

I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth,
do you not perceive it?

Episcopal Church of the Epiphany
Fifth Sunday in Lent
March 17, 2013, 10:30 am

Isaiah 43:19a

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

The Liturgy of the Word

*At the sound of the bell, all rise
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.**

Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.

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 – Isaiah 43:16-21

Thus says the LORD,
who makes a way in the sea,
a path in the mighty waters,
who brings out chariot and horse,
army and warrior;
they lie down, they cannot rise,
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:
Do not remember the former things,
or consider the things of old.
I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.
The wild animals will honor me,
the jackals and the ostriches;
for I give water in the wilderness,
rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,
the people whom I formed for myself
so that they might declare my praise.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 126

Refrain:

**The LORD has done great things for us,
and we are glad indeed.**

When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, *
then were we like those who dream.

When was our mouth filled with laughter, *
and our tongue with shouts of joy.

Then they said among the nations, *
"The LORD has done great things for them."

The LORD has done great things for us, *
and we are glad indeed.

Restore our fortunes, O LORD, *
like the watercourses of the Negev.

Those who sowed with tears *
will reap with songs of joy.

Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, *
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

Refrain:

**The LORD has done great things for us,
and we are glad indeed.**

The Epistle – Philippians 3:4b-14

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have
more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people
of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews;
as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the
church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss
because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss
because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my
Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I
regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be
found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes
from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the
righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ
and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his
sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may
attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached
the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ
Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I
have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what
lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on
toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in
Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Sequence – John 12:1-8 (the people stand)

Hymn: *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

**When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the Prince of Glory died;
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.**

**Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
save in the death of Christ, my God;
all the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.**

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

Glory to You, Lord Christ.

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, Lord Christ.

Hymn: *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

**See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown.**

**Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were an offering far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.**

Sermon

The Nicene Creed (*the people stand*)

**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 VI, page 392 of the Book of Common Prayer)

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence.

For all people in their daily life and work;

**For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for
those who are alone.**

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

**For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and
oppression.**

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

**For those who minister to the sick, the friendless,
and the needy.**

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

**For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek
the Truth.**

For Katharine, our Presiding Bishop, for Kee and Santosh, our bishops; for Arnold, our priest, and for all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in his Church.

Let us pray for **Lynda** Denton, **Dot** Harris, **Alice** Williams, **Charlotte** and **Lannon** Poole, **Pam** Harper, **Amber**, **Jared** and **Dezsel** Oliver (Kathy Haynie), **Brandon** Boland (Cathy Jones), **Chris** Eady (Lynne Eady), **Lisa** Wallace (Laura Williams), **Jenna** Moates (Kelli Kerr), **John** Myer (Ann Easley, John and Kathy Haynie), **Ed** Clayton (Jean Kerr), **Billie** Wilkinson, **Lindsey** Burt (Eddie and Pam Harper), **Melinda** Henderson (Ann Easley), **Kathy** Brumbleloe (Ann Easley), **Lee** Musso (Cathy Jones), **Oletta** Goodwin, **Sherry** Gritz, (Arnold Bush), **Jackie** Henderson (Ann Easley), **Kyle** Pearson (Arnold Bush), and the others we now name: (*the people here add their own petitions*).

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence.

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence. The People may add their own thanksgivings.

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for Kiri D'ana Thomas (Amanda Borden) and all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence. The People may add their own petitions.

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence may be kept.

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
in your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown,
things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Celebrant concludes with an absolution or a suitable Collect.

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Joys and Concerns of the Congregation

The Holy Communion

Offertory Hymn: *First Song of Isaiah*.....SH-18

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

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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.

Communion Hymn: *Do Lord*

Do Lord, O do Lord, O do remember me. (3X)
Look away, beyond the blue.

I took Jesus as my savior, you take him too. (3X)
Look away, beyond the blue.

Do Lord, O do Lord, O do remember me. (3X)
Look away, beyond the blue.

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: *I Sing the Almighty Power of God.....398*

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Today we bid farewell to Father Arnold, who will be leaving us to become the Interim Priest in Charge at The Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit in Alabaster. Join us immediately following worship for a reception honoring Arnold and Zoe.

Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday: Our good friend The Rev Dr Wells Warren will teach in Sunday School about Holy Week day-by-day and serve as Supply Priest.

Maundy Thursday: Silent come-and-go prayer vigil 3:00-8:00 pm. Stripping of the altar at 6:30 pm.

Good Friday: Worship at 6:30 pm. Passion of John.

Easter: We are delighted to welcome The Rev Brandt Montgomery, who will teach us during Sunday School about Bishop Charles Carpenter at work in the Alabama Diocese and then serve as Supply Priest for the Easter Eucharist. A music major in college, The Rev Montgomery plans to sing the Exsultet and to intone the Eucharist. Immediately after worship, we will all pose for a church picture, followed by an Easter Egg hunt and lunch.

Serving at Epiphany this week . . .

Ushers: Eddie and Pam Harper
Altar Guild: Jean Kerr
Lay Reader: Amanda Borden

Chalice Bearer: Laura Williams
Refreshments: Cathy Jones
Stewards: Ann Easley

and next . . .

Ushers: Lee and Amanda Borden
Altar Guild: Cathy Jones
Lay Reader: Maurice McCord

Chalice Bearer: John Haynie
Refreshments: Pam Van Etten
Stewards: Al Cantrell and Ann Easley