

# TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*Offering Companionship along the Way*

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 19, 2023

**Prelude** Organ improvisation on tune *Moscow*

**Processional Hymn 371** Thou, whose almighty word

*Moscow*

*Pastor* Blessed be the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People* **His mercy endures forever.**

*Pastor* Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**The Trisagion: Hymnal S 100**

David Hurd, b. 1950

**Holy God,  
Holy and mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,  
Have mercy upon us.**

*Pastor* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Pastor* Let us pray together our collect.

**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.**

**A reading from the First Book of Samuel 16:1-13**

The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the LORD." But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his

stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.”

Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.” Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.” Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The LORD has not chosen any of these.”

Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.” He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, “Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.” Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 23 (King James Version)**

*Gevert-1*

The LORD is my shepherd;  
I shall not want.  
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures;  
he leadeth me beside the still waters.  
He restoreth my soul;  
he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his Name’s sake.  
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil;  
for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.  
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine  
enemies;  
thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

### **A Reading from Paul’s Letter to the Ephesians 5:8-14**

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light— for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual Hymn 633** Word from God, come down on earth

*Mt. Alban NCA*

*Priest*            The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 9:1-41  
*People*            **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see

may see, and those who do see may become blind.” Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

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

**Sermon**

**The Rev. Heidi Truax**

**A time of Silent Reflection**

**The Nicene Creed**

**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.**

**Prayers of the People**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord, have mercy.”

For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the day of your coming, we pray to you, O Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, for Jeffrey and Laura our Bishops, for all lay and ordained ministers, and for all the holy people of God, we pray to you, O Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness we may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those on our parish cycle of prayer Emily DiMartino, Al & Alexis Dorf, Kathy Drake and Steve Potter and for their families, and for all who live and work in our communities, we pray to you, O Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, all who suffer and those who have asked for our prayers (*we read from the book and leave time for people to add names;*) for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For ourselves; for the forgiveness of our sins, and for the grace of the Holy Spirit to amend our lives, we pray to you, O Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For all who have died in the communion of your Church (*we read from the book and leave time for people to add names;*) and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For all the blessings of our lives especially all we lift up in prayer at this time (*we leave time to lift up our thanksgivings.*) Give us grateful hearts, O Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

**To you, O Lord our God.**

### **The Confession and Absolution**

**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.**

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.**

*Priest*            The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People*           **And also with you.**

### **Announcements**

**Offertory Anthem** “Sheep may safely graze” (Cantata BWV208)            by Johann Sebastian Bach  
(1685-1750), arr. Christine Gevert

Sheep may safely graze and pasture  
Where the Shepherd keeps his watch.  
Those whose master rules them wisely  
Know the peace, the joy, and the comfort  
That his governance provides.  
Sheep may safely graze...

**Doxology Hymn 380, vs. 3** Praise God from whom all blessings flow

*Old 100th*

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Priest* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Priest* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Priest* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

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

**Glory to you for ever and ever.**

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.

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

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the stewards of creation. But we turned against you and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

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

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.

**By his blood, he reconciled us.**

**By his wounds, we are healed.**

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:

**Holy, holy, holy: Hymnal S 124 Sanctus**

David Hurd, b. 1950

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

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,

**We celebrate his death and resurrection,**

**as we await the day of his coming.**

Lord God of our Ancestors; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, God of Sarah, Rebecca, Leah and Rachel; 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.

**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.**

And now 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.**

**Lamb of God: Hymnal S 161** Agnus Dei

David Hurd, b. 1950

**Distribution of Holy Communion at the altar**

*We offer wine and grape juice, blessed*

**Communion Hymn 321** My God, thy table now is spread

*Rockingham*

**Postcommunion Prayer**

**Father of all we give you thanks and praise that while we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living he declared your love, gave us grace and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body, live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights, give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so that we and all your children may be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Celtic liturgy*

**Blessing**

And now to our Great God who is able to accomplish in us far more than we can ask or even imagine, to him be glory for ever and ever. And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

**Recessional Hymn 493** O for a thousand tongues to sing

*Azmon*

**The Dismissal**

*Pastor Heidi*  
**People**

Let us bless the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude** Organ improvisation on tune *Azmon*

*The daffodils on the altar this morning are given to  
the Glory of God and in honor of our parents.*

## Serving Today

*Rector:* The Rev. Heidi Truax  
*Music Director:* Christine Gevert  
*Minister of Communion:* Theresa Kenny  
*Lector:* Mike Cuoco  
*Epistoler:* Bill Jenks  
*Intercessor:* Linda Lloyd

*Altar Guild:* Bev Becker  
*Flowers:* Michelle Sisk  
*Counter:* John Lloyd  
*Greeter/Usher:* Jim Conzo  
*Verger:* Geoff Brown

## Announcements

- Sun., March 19** Carol Taylor visits Sunday School for Absalom Jones talk  
12 Noon Vestry Meeting
- Sun., March 26** 11:45 AM Outreach Brunch returns with visits from librarians from Salisbury,  
Sharon and Falls Village  
4:00 PM Misa en Español
- Thurs., March 30** 1:00 PM Special Bible Study with Rabbi Jon Haddon of Congregation Beth  
David - on Zoom. All welcome to hear his talk on “Everything you  
wanted to know about Passover” contact Pastor Heidi to receive zoom link.
- Sat., April 1** 10:30 AM to 1 PM—Meet Bp. Jeffrey Mello—St. Michael’s Litchfield, carpool!
- Sunday, April 2** Palm Sunday services at 8 and 10:30 AM
- Friday, April 7** Good Friday services:  
12 Noon Way of the Cross  
7:00 PM Good Friday: Words from the Life of Jesus, ecumenical service w/music
- Sat., April 8** 7:00 PM Easter Vigil, traditional New Fire, music and s’ mores afterwards
- Sun. April 9** 8, 10:30, and 4:00 PM Easter Services with Easter egg hunts

## Weekly Schedule

- Mondays** 7:00 PM Crescendo Rehearsal
- Tuesdays** 7:00 PM Overeaters Anonymous in Walker Hall
- Wednesdays** Services at Noble Horizons, Geer Nursing, Geer Lodge  
6:00 PM on first and last Wednesday of the month, Women’s AA in Walker Hall
- Thursdays** 1:00 PM Bible Study on Zoom (except no class in Holy Week or Easter Week)
- Saturdays** 9:00 AM till Noon—Bookkeeper, Nancy Hiller is in the office

## Music Credits for Live Stream

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THE REV. HEIDI TRUAX, RECTOR  
*Offering Companionship Along the Way*