



The Fourth Sunday in Lent

10 March 2024 · 9:00 a.m.

The Chapel of the Good Shepherd
ST. JOHN'S LAFAYETTE

Morning Prayer

Voluntary *My Faith Looks up to Thee*

Mark Jones

The Opening Sentences

The officiant begins with one or more of the following

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not 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

Rend your hearts and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and repents of evil. -Joel 2:13

To the Lord our God belong mercy and forgiveness, because we have rebelled against him and have not obeyed the voice of the Lord our God by following his laws which he set before us. -Daniel 9:9, 10

Jesus said, "If anyone will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me." -Mark 8:34

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ. -Philippians 1:2

The officiant then says

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins to God.

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, open our lips.

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 for ever. Amen.

Invitatory

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

O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,
as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.

Therefore, I have gazed upon you in your holy place, that I might behold your power and your glory.

For your loving-kindness is better than life itself; my lips shall give you praise.

So will I bless you as long as I live and lift up my hands in your Name.

My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,

When I remember you upon my bed, and meditate on you in the night watches.

For you have been my helper, and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.

My soul clings to you; your right hand holds me fast.

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

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

1. Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
and his mercy endures for ever.
2. Let all those whom the Lord has redeemed proclaim
that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe.
3. He gathered them out of the lands;
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.
17. Some were fools and took to rebellious ways;
they were afflicted because of their sins.
18. They abhorred all manner of food
and drew near to death's door.
19. Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble,
and he delivered them from their distress.
20. He sent forth his word and healed them
and saved them from the grave.
21. Let them give thanks to the Lord for his mercy
and the wonders he does for his children.
22. Let them offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving
and tell of his acts with shouts of joy.

The First Reading

Numbers 21:4-9

Reader A reading from Numbers.

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a

serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle *Psalm 107*

www.theworkofthepeople.com

The Second Reading

Ephesians 2:1-10

Reader A reading from Ephesians.

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel

John 3:14-21

Reader A reading from the Gospel according to John.

And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Sermon

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth;
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
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,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and 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.**

The Lord's Prayer

**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 Prayers of the People

The officiant introduces the prayers saying

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for Michael our Presiding Bishop, Jennifer our Bishop; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.

Silence

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. Pray for the people of Ukraine, Palestine, and Israel. Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of God. Pray that they may find and be found by God.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the departed. Pray for those who have died.

Silence

I ask your prayers for all those on our parish prayer lists and any others you name now silently or in the chat.

Silence

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

The officiant concludes the prayers

Almighty God, by your Holy Spirit you have made us one with your saints in heaven and on earth: Grant that in our earthly pilgrimage we may always be supported by this fellowship of love and prayer, and know ourselves to be surrounded by their witness to your power and mercy. We ask this for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whom all our intercessions are acceptable through the Spirit, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

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 Collect for Mission

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. **Amen.**

A Collect for Peace

God of peace and justice, we pray for peace and the laying down of weapons. We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow, that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them. We pray for those with power over war or peace, for wisdom, discernment, and compassion to guide their decisions. Above all, we pray for your precious children, at risk and in fear, that you would hold and protect them. We pray in the name of Jesus, Prince of Peace. **Amen.**

Announcements from Good Shepherd & St. John's

Thanksgiving for Birthdays, Anniversaries, and other Milestones

Please use the chat feature to announce birthdays, anniversaries, or other milestones to be celebrated.

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

The Blessing

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The officiant concludes with one of the following

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.** -2 Corinthians 13:14

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** -Romans 15:13

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.** -Ephesians 3:20,21

Hymn Forty days and forty nights

Aus der Tiefe rufe ich



Parish Announcements

Lost & Found

Have you misplaced your reading glasses? Did you leave your hat or gloves behind? Remember that favorite dish, tray or pan you brought to the pot luck? We found it! Take a few minutes, look through the items on the tables outside the kitchen, and take what is yours. (If anything is left on the 24th you can take what you want. Everything must go.)

St. John's Offering of Letters 2024 Continues

The U.S. Farm Bill is our nation's most important national food system legislation. It is critical to ending hunger and affects each of us. Bread for the World, a non-partisan Christian advocacy organization, calls on Christians from all political parties and denominations to encourage our elected leaders to do all they can to end hunger. Reauthorizing a family-friendly Farm Bill will go a long way to helping those suffering from food insecurity in the U. S. and internationally.

St. John's will collect letters to our Senators and Representative through March 17.

Look for more information in the St. John's Commons. We will again have sample letters and letter templates available. The QR code links to more information to assist with writing your letters. Letters may be mailed directly, delivered to the church, or submitted electronically (using the QR code or <http://tinyurl.com/yckeyhen>). For more information, contact Becky Dick at beckydick.wl@gmail.com.



**New Fire: An Ecological Reading of the Easter Vigil
Concludes TODAY after the 10:15 a.m. service**

“New Fire” will explore the intersections of theology, liturgy, and ecology in the Easter Vigil during the weeks leading up to the service. **The class will meet in the church from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** We will be engaging with all the liturgical elements of the Vigil, so there will be smells and there will be bells as well as bread, water, and wine. For more information, contact Jason at jason@stjohns-laf.org.

Lenten Book Discussion—Wild Hope-Stories for Lent from the Vanishing Continues Thursday at 6:15 p.m.

St. John’s will host a discussion of stories from *Wild Hope* by Gayle Boss on Thursdays in Lent with Caleb Redick. This book attempts to orient us towards the brokenness of creation during the season of Lent by presenting short stories and illustrations of endangered creatures. A limited number of copies of the book will be available.

All ages are welcome to participate, however a few of the stories may be disturbing, as they present the reality of pollution, poaching, and sickness of creatures. Please contact Caleb Redick at calebredick@gmail.com for more information.



Prayer List

St. John's Cycle of Prayer— Mara Fox, Rosemary Frederickson & Chuck Pavlue, Carolin Frueh, Todd & Dana Garrett

Parish Prayer List— John & Elizabeth Barrett, Paul Lawson, Alyce Dressler, Pam Ogorzaly, Paul Roberts, Carol Helgerman, Ginny Hull, John Howland, Sue Eichhorn, Pequita Behrndt, Don Nead, Barbara Hess, Rosemarie Goonewardene, Janet Huber, Carolyn Speer, Kathie Basden, Bill McInerney, Ben, Judy, Sandra, Carole, Lynn, Jacob, Nancy, Kirsten, Scott, John, Bonnie, Johanna, Lowell, Roy, David, and their families.

For the people of Israel, Palestine, and Ukraine; for hostages and all innocent civilians in harm's way; for peace in all places of conflict; for the victims of violence; and for repair, understanding, and healing across the world, in our nation, and within our communities.

For those who have died—For all who have died, including Jerry, and those buried in the St. John's Memorial Garden

The leaders of our Communion—Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, the Presiding Bishop; & Jennifer our Bishop

St. John's Leadership, Staff, Clergy, & Seminarian—The Vestry, Wardens, and Volunteer staff; Amanda, Eva, Michael, & Teresa; Jason, Bradley, & Carolin

Our Ministry Partners—The Diocese of Brasilia and their bishop Mauricio and the Diocese of Haiti and St. Andre's, Mithon; The Episcopal Church, and St. Paul's, Evansville.

This nation and all in authority—Joe, our President; Eric, our Governor; and Tony and Erin, our mayors.

ST. JOHN'S LAFAYETTE

Worshiping · Sharing · Making Christ Known

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Parish Staff & Leadership

Jennifer Baskerville-Burrows, Bishop · Bradley Pace, Rector

Jason Fortner, Curate · Teresa Lohrman, Associate for Administration & Finance

Michael Bennett, Director of Music · Amanda Yauney, Director of Christian Education

Maggie McClure, Sr. Warden · Julie Peretin, Jr. Warden

St. John's is a parish of the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Indianapolis.

