



Celtic Evensong and Communion

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

19 March 2023 4:00 pm

We are so happy you are here.

*We come from many places to be together for a little while.
Each of us brings our own experience and traditions to this gathering.
So here in this place, let us take time together to encounter the holy.*

Please remember to silence all devices

The Opening Rite

Musical Meditation

Assisi

Opening Meditation

“Our God is the God of all, the God of heaven and earth, of the sea, and of the rivers;
the God of the sun and of the moon, of all the stars;
the God of the lofty mountains and of the lowly valleys;
the God over heaven and in heaven and under heaven.
He has His dwelling towards heaven and earth, and the sea, and all things which are in them.
He inspires all things, He gives life to all things, He surpasses all things, He supports all things.
He kindles the light of the sun, He strengthens the light of the moon at night for watches;
and He made springs in the land, and dry islands in the sea;
and the stars He placed to minister to the greater lights.
He has a Son co-eternal with Himself and like unto Himself.
The Son is not younger than the Father, nor is the Father older than the Son.
The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are not separated.
I truly desire to unite you to the Heavenly King, since ye are daughters of an earthly king.
Believe.”

- St. Patrick

The Confession

Celebrant I confess to God, and in the presence of all God’s people, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and I pray God to have mercy on me.

People **May God have mercy on you, pardon and deliver you from your sins, and give you time to amend your life.**

Celebrant Amen.

People **We confess to God, and in the presence of all God’s people, that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and we pray God almighty to have mercy on us.**

Celebrant May God have mercy on you, pardon and deliver you from your sins, and give you time to amend your life.

People **Amen.**

The Invitatory and Psalm

Turn again, O God, and give us life
That your people may rejoice in you.

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
And renew a right spirit within me.
Give us the joy of your saving help again,
And sustain us with your bountiful Spirit. Amen.

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.

Officiant and People

Glory to the Holy Trinity, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

The Lessons

Listen now to the Word of God

The First Lesson

1 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.

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People Thanks be to God.

Musical Response

My Cape Breton Home

The Second Reading

John 9:1-41

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."

Lector For the Word of God in Scripture, for the Word of God among us,
and for the Word of God within us,
People Thanks be to God.

Music after the Reflection

I'll Remember You in My Prayers

Evening Prayer

Almighty God, who in your providence chose your servant Patrick to be the apostle of the Irish people, to bring those who were wandering in darkness and error to the true light and knowledge of you: Grant us so to walk in that way that we may come at last to the light of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and ever. **Amen.**

The Lorica of St. Patrick

Leader: I bind to myself today

People The strong virtue of the Invocation of the Trinity
I believe the Trinity in the Unity
The Creator of the Universe.

Leader I bind to myself today

People The virtue of the Incarnation of Christ with His Baptism,
The virtue of His crucifixion with His burial,
The virtue of His Resurrection with His Ascension,
The virtue of His coming on the Judgment Day.

Leader I bind to myself today

People The virtue of the love of seraphim, the obedience of Angels,
In the hope of resurrection unto reward,
In prayers of Patriarchs, in predictions of Prophets,
In preaching of Apostles, in faith of Confessors,
In purity of holy Virgins, in deeds of righteous men.

Leader I bind to myself today

People The power of Heaven, The light of the sun,
The brightness of the moon, The splendour of fire,
The flashing of lightning, The swiftiness of wind,
The depth of sea, The stability of earth,
The compactness of rocks.

Leader I bind to myself today

People God's Power to guide me, God's Might to uphold me,
God's Wisdom to teach me, God's Eye to watch over me,
God's Ear to hear me, God's Word to give me speech,
God's Hand to guide me, God's Way to lie before me,
God's Shield to shelter me, God's Host to secure me,
Against the snares of demons,
Against the seductions of vices,
Against the lusts of nature,
Against everyone who meditates injury to me,
Whether far or near, Whether few or with many.

Leader I invoke today all these virtues

People Against every hostile merciless power
Which may assail my body and my soul,
Against the incantations of false prophets,

Against the false laws of heresy,
Against the deceits of idolatry,
Against every knowledge that binds the soul of man.

Leader Christ, protect me today.
People Against every poison, against burning,
Against drowning, against death-wound,
That I may receive abundant reward.

Leader Christ with me, *People* Christ before me,
Leader Christ behind me, *People* Christ within me,
Leader Christ beneath me, *People* Christ above me,

Leader Christ at my right, *People* Christ at my left,
Leader Christ in the fort, *People* Christ in the chariot seat,
Leader Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of me,
People Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks to me,
Leader Christ in every eye that sees me,
People Christ in every ear that hears me.

Leader I bind to myself today
People The strong virtue of an invocation of the Trinity,
I believe the Trinity in the Unity
The Creator of the Universe.

Here, the people may add particular intercessions or thanksgivings.

Leader Jesus says, “Come to me you who are troubled and I will give you rest.” So come, you who are broken in body or in spirit, you who are torn by relationships and doubt, you who feel deeply within yourselves the divisions of the world. Come, for Jesus invites us to bring our brokenness. From now until the end of the service, you are invited to come to the Lady Altar and light a candle and kneel at the rail for prayers. Please move about as the Spirit leads you.

Music during Prayers

My Yellow Haired Lad

Hymn during Prayer

Be thou my vision

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; all else be nought to me, save that thou art—
thou my best thought, by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my great Father; thine own may I be; thou in me dwelling, and I one with thee.

High King of heaven, when victory is won, may I reach heaven’s joys, bright heaven’s Sun!
Heart of my heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

The Grace Now my friends, all that is true, all that is noble, all that is just and pure, all that is lovable and gracious, whatever is excellent and admirable; with these let us fill our hearts, and the God of heaven will be with us. **Amen.**

The Peace

The Holy Communion

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts

People **We lift them to the Lord**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant It is right to thank you and praise you giver of life, beloved of the poor and forgotten. We praise you for the prophets who in spite of persecution spoke your challenging word. We praise you that in Christ you chose to be born in a stable and revealed to poor shepherds. We praise you for Mary, first witness of the resurrection; and for all the women and men who have been trusted and empowered by you. With all the unremembered, outcast, with the poor and needy, with the trusting and hopeful in all the ages we praise you saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord. God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the Name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant We praise you for Jesus Christ, born of peasant parents, friend of lepers and tax collectors, who chose a life given up for others.

On the night before he died he shared a meal with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks and broke it and gave it to them saying:

“This is my own body given for you. Do this to remember me.”

After supper he took a cup of wine, blessed it and gave it to them saying:

“This is my life-blood poured out for you. Do this to remember me.”

So we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All **Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Celebrant Come now Holy Spirit of God. Come upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine, that in sharing this feast we may become the body of Christ. Break down walls of selfishness and fear and bring us all to the new age in which none go hungry and all are fed. Through Christ, with Christ and in Christ in the unity of the Holy Spirit be all honor and glory now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

The Breaking of the Bread

The Invitation

Celebrant This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord.

It is made ready for those who love him and for those who want to love him more.

So come, you who have much faith and you who have little,

You who have been here often, and you who have not been here long,

you who have tried to follow and you who have failed.

Come, because it is the Lord who invites you.

It is his will that those who want him should meet him here.

Communion

Concluding Prayer

All Lord Jesus Christ, you have put your life into our hands; now we put our lives into yours. Take us, renew us and remake us. What we have been is past; what we shall be, through you, still awaits us. Lead us on. Take us with you. Amen.

Blessing God, the Light-Creator bless us.
Jesus, the Light-Bearer bless us.
Holy Spirit, the Light-Sustainer bless us.
O Holy Trinity, illumine our hearts this day and evermore. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Officiant The Lord almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Concluding Musical Meditation *Blind Mary*

*Please leave immediately and quietly at the end of the service
as we wish to continue to contemplate the sacred mysteries we have received.*

Worship Leaders

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| The Reverend Debbie Phillips | <i>Officiant</i> |
| Ryan Patten, Debbie Phillips, Eric Wagner | <i>Musicians</i> |
| Paul Massari | <i>Assisting</i> |
| Lou Ann Faria | <i>Reflection</i> |
| Christine Reichert | <i>Intercessor</i> |
| Christine Reichert | <i>Usher</i> |

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Parish Prayer List

For Jeremy Parker, Deb Young, Diane Rowand Burns, Cindy Rhodes, Ron, , Linda Layne, Daniel Brundige, Evan Wagner, Garrett Graves, Gerald Tucker, Allison Mascolo, Melissa Glassman, Max Joyce, Inga, Henry, and Lucas, Mel, Melissa Glassman, Corey MacNeil, Helen Phillips, Zan Duffy, Dianne, Sarah Colvin Duffy, Michael Towe, Jenny, Loretta and Kris, Deb Papps, Derek Fuller and Family, the people of Palestine, and Ukraine; for the earthquake victims in Turkey and Syria, the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Salem, the Salem Public Schools and for an end to racism, war, anti-Semitism, gun violence and oppression. If you have prayer requests, please email regathering@gracechurchsalem.org by Tuesday at noon for publication in that week's e-news.

LOVING LIBERATING LIFE GIVING *the Jesus Movement*

— Grace Episcopal Church —

A parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts

The Most Reverend Michael B. Curry
The Right Reverend Alan M. Gates
The Right Reverend Carol Gallagher
The Reverend Deborah A. Phillips
The Reverend E. Clifford Cutler
The Reverend Manny Faria
The Reverend Ann Perrott
Tom and Karen Tucker

*Presiding Bishop
Bishop Diocesan
Assistant Bishop
Rector
Assisting Clergy
Assisting Clergy
Assisting Clergy
Property Stewards*

— Vestry —

Ryan Patten
Margaret Carter
Barbara Layne
Katie Scott

*Senior Warden
Junior Warden
Clerk
Treasurer*

Melissa Barnes, Andrew Bishop, Marianne Cannon
Lisa Duffy, Joanna Troy, Matt VanHamersveld

Members of Vestry