



Episcopal Church of the Epiphany
Third Sunday in Lent
March 11, 2012, 9:30 am

Let the words of my mouth
and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable in your sight,
O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

Psalm 19:14

We worship during the season of Lent according to The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two,
beginning on page 355 of the Episcopal Book of Common Prayer.

The Word of God

At the sound of the bell, the people stand for the silent procession.

Bless the Lord, who forgives all our sins.
His mercy endures for ever.

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.**

Hymn of Praise
Spirit Song.....SH-45

The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

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.**

The Lessons (the people sit)

The First Lesson – Exodus 20:1-17

Then God spoke all these words: I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who

reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work--you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn (the people stand)
The Servant Song.....SH-59
Verses 1-3

(The people sit)
The Psalm – Psalm 19

Refrain:

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

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

One day tells its tale to another, *
and one night imparts knowledge to another.

Although they have no words or language, *
and their voices are not heard,
Their sound has gone out into all lands, *
and their message to the ends of the world.
In the deep has he 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.

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.

The law of the LORD is perfect
and revives the soul; *
**the testimony of the LORD is sure
and gives wisdom to the innocent.**

The statutes of the LORD are just
and rejoice the heart; *
**the commandment of the LORD is clear
and gives light to the eyes.**

The fear of the LORD is clean
and endures for ever; *
**the judgments of the LORD are true
and righteous altogether.**

More to be desired are they than gold,
more than much fine gold, *
**sweeter far than honey,
than honey in the comb.**

By them also is your servant enlightened, *
and in keeping them there is great reward.

Who can tell how often he offends? *
cleans me from my secret faults.

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.**

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my
heart be acceptable in your sight, *
O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

Refrain:

**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of
my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my
strength and my redeemer.**

The Epistle – 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

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.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Sequence – John 2:13-22 (the people
stand)

Hymn – *Be Not Afraid*.....#SH-47
Verses 1-2

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
Glory to You, Lord Christ.

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.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to You, Lord Christ.

Hymn – *Be Not Afraid*.....#SH-47
Verse 3

Sermon

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.

The Prayers of the People (Form III, page 387 of the Book
of Common Prayer)

Father, we pray for St. Stephen's, Huntsville; for our
companion diocese of Haiti and its bishop, Zaché, for all lay
professionals in the church; for all Episcopal day schools:
Advent Day School (Birmingham), Holy Trinity (Auburn), and
Holy Cross (Montgomery); and for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly
serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for Katharine, our presiding bishop, for Kee, our
bishop, for Arnold, our priest, and for all bishops, priests, and
deacons;

**That they may be faithful ministers of your Word
and Sacraments.**

We pray for Barack, our President; for Robert, our governor;
for George, our mayor; and for all who govern and hold
authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or
trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest.

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

**May we also come to share in your heavenly
kingdom.**

Let us pray for these persons: *The Lay Reader reads the first
names from the Parish Prayer List:* Pam Stewart, Lynda
Denton, Dot Harris, Zoe Bush, John Rand, Dawn
Jones (Jere and Pam VanEtten), Roxie Zabner
(Amanda Borden), Jim Cantrell (Al Cantrell), Xander
Kerr, infant son of Kelly and Dan Kerr (Jean Kerr),
Amber, Jared and Deysel Oliver (Kathy Haynie), Troy
Warlick (Kathy Haynie), Mary Alice Merith (Shea

Boland), Michelle Waswaller (Al Cantrell), Mike,
Cindy, Johnnie, and Kelly (Ann Easley).

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.
The People may add their own petitions.

Confession of Sin (the people stand or kneel)

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**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.**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Joys and Concerns of the Congregation

The Holy Communion

The Offertory Hymn

Have You Seen Jesus My Lord.....SH-10

The Presentation

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him 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.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

The people sing (found in the Hymnal at S 129)

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The people stand or kneel

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life. On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, 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; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, 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."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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

**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

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast.

The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.

After Communion, the people stand or kneel and the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn (the people stand)

How Great Thou Art.....SH-37

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Image on page one: "Osprey Landing," from www.dailyoffice.org, which provides the Daily Office to Episcopalians each day, reliably, free of charge, and without advertising. This platform is at Lake Shafer, Indiana. Ospreys nearly disappeared from Indiana 40 years ago from DDT exposure. They are now making a comeback.

We are grateful to The Revd Peter Horn, who is acting as our priest today in Father Arnold's absence. And likewise, we appreciate Tom Bray's providing musical accompaniment today as we enjoy contemporary music together.

Serving at Epiphany this week:

Ushers: Laura Williams and Al Cantrell
Altar Guild: Ann Easley and Laura Williams
Lay Reader: Debra McCord
Chalice Bearer: Laura Williams
Refreshments: Pam VanEtten
Stewards: Ann Easley and Al Cantrell