Episcopal Diocese of Texas, as our jumping off point. Brief videos will open the discussion for each session. In the first two sessions of this five-session program, we will assess our spiritual gifts, our individual place in ministry, and the importance of personal involvement. Then, we will spend three sessions exploring how our stories are reflections of the biblical story and how sharing of our stories is an important aspect of sharing the faith. There will be two identical sessions held each week, and you may choose the one that meets your schedule best, either 10:30 AM or 6 PM (the latter will include a soup and salad potluck meal). We will meet on March 12, 19, and 26, and April 2 and 9.



Lent Evening Prayer As a new opportunity for prayer and reflection during Lent this year, we are offering Evening Prayer on Mondays and Fridays at 5:30 p.m. This 20-minute office provides a way to mark the end of the business of the daytime and enter into the quieter close of the day. Stop by on your way home or on your way out to supper. See Michael Ling's message in the most recent newsletter or speak with Michael and Francine or Kathryn if you have any questions.



Lent Madness Modeled after March Madness, the brackets pit one saint against another instead of basketball teams. This year, those of you who want "in on the action" will read a short piece about one saint each day. Your votes will be cast online with those of others across the Episcopal Church, moving selected saints up the brackets until, just before Easter, one prevails and is awarded the coveted Golden Halo. Check out the large bracket in Bristol Hall, along with a booklet containing the saints' biographies.

United Thank Offering The little blue boxes are now available for your thankful offerings. This is an opportunity for us to turn our many blessings into blessings for others. Please support this important ministry that provides aid in the form of grants to the Episcopal Church and the provinces of the Anglican Community throughout the world. Our Ingathering will be later in the Spring.

Please join us for our second Outreach Meeting, TODAY, following 10:15 AM service. This meeting builds on the June 2024 session and continues the conversation about All Saints' plans and goals for Outreach 2025—and beyond. For more information, contact John Copman.

Spring Clean-up Day, Saturday, April 12, 9 AM to Noon Please bring gloves, rakes, and pruning shears (if you have them). Lunch will be provided!

Easter Baskets for St. Gregory's Pantry We will again be supporting the distribution of Easter baskets through St. Gregory's. Suggestions for items to include and age groupings are available near the sign-up bulletin board. **Please return filled baskets by Sunday, April 13** so they can be transported to St. Gregory's in time for the distribution days. Thank you.



Confirmation, Reception, Reaffirmation I believe that All Saints will be scheduled for an official visitation by Bishop Sally French, within the next 6 to 8 months. That will be a wonderful opportunity for us to present adults for the rites of Confirmation, Reception, and Reaffirmation.

Confirmation - the rite whereby those baptized at a young age make a mature affirmation of their faith and receive the laying on of hands by the Bishop.

Reception - the rite whereby those baptized and Confirmed in another tradition present themselves to the Bishop to be received into the Episcopal Church.

Reaffirmation - the rite that provides an opportunity for anyone already Confirmed to Reaffirm their Christian commitment. This is done for many reasons, which may include: having left the church for a period and returning, having had a particular growth in faith that one would like to recognize, and even simply as a practice undertaken as a regular part of a personal faith journey.

If your interest is awakened by any of these, or you would like to learn more, please speak with me. I would welcome the opportunity to work with anyone who is interested in preparing for any of these milestones. *Kathryn+*

**About the translation of the Bible we are using for
Lent 2025**

The goal of *The Message*, by Eugene Peterson, is to engage people in the reading process and help them understand what they read. This is not a study Bible, but rather a reading Bible. The original books of the Bible were not written in formal language. *The Message* tries to recapture the Word in the words we use today. I hope you'll appreciate and embrace the shift. You might really like it, or you may not. That's OK. It will give us even more to talk about!
