



Episcopal Church of the Epiphany
Fifth Sunday in Lent
March 25, 2012, 9:30 am

... it is for this reason that I have come
to this hour. Father, glorify your name."

John 12:27b-28a

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
He is Lord.....*SH-30*

The Collect of the Day

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

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills
and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love
what you command and desire what you promise; that,
among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts
may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons (the people sit)

The First Lesson – Jeremiah 31:31-34

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will
make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house
of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their
ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of
the land of Egypt-- a covenant that they broke, though I was
their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I
will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the
LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their
hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.
No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other,
"Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least
of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their
iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Hymn (the people stand)
When I Survey the Wondrous Cross.....474
Tune: *Hamburg* (not *Rockingham* as used in the Hymnal)

(The people sit)
The Psalm – Psalm 51:1-13

Refrain:
**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a
right spirit within me.**

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-
kindness; *
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

Wash me through and through from my wickedness *
and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions, *
and my sin is ever before me.

Against you only have I sinned *
and done what is evil in your sight.

And so you are justified when you speak *
and upright in your judgment.

Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, *
a sinner from my mother's womb.

For behold, you look for truth deep within me, *
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.

Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; *
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.

Make me hear of joy and gladness, *
that the body you have broken may rejoice.

Hide your face from my sins *
and blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, *
and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence *
and take not your holy Spirit from me.

Give me the joy of your saving help again *
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

Refrain:
**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a
right spirit within me.**

The Epistle – Hebrews 5:5-10

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

"You are my Son; today I have begotten you";

as he says also in another place,

"You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek."

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Sequence – John 12:20-33 (the people stand)

Hymn – *Glorify Thy Name*.....SH-2
Verses 1-2

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

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

"Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say-- `Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

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

Hymn – *Glorify Thy Name*.....SH-2
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 Saint Thomas, Birmingham; for All Saints, Aliceville; for our companion diocese of Haiti and its bishop, Zaché; for the Task Force on the Stewardship of Creation; for the Community Garden in Auburn and the the Community Market in Opelika; 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), **Jim Cantrell** (Al Cantrell), **Xander Kerr**, infant son of Kelli and Dan Kerr (Jean Kerr), **Amber, Jared and Dezel Oliver** (Kathy Haynie), **Troy Warlick** (Kathy Haynie), **Emmet Nolan** (Maurice McCord), **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

God is So Good

God is so good, God is so good.

God is so good, He's so good to me.

He took my sin . . .

Now I am free . . .

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)

Lift High the Cross.....473

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Image on page 1 is a wild azalea photographed at Longleaf Breeze, the farm of Lee and Amanda Borden.

Holy Week and Easter Schedule:

- Palm Sunday, April 1, 2012 – Shared processional with palm branches and shared reading of the passion according to the Gospel of Mark
- Maundy Thursday, April 5, 2012 at 6:30 pm – Foot-washing, stripping of the altar, and shared prayer watch from 8:00 pm until 11:00 pm
- Good Friday, April 6, 2012 at 12:00 noon – Community Good Friday worship at First United Methodist Church of Tallassee.
- Good Friday, April 6, 2012 at 6:30 pm – readings from the passion according to the Gospel of John
- Holy Saturday, April 7, 2012 from 8:00 am until 12:00 noon. Cleaning and decorating the church for Easter.
- Easter Sunday, April 8, 2012 – Celebrate the Resurrection and enjoy lots of Alleluias! Following worship, group photo, Easter Egg hunt, and lunch.

Beans and Rice needs peanut butter! Consider a few medium-sized jars. Or cash. Cash always works.

Serving at Epiphany this week:

Ushers: Jere and Pam VanEtten
Altar Guild: Ann Easley and Cathy Jones
Lay Reader: Maurice McCord
Chalice Bearer: Laura Williams
Refreshments: Janet Bray
Stewards: Maurice and Debra McCord