

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

8 Sunnyside Avenue, Pleasantville, NY 10570
The Rev. Mary B. Gregorius, Rector
Stjohnspleasantville.org 914-769-0053



FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

21 MARCH 2021

MORNING PRAYER: RITE TWO 9:30AM

ONLINE SERVICE

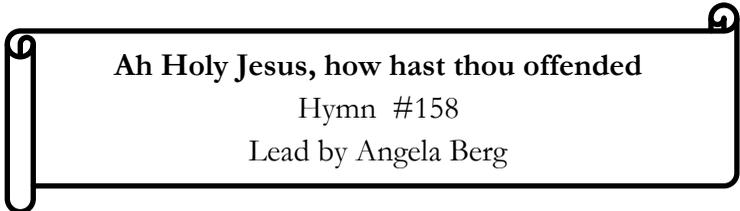
Vincent Van Gough

10 Secrets of a Wheatfield with Crows

This morning we celebrate a Service of Morning Prayer. This service is taken from the *1979 Book of Common Prayer*. **Words printed in bold are spoken by the congregation.**

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE



Ah Holy Jesus, how hast thou offended

Hymn #158

Lead by Angela Berg

1 Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended,
that man to judge thee hath in hate pretended?
By foes derided, by thine own rejected,
O most afflicted.

2 Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee?
Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee.
'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied thee:
I crucified thee.

3 Lo, the Good Shepherd for the sheep is offered;
the slave hath sinnèd, and the Son hath suffered;
for our atonement, while we nothing heeded,
God interceded.

4 For me, kind Jesus, was thy incarnation,
thy mortal sorrow, and thy life's oblation;
thy death of anguish and thy bitter passion,
for my salvation.

5 Therefore, kind Jesus, since I cannot pay thee,
I do adore thee, and will ever pray thee,
think on thy pity and thy love unswerving,
not my deserving.

AN EXHORTATION

Officiant: Let us Pray

Beloved in the Lord: Our Savior Christ, on the night before he suffered, instituted the Sacrament of his Body and Blood as a sign and pledge of his love, for the continual remembrance of the sacrifice of his death, and for a spiritual sharing in his risen life. For in these holy Mysteries we are made one with Christ, and Christ with us; we are made one body in him, and members one of another.

Having in mind, therefore, his great love for us, and in obedience to his command, his Church renders to Almighty God our heavenly Father never-ending thanks for the creation of the world, for his continual providence over us, for his love for all mankind, and for the redemption of the world by our Savior Christ, who took upon himself our flesh, and humbled himself even to death on the cross, that he might make us the children of God by the power of the Holy Spirit, and exalt us to everlasting life.

Examine your lives and conduct by the rule of God's commandments, that you may perceive wherein you have offended in what you have done or left undone, whether in thought, word, or deed. And acknowledge your sins before Almighty God, with full purpose of amendment of life, being ready to make restitution for all injuries and wrongs done by you to others; and also being ready to forgive those who have offended you, in order that you yourselves may be forgiven. And then, being reconciled with one another, come to the banquet of that most heavenly Food.

And if, in your preparation, you need help and counsel, then go and open your grief to a discreet and understanding priest, and confess your sins, that you may receive the benefit of absolution, and spiritual counsel and advice; to the removal of scruple and doubt, the assurance of pardon, and the strengthening of your faith.

To Christ our Lord who loves us, and washed us in his own blood, and made us a kingdom of priests to serve his God and Father, to him be glory in the Church evermore. Through him let us offer continually the sacrifice of praise, which is our bounden duty and service, and, with faith in him, come boldly before the throne of grace.

LITANY OF PENITENCE

All: **Most holy and merciful Father we confess to you and to one another, and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own fault, in thought, word, and deed; by what we have done and what we have left undone.**

Officiant: We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.

People: **Have mercy on us, Lord.**

Deacon: We have been deaf to your call to serve, as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

People: **Have mercy on us, Lord.**

Officiant: We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience of our lives,

People: **We confess to you, Lord**

Deacon: Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people,

People: **We confess to you, Lord**

Officiant: Our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,

People: **We confess to you, Lord**

Deacon: Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work,

People: **We confess to you, Lord**

Officiant: Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,

People: **We confess to you, Lord**

Deacon: Accept our repentance, Lord, for the wrongs we have done: for our blindness to human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,

People: **Accept our repentance, Lord**

Officiant: For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,

People: **Accept our repentance, Lord**
Deacon: For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us,
People: **Accept our repentance, Lord**
Officiant: Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us;
People: **Favorably hear us, for your mercy is great**
Deacon: Accomplish in us the work of your salvation,
People: **That we may show forth your glory in the world.**
Officiant: By the cross and passion of your Son our Lord,
People: **Bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.**

Officiant

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desires not the death of sinners, but rather that they may turn from their wickedness and live, has given power and commandment to his ministers to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the absolution and remission of their sins. He pardons and absolves all those who truly repent, and with sincere hearts believe his holy Gospel.

Therefore we beseech him to grant us true repentance and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him which we do on this day, and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure and holy, so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: **Amen**

THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

Officiant: Lord, open our lips.
People: **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

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.

PSALM 51: 1-13

- 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.
And so you are justified when you speak *
and upright in your judgement.
5 Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth,
a sinner from my mother's womb.
6 For behold, you look for truth deep within me, *
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.
7 Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; *
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.
8 Make me hear of joy and gladness, *
that the body you have broken may rejoice.
9 Hide your face from my sins *
and blot out all my iniquities.
10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, *
and renew a right spirit within me.
11 Cast me not away from your presence *
and take not your holy Spirit from me. .
12 Give me the joy of your saving help again *
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.
13 I shall teach your ways to the wicked, *
and sinners shall return to you.

Officiant: The Lord is full of compassion and mercy;
People: **Come let us adore God.**

A READING FROM HEBREWS 5: 5-10

Read by: Ryan Fannon

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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God**

Canticle 9: the First Song of Isaiah

Isaiah 12: 2-6

Hymnal #S-213

Lead by Angela Berg

Surely, it is God who saves me; *
I will trust in him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, *
and he will be my Savior.
Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing *
from the springs of salvation.
And on that day you shall say, *
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;
Make his deeds known among the peoples; *
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.
Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, *
and this is known in all the world.
Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, *
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.
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 GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN 12:20-33

Reader: The Rev. Deacon Lynn Werdal

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.”

Deacon: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE HOMILY

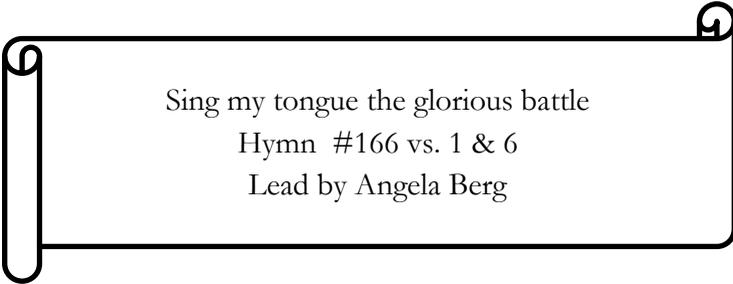
THE REV. MARY B. GREGORIUS

THE PEACE

May the peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE: Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving and make good your vows to the Most High. *Psalms 50:1-4*



Sing my tongue the glorious battle
Hymn #166 vs. 1 & 6
Lead by Angela Berg

1 Sing, my tongue, the glorious battle;
of the mighty conflict sing;
tell the triumph of the victim,
to his cross thy tribute bring.
Jesus Christ, the world's Redeemer
from that cross now reigns as King.

6 Praise and honor to the Father,
praise and honor to the Son,
praise and honor to the Spirit,
ever Three and ever One:
one in might and one in glory
while eternal ages run.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth;

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Officiant: Let us pray.

Officiant 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, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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.*

PRAYER FOR THE RENEWAL OF LIFE

O God, the King eternal, whose light divides the day from the night and turns the shadow of death into the morning: Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet into the way of peace; that, having done your will with cheerfulness during the day, we may, when night comes, rejoice to give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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.*

Announcements

THE BLESSING

The Rev. Mary B. Gregorius

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

DISMISSAL

Deacon: Let us bless the Lord!

People: **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

STEWARDSHIP

The Prophet Jeremiah speaks for God saying, I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts..." This asserts the Apostle Paul is the spiritual growth we acquire between belief and faith which inspires our action for God in the world. May we so grow in faith, that our action is always of God's desire for abundant life. If you have not yet made your 2021 Pledge to St. John's please do so at your earliest convenience. Pledge cards available on our website, stjohnspleasantville.org.

Please keep these beloved folks in your private prayers this week, contact Mother Mary+ if you would like to add anyone to our Prayer list

We pray for all those suffering with COVID-19. We pray for all those struggling to find the light of Christ in this skeptical world We pray for peace and unity among us as we seek a new way forward as people of faith. We pray for our Nation may we work to harmony.

We pray for those who are in the hospital or home recuperating, especially: **Laura O'Malley** (John & Clare McAndrew's niece), **Yumi, Linda Hill, Ronald Garvey, Max, Anne, Cathy, Barbara, Hudson** Beauregard; **Ellie Ruvo, Steven Schubert, Martha Thornley** and **Shlomo Teladano**

We pray for those who are homebound: **Esmerilda Hastings, Margaret Vaccaro, John & Lee Williams, Dorothy Dushin, Ronald Acheson, Jim, Marge, Joe Smith, Carolyn Damiano, Deanna Ammirato** and **Bill & Dorothy D'Amato**.

We pray for those struggling with chronic illness, especially: **Liz & Jeff Daniele, Andrew Tom, Rebecca, Vince Servio, Sarah Paruolo, Annaliese Haag, Martha, Gerald, Marilyn Griffin, Joyce, Paul Ruvo, Helene, Jason, Peter, Hannelore,** and **Jeff**.

We pray for **Edwin Sanchez and the students at El Hogar School**, and the American **Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem**.

We pray for those who have died, especially **Rena Kaplan** and **Frederick Giloth** and the over 500,000 in this country who have died from COVID-19

HOLY WEEK 2021:

Palm Sunday: 3-28-2021, 9:30am; In person Service will be Live Streamed through our Facebook Page. .Space for In Person attendance is limited to 30 persons, please use [Sign-Up Genius](#) to reserve a spot in the church

Maundy Thursday: 4-1-2021, 7pm; ZOOM Service only. 6pm, Gather with your family/friend's pod Wash each other's feet and follow with a simple Agape Meal and then join into the 7pm Zoom

Good Friday: 4-2-2021; 12n to 3pm the church will be open for prayer. The Liturgy for Good Friday and Passion Gospel will unfold through out the 3 hours
A schedule will be sent and the service will be accessible via Zoom

Easter Sunday: 4-4-2021, 9:30am; In person Morning Prayer Service will be Live Streamed through our Facebook Page and will be followed by Holy Eucharist.
Space for In Person attendance is limited to 30 persons, please use [Sign-Up Genius](#) to reserve a spot in the church.

Easter Cut Outs—For those not yet ready to attend in person, please send or drop off pictures for use in the church by Thursday April 1st and we will be sure you and yours are in joyful attendance!

Peep Golf—Enjoy the days celebrations with feasting and frozen Peep Golf
Instructions available upon request—prizes will be awarded!

CALENDAR:

Tuesday Noon Prayers, via ZOOM, watch for link

Wednesday 7pm-8pm Lenten Program This week's Topic—Praise Jesus - The Song and Dance Man, Shake Rattle and Roll!!! Please join us via Zoom for the Lenten Program based on the book Flunking Sainthood by Jana Riess.

Thursday Bible Study, 11am. We are taking up Paul's Letter to the Romans, via ZOOM

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Angela Berg, Cantor Webmaster, Jonathan Pytell.

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