



The Fourth Sunday in Lent 10:00 AM + March 22, 2020

Opening voluntary: Prelude on *Brother James' Air*

Searle Wright

Opening hymn: *I want to walk as a child of the light*

Hymn 490

I want to walk as a child of the light.
I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world.
The star of my life is Jesus.

In him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

I want to see the brightness of God.
I want to look at Jesus.
Clear sun of righteousness, shine on my path,
and show me the way to the Father.

I'm looking for the coming of Christ.
I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race,
we shall know the joy of Jesus.

The Penitential Order

BCP p. 351

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People **God's mercy endures for ever.**

Celebrant: Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these." Mark 12:29-31

Confession and Absolution

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence

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.**

Lord, have mercy

**Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy, Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy, have mercy.**

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray together.

Said in unison

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

A Reading from the 1st Book of Samuel 16:1-13

The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed is now before the LORD." But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

People's response after the reading

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23

1 The Lord is my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.

- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.
- 3 He revives my soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; *
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- 5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.
- 6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Ephesians 5:8-14

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, “Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

People's response after the reading

Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn: *The King of love my shepherd is*

Hymn 645

The King of love my shepherd is,
 whose goodness faileth never;
 I nothing lack if I am his,
 and he is mine for ever.

Where streams of living water flow,
 my ransomed soul he leadeth,
 and where the verdant pastures grow,
 with food celestial feedeth.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight;
 thy unction grace bestoweth;
 and oh, what transport of delight
 from thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days
 thy goodness faileth never:
 Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
 within thy house for ever.

The Holy Gospel according to John 9:1-41

People *Said before the reading*
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Said after the reading
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of

Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.” Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

Sermon

The Reverend Dr. Paul Kolbet

Silence

The Nicene Creed

Spoken by all

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 worshipped 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.

Prayers of the People – From the Church of England, supplementary texts

Leader In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ, let us pray to the Father.

For the peace of the whole world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For Michael our Presiding Bishop, and Alan and Gayle our bishops, for the leaders of our sister Churches, and for all clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For Donald our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For this community, for every city, town and village, and for all the people who live within them, let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For good weather, and for abundant harvests for all to share, let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who travel by land, air, or water, for the sick and the suffering, for ... , for prisoners and captives, and for their safety, health and salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For our deliverance from all affliction, strife and need, and for the absolution of our sins and offences, let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Remembering all who have gone before us in faith ... , and in communion with all the saints, we commit ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ our God;

All **to you, O Lord.**

PRAY FOR THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION Pray for Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui The Most Revd Paul Kwong - Archbishop of Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui & Bishop of Hong Kong Island. We pray for our Presiding Bishop Michael; Alan and Gayle, our Bishops, for Paul, our Interim Rector, for Bruce, our Deacon and for Valerie Cowart, Diaconate Candidate.

In our Diocese: All Saints Parish, Brookline, Church of Our Saviour, Brookline, St. Paul's Church, Brookline, the Episcopal Chaplaincy at Boston University, Brookline and The Church Home Society.

We also pray for the faith communities in Chelmsford, especially for Congregation Shalom (Reformed Jewish).

PRAY FOR THOSE JOINING GOD'S MISSION IN OUR PARISH especially for all who are participating in the online worship services.

PRAY FOR THOSE IN OUR PARISH IN NEED OF HEALING:

Marlene Hillman	recovering from snowmobile accident
Chaz Freeman	cellulitis
Leigh Bilsbury	recovering from knee surgery
Molly Loder	Brain cancer
Nate Barrow	Medical concerns

PRAY FOR FAMILY & FRIENDS OF OUR PARISHIONERS:

Family of David Kennedy	– friend of Scott Bempkins – loss of husband/father to Parkinson's disease
Chris Gobron	brother of Deb Collins – recurrence of esophageal cancer
Jennifer	Sister of Lissie Bates-Haus - Cancer
Tristan Porta	great nephew of Liz Landers – born prematurely – home from the NICU
Joanna Nickerson	Deacon Bruce's wife - Parkinsons
Erismath M. Kintu	Rowena's father – health concerns
Sue Donnelly	cousin of Linda Coddington – serious infection after knee surgery
Phil Bisselle	friend of the Snedens – recovering from a stroke

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE AT HOME, IN NURSING HOMES, OR LIVING WITH CHRONIC ILLNESSES: *Please see the bulletin board in the Narthex or the weekly e-bulletin for list of names.*

PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE ARMED FORCES AND THEIR FAMILIES: Especially for those who have been deployed overseas, and for all others serving our country especially for Trevor Jones, son-in-law of Liz Landers, who was deployed to Afghanistan.

Celebrating the life of Jim Kennedy dear cousin of Theresa Camacho.

Celebrant prays a concluding collect

The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be always with you

And also with you

Announcements

Musical Selection: *The Lord is my Shepherd*

Malcolm Archer

Closing Hymn: *Now quit your care*

Hymn 145

Now quit your care
and anxious fear and worry;
for schemes are vain
and fretting brings no gain.
Lent calls to prayer,
to trust and dedication;
God brings new beauty nigh;
reply, reply,
reply with love to love most high.

To bow the head
in sackcloth and in ashes,
or rend the soul,
such grief is not Lent's goal;
but to be led
to where God's glory flashes,
his beauty to come near.
Make clear, make clear,
make clear where truth and light appear.

For is not this
the fast that I have chosen?
(The prophet spoke)
To shatter every yoke,
of wickedness
the grievous bands to loosen,
oppression put to flight,
to fight, to fight
to fight till every wrong's set right.

For righteousness
and peace will show their faces
to those who feed
the hungry in their need,
and wrongs redress,
who build the old waste places,
and in the darkness shine.
Divine, divine,
divine it is when all combine!

Then shall your light
break forth as doth the morning;
your health shall spring,
the friends you make shall bring
God's glory bright,
your way through life adorning;
and love shall be the prize.
Arise, arise,
arise! and make a paradise!