

MORNING PRAYER SERVICE

Lent III

Prelude: Voluntary “*Blest Be the Tie That Binds*” Greg Bottomley

Gathering Hymn: *Please see page 5*

“Blest Be the Tie That Binds”

Officiant: Grace to you and peace, from God, our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.

People: **And also with you.**

Jesus said, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.”

Mark 8:34

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to set forth his praise, to hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship him, let us kneel in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

Silence may be kept.

Officiant and People together, all kneeling

***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.***

The Priest alone stands and says

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.***

Officiant: Lord, open our lips.

People: ***And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.***

Officiant and People

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy: Come let us adore him.

Come, let us sing to the Lord; *

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

***Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.***

For the Lord is a great God, *

and a great King above all gods.

***In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are his also.***

The sea is his, for he made it, *

and his hands have molded the dry land.

***Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.***

For he is our God,

and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *

Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

The Psalm 80:7-15 *(please read responsively by verse)*

7 Restore us, O God of hosts;
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

8 *You have brought a vine out of Egypt;
you cast out the nations and planted it.*

9 You prepared the ground for it;
it took root and filled the land.

10 *The mountains were covered by its shadow
and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.*

11 You stretched out its tendrils to the Sea
and its branches to the River.

12 *Why have you broken down its wall,
so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?*

13 The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it,
and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.

14 *Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven;
behold and tend this vine; preserve what your right hand has planted.*

15 They burn it with fire like rubbish;
at the rebuke of your countenance let them perish.

Officiant and People

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

The Lesson: John 15:1-12

A Reading from the Gospel of John.

Officiant: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Meditation - *"I AM the Vine."*

Hymn: *Please see page 6*

"Abide with Me"

The Canticle - The Second Song of Isaiah

Isaiah 55:6-11

Seek the Lord while he wills to be found; *
call upon him when he draws near.

***Let the wicked forsake their ways *
and the evil ones their thoughts;***

And let them turn to the Lord, and he will have compassion, *
and to our God, for he will richly pardon.

***For my thoughts are not your thoughts, *
nor your ways my ways, says the Lord.***

For as the heavens are higher than the earth, *
so are my ways higher than your ways,
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

***For as rain and snow fall from the heavens *
and return not again, but water the earth,***

Bringing forth life and giving growth, *
seed for sowing and bread for eating,

***So is my word that goes forth from my mouth; *
it will not return to me empty;***

But it will accomplish that which I have purposed, *
and prosper in that for which I sent it.

Officiant and People

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

The Apostles' Creed

*I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth;
I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 sin, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.*

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 Suffrages

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;
R. **And grant us your salvation.**
V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
R. **Let your people sing with joy.**
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
R. **For only in you can we live in safety.**
V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
R. **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**
V. Let your way be known upon earth;
R. **Your saving health among all nations.**
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
R. **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
R. **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

A Collect for Grace

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

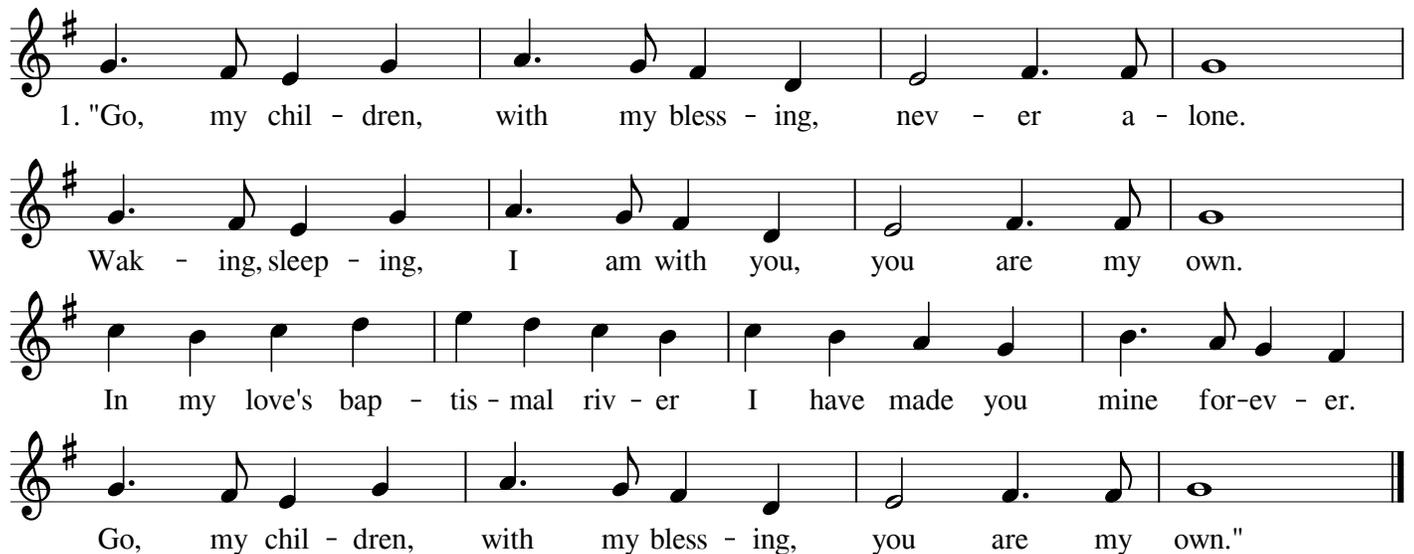
Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. **Amen.**

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

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn:

“Go My Children, With My Blessing”



1. "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for-ev - er.
Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b 1919, alt.

Music: Welsh traditional; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872 - 1958

Postlude Voluntary on “Abide with Me”

Greg Bottomley

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Blest Be the Tie That Binds

1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris-tian love;
 2 Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne we pour our ar - dent prayers;
 3 We share our mu - tual woes, our mu - tual bur - dens bear,
 4 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free;

the u - ni - ty of heart and mind is like to that a - bove.
 our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.
 and of - ten for each oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
 and per - fect love and friend - ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: John Fawcett, 1740-1817, alt..
 Music: *Dennis*, Johann G. Nageli, 1773-1836.

Hymn

"Abide with Me"

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The Christian Life

1 A - bide with me: fast falls the e - ven - tide;
2 I need thy pres - ence ev - ery pass - ing hour;
3 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
4 Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes;

the dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide:
what but thy grace can foil the tempt - er's power?
ills have no weight, and tears no bit - ter - ness.
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;

when o - ther help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
Who, like thy - self, my guide and stay can be?
Where is death's sting? where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?
heaven's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain sha - dows flee;

help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.
Through cloud and sun - shine, Lord, a - bide with me.
I tri - umph still, if thou a - bide with me.
in life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

Words: Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847)
Music: *Eventide*, William Henry Monk (1823-1889)

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