

# The First Sunday in Lent

Christ Episcopal Church  
Madison, Indiana  
February 21, 2021

# Prelude

As the Deer

Marty Nystrom

# Opening Sentence

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and there is no health in us, but if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John: 1:8-9

# Confession and Absolution

## *Officiant*

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to set forth his praise, to hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship him, let us kneel in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite love and mercy.

*[Silence]*

*All*

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

*Priest:*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

# Invitatory and Psalter

*Officiant* Lord, open our lips.

*People* And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.  
Amen.

Antiphon

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy.

*Come, let us adore him.*

# Psalm 67:1-5

# *Deus misereatur*

O God, be merciful to us and bless us, \*  
show us the light of your countenance and  
come to us.

Let your ways be known upon earth, \*  
your saving health among all nations.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; \*  
let all the peoples praise you.

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, \*  
for you judge the peoples with equity  
and guide all the nations upon earth.  
Let the peoples praise you, O God; \*  
let all the peoples praise you.

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy.  
*Come, let us adore him.*

# Ps 25:1-9

## *Ad te, Domine, levavi*

- <sup>1</sup> To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;  
my God, I put my trust in you; \*  
let me not be humiliated,  
nor let my enemies triumph over me.
- <sup>2</sup> Let none who look to you be put to shame; \*  
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.
- <sup>3</sup> Show me your ways, O Lord, \*  
and teach me your paths.

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- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, \*  
for you are the God of my salvation;  
in you have I trusted all the day long.
  - 5 Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, \*  
for they are from everlasting.
  - 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and  
my transgressions; \*  
remember me according to your love  
and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.
  - 7 Gracious and upright is the Lord; \*  
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.

8 He guides the humble in doing right \*  
and teaches his way to the lowly.

9 All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness \*  
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever.

Amen.

# First Reading

## 1 Peter 3:18-22

A reading from the Third Chapter of the First Letter of Peter, beginning at the 18<sup>th</sup> verse.

Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water.

And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you - not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

*Reader*      The word of the Lord.  
*People*      *Thanks be to God.*

# Eternal Lord of Love

H-149

1. Eternal Lord of love, behold your Church walking once more the pilgrim way of Lent, led by your cloud by day, by night your fire, moved by your love and toward your presence bent: far off yet here the goal of all desire.
2. So daily dying to the way of self, so daily living to your way of love, we walk the road, Lord Jesus, that you trod, knowing ourselves baptized into your death: so we are dead and live with you in God.

3. If dead in you so in you we arise,  
you the firstborn of all the faithful dead;  
and as through stony ground the green shoots break,  
glorious in springtime dress of leaf and flower,  
so in the Father's glory shall we wake.

Words: Thomas H. Cain (b. 1931)

Music: *Old 124<sup>th</sup>*, melody *Pseaumes octante trois de David*, 1551,  
harm. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944)

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## Second Reading

Mark 1:9-15

A reading from the First Chapter of the Gospel of Mark, beginning at the 9<sup>th</sup> verse.

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

*Reader*      The word of the Lord.  
*People*      *Thanks be to God.*

# Canticle S

A Song of our True Nature, *Julian of Norwich*

Christ revealed our frailty and our falling, \*  
our trespasses and our humiliations.

Christ also revealed his blessed power, \*  
his blessed wisdom and love.

He protects us as tenderly and as sweetly when we are  
in greatest need; \*  
he raises us in spirit  
and turns everything to glory and joy without ending.

God is the ground and the substance,  
the very essence of nature; \*

God is the true father and mother of natures.

We are all bound to God by nature, \*  
and we are all bound to God by grace.

And this grace is for all the world, \*  
because it is our precious mother, Christ.

For this fair nature was prepared by Christ  
for the honor and nobility of all, \*  
and for the joy and bliss of salvation.

# The Sermon

# The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy  
Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen.

# Musical Interlude

## Two-Part Invention in G-Minor

J.S. Bach

# The Collects

## *The Collect of the Day*

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## *A Collect for Sundays*

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## *A Collect of Repentance*

O Lord and Master of our lives, give us not the spirit of sloth, despair, lust for power, and idle talk. But grant us, your servants, a spirit of integrity, humility, patience, and love. Indeed, O Lord and King, grant us to see our own faults and not judge others. For blessed are you to the ages of ages. *Amen.*

*St Augustine's Prayer Book*

# The Great Litany

O God the Father, Creator of heaven and earth,  
*Have mercy upon us.*

O God the Son, Redeemer of the world,  
*Have mercy upon us.*

O God the Holy Ghost, Sanctifier of the faithful,  
*Have mercy upon us.*

O holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, one God,  
*Have mercy upon us.*

Remember not, Lord Christ, our offenses, nor the offenses of our forefathers; neither reward us according to our sins. Spare us, good Lord, spare thy people, whom thou hast redeemed with thy most precious blood, and by thy mercy preserve us for ever.

*Spare us, good Lord.*

From all evil and wickedness; from sin; from the crafts and assaults of the devil; and from everlasting damnation,

*Good Lord, deliver us.*

From all blindness of heart; from pride, vainglory, and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred, and malice; and from all want of charity,

*Good Lord, deliver us.*

From all inordinate and sinful affections; and from all the deceits of the world, the flesh, and the devil,

*Good Lord, deliver us.*

From all false doctrine, heresy, and schism; from hardness of heart, and contempt of thy Word and commandment,

*Good Lord, deliver us.*

From lightning and tempest; from earthquake, fire,  
and flood; from plague, pestilence, and famine,  
*Good Lord, deliver us.*

From all oppression, conspiracy, and rebellion; from  
violence, battle, and murder; and from dying  
suddenly and unprepared,  
*Good Lord, deliver us.*

By the mystery of thy holy Incarnation; by thy holy  
Nativity and submission to the Law; by thy Baptism,  
Fasting, and Temptation,  
*Good Lord, deliver us.*

By thine Agony and Bloody Sweat; by thy Cross and Passion; by thy precious Death and Burial; by thy glorious Resurrection and Ascension; and by the Coming of the Holy Ghost,  
*Good Lord, deliver us.*

In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death, and in the day of judgment,  
*Good Lord, deliver us.*

We sinners do beseech thee to hear us, O Lord God;  
and that it may please thee to rule and govern thy holy  
Church Universal in the right way,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to illumine all bishops, priests,  
and deacons, with true knowledge and understanding  
of thy Word; and that both by their preaching and  
living, they may set it forth, and show it accordingly,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to bless and keep all thy  
people,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to send forth laborers into thy harvest, and to draw all humankind into thy kingdom,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to give to all people increase of grace to hear and receive thy Word, and to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to bring into the way of truth all such as have erred, and are deceived,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to give us a heart to love and fear thee, and diligently to live after thy commandments,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee so to rule the hearts of thy servants, the President of the United States, and all others in authority, that they may do justice, and love mercy, and walk in the ways of truth,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to make wars to cease in all the world; to give to all nations unity, peace, and concord; and to bestow freedom upon all peoples,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to show thy pity upon all prisoners and captives, the homeless and the hungry, and all who are desolate and oppressed,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to give and preserve to our use the bountiful fruits of the earth, so that in due time all may enjoy them,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to inspire us, in our several callings, to do the work which thou givest us to do with singleness of heart as thy servants, and for the common good,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to preserve all who are in danger by reason of their labor or their travel,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to preserve, and provide for, all women in childbirth, young children and orphans, the widowed, and all whose homes are broken or torn by strife,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to visit the lonely; to strengthen all who suffer in mind, body, and spirit; and to comfort with thy presence those who are failing and infirm,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to support, help, and comfort all who are in danger, necessity, and tribulation,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to have mercy upon all humankind,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to give us true repentance; to forgive us all our sins, negligences, and ignorances; and to endue us with the grace of thy Holy Spirit to amend our lives according to thy holy Word,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers, and to turn their hearts,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to strengthen such as do stand; to comfort and help the weak-hearted; to raise up those who fall; and finally to beat down Satan under our feet,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to grant to all the faithful departed eternal life and peace,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to grant that, in the fellowship of all the saints, we may attain to thy heavenly kingdom,

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us.

*Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us.*

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
*Have mercy upon us.*

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
*Have mercy upon us.*

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
*Grant us thy peace.*

O Christ, hear us.

*O Christ, hear us.*

Lord, have mercy upon us.  
*Christ, have mercy upon us.*  
Lord, have mercy upon us.

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. Amen.

V.    O Lord, let thy mercy be  
        showed upon us;

R.    *As we do put our trust in  
        thee.*

Let us pray.

Almighty God, who hast promised to hear the petitions of those who ask in thy Son's Name: We beseech thee mercifully to incline thine ear to us who have now made our prayers and supplications unto thee; and grant that those things which we have asked faithfully according to thy will, may be obtained effectually, to the relief of our necessity, and to the setting forth of thy glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

# The Supplication

O Lord, arise, help us:

*And deliver us for thy Name's sake.*

O God, we have heard with our ears, and our fathers have declared unto us, the noble works that thou didst in their days, and in the old time before them.

O Lord, arise, help us:

*And deliver us for thy Name's sake.*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
*as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.*  
*Amen.*

O Lord, arise, help us:  
*And deliver us for thy Name's sake.*

V From our enemies defend us, O Christ;

R *Graciously behold our afflictions.*

V With pity behold the sorrows of our hearts;

R *Mercifully forgive the sins of thy people.*

V Favorably with mercy hear our prayers;

R *O Son of David, have mercy upon us.*

V Both now and ever vouchsafe to hear us, O Christ;

R *Graciously hear us, O Christ; graciously hear us,  
O Lord.*

Let us pray.

We humbly beseech thee, O Father, mercifully to look upon our infirmities; and, for the glory of thy Name, turn from us all those evils that we most justly have deserved; and grant that in all our troubles we may put our whole trust and confidence in thy mercy, and evermore serve thee in holiness and pureness of living, to thy honor and glory; through our only Mediator and Advocate, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

# Prayer over the People and Dismissal

Bow down before the Lord.

Grant, Almighty God, that your people may recognize their weakness and put their trust in your strength, so that they may rejoice in the protection of your loving providence; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*Celebrant* Let us bless the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

# Postlude

Come, thou Fount of Every Blessing

John Wyeth

## *Sources*

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