

But God proves his love for us in that while
we still were sinners Christ died for us.

Romans 5:8

Episcopal Church of the Epiphany
Third Sunday in Lent
Holy Eucharist
March 15, 2020, 10:30 am

We worship today according to the Holy Eucharist: Rite One, beginning on
page 323 of the Book of Common Prayer. Congregational responses are in **boldface type**.
The initials "SH" refer to page numbers in the small Supplemental Hymnal in the pew racks.

The Word of God

Hymn: *O God Our Help in Ages Past (we stand)*.....680

Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.
His mercy endureth for ever.

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires
known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the
thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy
Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith:
Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with
all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great
commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love
thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all
the Law and the Prophets.

Hymn: *Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us*.....S 91

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.
Let us pray.

Almighty God, who seest that we have no power of 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 liveth and reigneth with thee and the
Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons (*we sit*)

The First Lesson – Exodus 17:1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the
Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They
camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to
drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us
water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel
with me? Why do you test the LORD?" But the people thirsted
there for water; and the people complained against Moses and
said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our
children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to
the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost
ready to stone me." The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead
of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you;

take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and
go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at
Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that
the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders
of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the
Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is
the LORD among us or not?"

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Psalms 95

- 1 Come, let us sing to the LORD;
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
- 2 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.
- 3 For the LORD is a great God,
and a great King above all gods.
- 4 In his hand are the caverns of the earth,
and the heights of the hills are his also.
- 5 The sea is his, for he made it,
and his hands have molded the dry land.
- 6 Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee,
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
- 7 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!
- 8 Harden not your hearts,
as your forebears did in the wilderness,
at Meribah, and on that day at Massah,
when they tempted me.
- 9 They put me to the test,
though they had seen my works.
- 10 Forty years long I detested that generation and said,
**"This people are wayward in their hearts;
they do not know my ways."**
- 11 So I swore in my wrath,
"They shall not enter into my rest."

The Epistle Lesson – Romans 5:1-11

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through
our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access
to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of
sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast
in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance,

and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person-- though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Hymn: *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing (we stand)*.....686

The Gospel – John 4:5-42

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must

worship is in Jerusalem." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" They left the city and were on their way to him.

Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to thee, O Christ.

Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Maurice L. Goldsmith

The Nicene Creed (*we stand*)

**I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
and of all things visible and invisible;**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation
came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin
Mary,
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to the
Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory,
to judge both the quick and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of
Life,
who proceedeth from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is
worshiped
and glorified;
who spake by the Prophets.
And I believe one holy Catholic and Apostolic
Church;
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins;
and I look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.**

Prayers of the People (*we stand or kneel*)

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.
Lord, have mercy.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers especially Justin, the archbishop of Canterbury, Michael, our presiding bishop, Kee, our bishop, Glenda, our bishop co-adjutor elect, and Rusty, our supply priest, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

Lord, have mercy.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

Lord, have mercy.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, especially President Trump and Governor Ivey, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Lord, have mercy.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

Lord, have mercy.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor Micah Hart, Dennis Harper, Larry and Pat Sharpton, Troy Warlick, Dezzel Oliver, Tom Haynie, Beth Hall, Maurice McCord, Sharon Browning, Julie Williams, George Rowell, Mike Dickey, and the others whose names we call now (*pause during which we call the names aloud*). We pray for all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

Lord, have mercy.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Lord, have mercy.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin (*we stand or kneel*)

Ye who do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: Draw near with faith, and make your humble confession to Almighty God, devoutly kneeling or standing.

**Almighty God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
maker of all things, judge of all men:
We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins
and wickedness,
which we from time to time most grievously have
committed,
by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty,
provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against
us.**

**We do earnestly repent,
and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;
the remembrance of them is grievous unto us,
the burden of them is intolerable.
Have mercy upon us,
have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may ever hereafter
serve and please thee in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of thy Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him: Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you.

We all stand.

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And with thy spirit.

Joys and Concerns of the Congregation

The Offertory

Hymn: *O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee*.....660

Presentation (*we stand*).....380:3

The Holy Communion

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

It is meet and right so to do.

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was in every way tempted as we are, yet did not sin; by whose grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer unto ourselves, but unto him who died for us and rose again.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

Sanctus: *Holy, Holy, Holy*.....S 113

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. 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. We are silent.

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

Fraction Anthem: *O Lamb of God*.....S 157

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of

thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

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.

After Communion, we stand or kneel and the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn (*we stand*):

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross.....Page 6

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Mark your calendar: We hope lots of Epiphany Folk can be present at St Luke's Episcopal Church in Birmingham at 11:00 am on June 28 for the Ordination and Consecration of The Rev. Dr. Glenda Curry as Bishop Co-Adjutor of the Diocese of Alabama, and later on January 9 for her Investiture at Cathedral Church of the Advent. Tickets are free, but they will be limited. As soon as we learn that they're available, we will let you know so you can sign up to be there.

Serving at Epiphany this week:

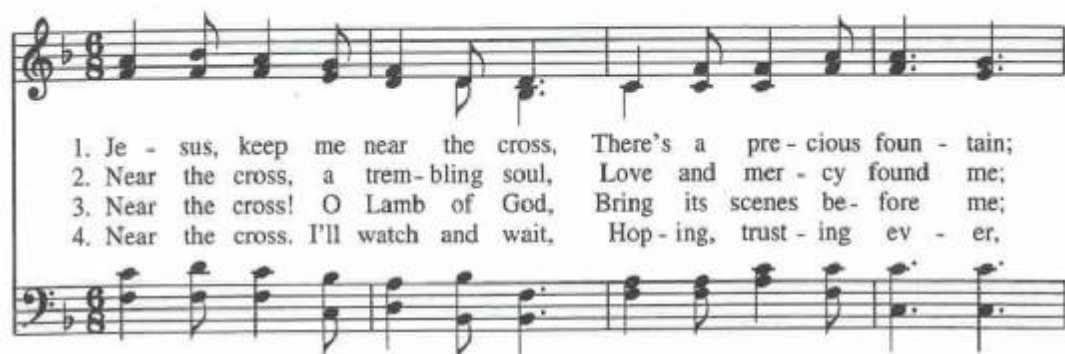
Ushers: Eddie and Pam Harper
Altar Guild: Cathy Jones
Lay Reader: Laura Williams
Lay Eucharistic Minister: Lee Borden
Refreshments: Elizabeth Harber

And next:

Ushers: Lavonne Hart/Barbara Trogon
Altar Guild: Elizabeth Harber
Lay Reader: Lavonne Hart
Lay Eucharistic Minister: Mike Rallo
Refreshments: John/Kathy Haynie

Near the Cross

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1. Je - sus, keep me near the cross, There's a pre - cious foun - tain;
 2. Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, Love and mer - cy found me;
 3. Near the cross! O Lamb of God, Bring its scenes be - fore me;
 4. Near the cross, I'll watch and wait, Hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,



1. Free to all, a heal - ing stream Flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.
 2. There the Bright and Morn - ing Star Sheds its beams a - round me.
 3. Help me walk from day to day With its shad - ows o'er me.
 4. Till I reach the gold - en strand Just be - yond the riv - er.



In the cross, in the cross Be my glo - ry ev - er;



Till my rap - tured soul shall find Rest be - yond the riv - er.

Words: Fanny J. Crosby (1820-1915)
 Music: William H. Doane (1832-1915)