

THE *Episcopal* CHURCH 
 OF *St. John the Baptist*

“Where All Are Welcome . . . No Exceptions!”

**The First Sunday
in Lent**
February 21, 2021

The Holy Eucharist
The Word of God

Prelude *Voluntary on ‘A Mighty Fortress Is Our God’*
Hymn Tune: Ein feste Burg Sherri Hanson

Processional Hymn (*Please stand as able*) *Please see page 8*

Children’s Chat - *Robert Freeman*

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.
People **God’s mercy endures for ever.**

The Decalogue (*Please kneel or be seated*)
The Celebrant and People pray responsively

Hear the commandments of God to God’s people:
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.
You shall have no other gods but me.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not make yourself any idol.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

Honor your father and your mother.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit murder.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit adultery.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

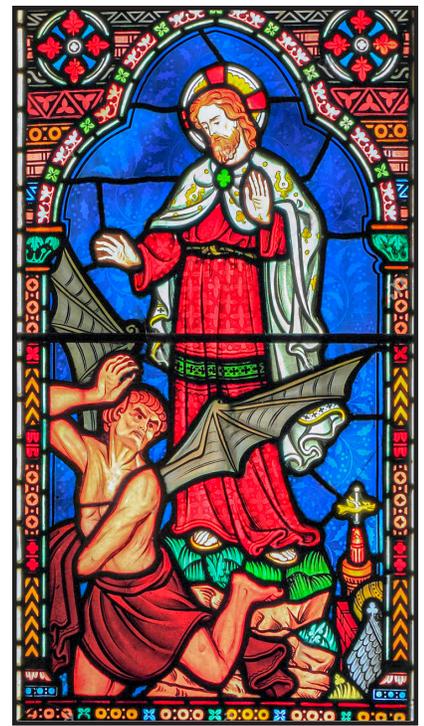
You shall not steal.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not be a false witness.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

The Celebrant may add the following sentence

Jesus said, “The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these.” *Mark 12:29-31*



#559 | “Lead Us, Heavenly Father”

The Confession of Sin *(Please kneel as able or be seated)*

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *(Silence may be kept)*

People ***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.***

Celebrant 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.***

Lord, Have Mercy *(Please stand as able)*

Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

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

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant prays the Collect

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People ***Amen.***

First Reading *(Please be seated)*

Reader A Reading from Genesis:

Introduction to the First Reading

Through Noah, God makes the first covenant, a covenant with all humans and animals and every generation. The sign of the covenant, the rainbow, is a sign of peace. This first covenant demonstrates the trustworthiness of God.

Genesis 9:8-17

God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***



To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you;
let me not be humiliated,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.

Let none who look to you be put to shame;
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes. [ANT.]

Show me your ways, O LORD,
and teach me your paths.
Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long.

[ANT.]

Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting
Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;
remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD. [ANT.]

Gracious and upright is the LORD;
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
He guides the humble in doing right
and teaches his way to the lowly.
All the paths of the LORD are love and faithfulness
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.
[ANT.]

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Second Reading

Reader A Reading from The First Letter of Peter:

Introduction to the Second Reading

In this reading we hear parts of a hymn to frame statements about Jesus' authority and the meaning of baptism. As God acted through Christ's suffering and death to bring us to God, so God acts through baptism to save us. This spiritual cleansing marks our new life in Christ.

1 Peter 3:18-22

Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you-- not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn (Please stand as able) – Please see page 9

#142 | “Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days”

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Mark:

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

The Holy Gospel (The Gospel is carried into the congregation so that we remember it is our Good News to hear and to share.)

Mark 1:9-15

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

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

THE SERMON

The Nicene Creed *(Please stand as able)*

*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.*

The Prayers of the People *The Leader and People pray responsively.*

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

In Jesus your realm has come near to us in every place and time. Give your church throughout the world a spirit of humility and repentance; teach us to trust always in the good news of your salvation. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You have made a covenant of mercy with every living creature. Protect all the earth's creatures from destruction. Empower the work of biologists, conservationists, and science educators. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

All your paths are steadfast love and faithfulness. Direct the words and actions of leaders in our community and throughout the world, that they may maintain justice for the lowly. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Even in the wilderness you are with us. Walk alongside migrants and refugees crossing dangerous lands. Tend to those whose lives feel desolate. Give healing and strength to all who suffer. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In the covenant of baptism you claim us as beloved children. Nurture us in our baptismal identity and teach us to live within it for the sake of others. Strengthen this congregation's ministries of care and concern. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In baptism you join us to the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We praise you for all those who have died trusting in your faithfulness. Bring us with them to the fullness of your reign. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others, especially remembering those on our parish prayer list and those we name in our hearts.

(The congregation may add their own petitions either silently or aloud after the prayer list is read.)

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

(The Celebrant may add a concluding Collect, or a Doxology.)

The Peace *(Please stand as able)*

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Holy Communion

Being seated, we begin with a time of offering, giving money as a sign that our life serves God's purposes and showing our gratitude for God's many blessings.

Your faithful tithes and offerings are much needed and can be sent to:

The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist, PO Box 441, Milton, DE 19968 OR

Securely online through our website - <https://www.stjohnthebaptistmilton.org/give.html>

Offertory Sentence & Interlude

Doxology *(The offering is presented as the Doxology is sung.*

Please stand as able)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye
heaven - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

WORDS: Isaac Watts (1674-1748). Music: Louis Bourgeois, c. 1510-1561.

Offertory Hymn

Please see page 10

#448 | "O Love, How Deep"

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer C

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

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

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

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:

Sanctus: *Holy, holy, holy Lord*

Hymnal S130

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and mi - ght, Hol - ly, ho - ly,
11 ho - ly Lord, God of power and mi - ght, heav - en and earth are fu -
20 ll, fu - ll of your glor - ry Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the
31 high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes - in the name of the Lo - rd. Ho -
41 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The people may kneel as able, or be seated. The Celebrant continues.

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.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

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 Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; 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.*

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

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.***

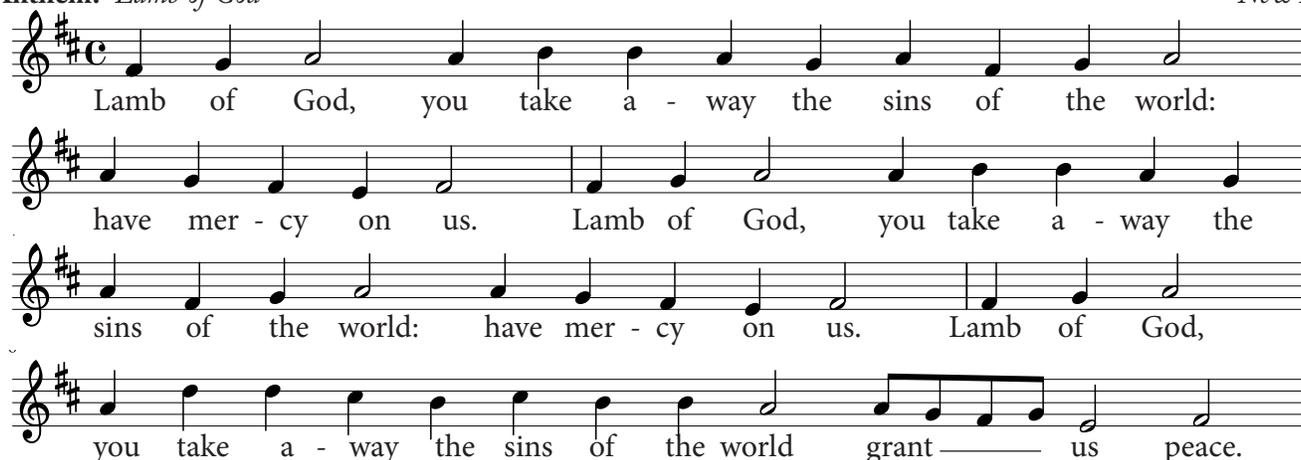
***And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.***

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People *Therefore let us keep the feast.*

Fraction Anthem: *Lamb of God*

New Plainsong



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sins of the world grant us peace.

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

Lord Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart and my soul. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you, my Lord and my God! Amen.

Distribution Anthem - "When We Are Tested" Words: Ruth Duck, Hymn Tune: Slane, Irish Traditional

Vocalist: Robert Freeman Accompanist: Scott Kresge

Post Communion Prayer (Please kneel or be seated)

Celebrant Let us pray.

People *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 presence, that as we lament our separation from one another, we may continually 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.

Benediction

Recessional Hymn (Please stand as able) Please see page 11

#688 | "A Mighty Fortress"

The Dismissal

Celebrant Marked with the cross of Christ, go forth to love and serve the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

Postlude "On the Wings of a Dove" Felix Mendelssohn

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The Rev. Thomas M. White, Rector

J. Edwin Stout, Acolyte

Scott Kresge, Organist/Videography/Streaming

Robert Freeman, Cantor/Soloist

Elizabeth Scheer, Videography/Streaming

Christian Vocation and Pilgrimage

559

1 Lead us, heaven - ly Fa - ther, lead us o'er the world's tem -
 2 Sa - vior, breathe for - give - ness o'er us; all our weak - ness
 3 Spi - rit of our God, de - scend - ing, fill our hearts with

pes - tuous sea; guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,
 thou dost know; thou didst tread this earth be - fore us;
 heaven - ly joy; love with ev - ery pas - sion blend - ing

for we have no help but thee, yet pos - ses - sing
 thou didst feel its keen - est woe; yet un - fear - ing,
 plea - sure that can nev - er cloy; thus pro - vid - ed,

ev - ery bless - ing, if our God our Fa - ther be.
 per - se - ver - ing, to thy pas - sion thou didst go.
 par - doned, guid - ed, noth - ing can our peace des - troy.

Words: James Edmeston (1791-1867), alt.

Music: *Dulce carmen*, melody from *An Essay on the Church Plain Chant*, 1782;

adapt. *Collection of Motetts or Antiphons*, ca. 1840; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889)

87. 87. 87

Lent

142

1 Lord, who through-out these for - ty days for us didst fast and pray,
 2 As thou with Sa - tan didst con-tend and didst the vic - tory win,
 3 As thou didst hun-ger bear and thirst, so teach us, gra-cious Lord,
 4 And through these days of pen - i - tence, and through thy Pas-sion - tide,
 5 A - bid with us, that so, this life of suf - fering o - ver - past,

1 teach us with thee to mourn our sins, and close by thee to stay.
 2 O give us strength in thee to fight, in thee to con-quer sin.
 3 to die to self, and chief - ly live by thy most ho - ly word.
 4 yea, ev - er - more, in life and death, Je - sus! with us a - bid.
 5 an Eas - ter of un - end - ing joy we may at - tain at last!

Words: Claudia Frances Hernaman (1838-1898)

Music: *St. Flavian*, melody from *Day's Psalter*, 1562; adapt. and harm. Richard Redhead (1820-1901)

CM

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Jesus Christ our Lord



1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high, how pass - ing
 2 For us bap - tized, for us he bore his ho - ly
 3 For us he prayed; for us he taught; for us his
 4 For us to wick - ed hands be - trayed, scourged, mocked, in
 5 For us he rose from death a - gain; for us he
 6 All glo - ry to our Lord and God for love so



1 thought and fan - ta - sy, that God, the Son of
 2 fast and hun - gered sore; for us temp - ta - tions
 3 dai - ly works he wrought: by words and signs and
 4 pur - ple robe ar - rayed, he bore the shame - ful
 5 went on high to reign; for us he sent his
 6 deep, so high, so broad; the Trin - i - ty whom



1 God, should take our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake.
 2 sharp he knew; for us the tempt - er o - ver - threw.
 3 ac - tions, thus still seek - ing not him - self, but us.
 4 cross and death; for us gave up his dy - ing breath.
 5 Spi - rit here to guide, to strength - en, and to cheer.
 6 we a - dore for ev - er and for ev - er - more.

Words: Latin, 15th cent.; tr. Benjamin Webb (1819-1885), alt.

Music: *Deus tuorum militum*, from *Antiphoner*, 1753; adapt. *The English Hymnal*, 1906, alt.

LM

Recessional Hymn

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul - wark nev - er
 2 Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be
 3 And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un -
 4 That word a - bove all earth - ly powers, no thanks to them, a -

fail - ing; our help - er he a - mid the flood
 los - ing; were not the right man on our side,
 do us; we will not fear, for God hath willed
 bid - eth; the Spi - rit and the gifts are ours

of mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing: for still our an - cient foe
 the man of God's own choos - ing: dost ask who that may be?
 his truth to tri - umph through us; the prince of dark - ness grim,
 through him who with us sid - eth: let goods and kin - dred go,

doth seek to work us woe; his craft and power are great,
 Christ Je - sus, it is he; Lord Sa - ba - oth his Name,
 we trem - ble not for him; his rage we can en - dure,
 this mor - tal life al - so; the bo - dy they may kill:

and, armed with cru - el hate, on earth is not his e - qual.
 from age to age the same, and he must win the bat - tle.
 for lo! his doom is sure, one lit - tle word shall fell him.
 God's truth a - bid - eth still, his king - dom is for ev - er.

Words: Martin Luther (1483-1546); tr. Frederick Henry Hedge (1805-1890); based on Psalm 46
 Music: *Ein feste Burg*, melody Martin Luther (1483-1546);
 harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

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