

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

8 Sunnyside Avenue, Pleasantville, NY 10570

The Rev. Mary B. Gregorius, Rector

Stjohnspleasantville.org

914-769-0053



THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

7 MARCH 2021

MORNING PRAYER: RITE TWO 9:30AM

ONLINE SERVICE

PAINTING BY RAYMOND BALZEA

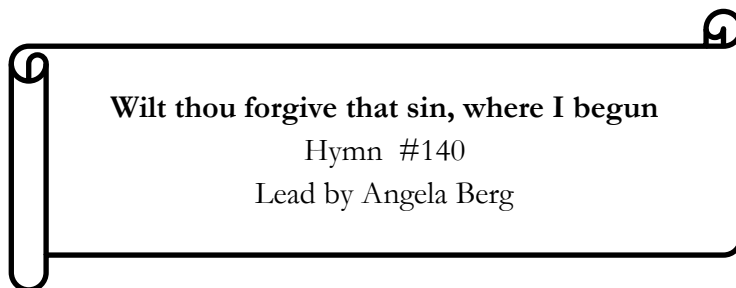
CLEANSING OF THE TEMPLE, 1866

Our mission is to restore all people to unity with God and each other, in Christ. (BCP 855)

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



1 Wilt thou forgive that sin, where I begun,
which is my sin, though it were done before?
Wilt thou forgive those sins through which I run,
and do run still, though still I do deplore?
When thou hast done, thou hast not done,
for I have more.

2 Wilt thou forgive that sin, by which I won
others to sin, and made my sin their door?
Wilt thou forgive that sin which I did shun
a year or two, but wallowed in a score?
When thou hast done, thou hast not done,
for I have more.

3 I have a sin of fear that when I've spun
my last thread, I shall perish on the shore;
swear by thyself, that at my death thy Son
shall shine as he shines now, and heretofore.
And having done that, thou hast done,
I fear no more.

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 19

1 The heavens declare the glory of God, *
and the firmament shows the handiwork of the Lord.

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 God 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 statutes 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 for ever; *
the judgements 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 also is your servant enlightened, *
and in keeping them there is great reward.
12 Who can tell how often they offend? *
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 meditations of my heart
be acceptable in your sight; *
O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

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

A READING FROM 1 CORINTHAINS 1:18-25

Read by: Sophie Worley

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength..

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 2:13-22

Reader: The Rev. Deacon Lynn Werdal

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

Deacon: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

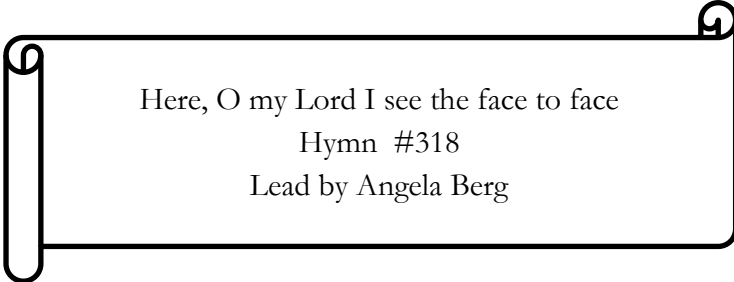
THE HOMILY

THE REV. LYNN WERDAL

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*



Here, O my Lord I see the face to face
Hymn #318
Lead by Angela Berg

1 Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face;
here would I touch and handle things unseen;
here grasp with firmer hand eternal grace,
and all my weariness upon thee lean.

2 Here would I feed upon the Bread of God;
here drink with thee the royal Wine of heaven;
here would I lay aside each earthly load,
here taste afresh the calm of sin forgiven.

3 I have no help but thine; nor do I need
another arm save thine to lean upon;
it is enough, my Lord, enough indeed;
my strength is in thy might, thy might alone.

4 Mine is the sin, but thine the righteousness;
mine is the guilt, but thine the cleansing Blood.
Here is my robe, my refuge, and my peace;
thy Blood, thy righteousness, O Lord, my God.

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 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.*

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

Exodus reminds us of God's Commandments, the first of which is to put nothing in before God in the living of our lives. To praise, be thankful, and to be faithful first and foremost to the Holy One who created us. If we embrace this Command, all life will have deeper meaning, promise and grace. We are invited to give to the Lord of our first fruits and wondrous gifts. 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 build harmony.

We pray for those who are in the hospital or home recuperating, especially: Bob Gowen, **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

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—Searching Scripture - The Gems not there. No Magic Answers Please join us via Zoom for the Lenten Program based on the book Flunking Sainthood by Jana Riess. [Click here](#) for the sign up genius or call the office if you are interested in attending one or more session

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

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