

# The Fourth Sunday in Lent

*Holy Eucharist: Rite I*

Saint Paul's Episcopal Church | Waco, TX | March 19, 2023 | 8:00 AM

## A Penitential Order

BCP 319

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.

*People* ***His mercy endureth for ever.***

*The Decalogue may be said, the people kneeling.*

## The Decalogue

BCP 317

God spake these words, and said:

I am the Lord thy God who brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. Thou shalt have none other gods but me.

***Lord have mercy upon us,  
and incline our hearts to keep this law.***

Thou shalt not make to thyself any graven image, nor the likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or in the earth beneath, or in the water under the earth; thou shalt not bow down to them, nor worship them.

***Lord have mercy upon us,  
and incline our hearts to keep this law.***

Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in vain.

***Lord have mercy upon us,  
and incline our hearts to keep this law.***

Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day.

***Lord have mercy upon us,  
and incline our hearts to keep this law.***

Honor thy father and thy mother.

***Lord have mercy upon us,  
and incline our hearts to keep this law.***

Thou shalt do no murder.  
*Lord have mercy upon us,  
and incline our hearts to keep this law.*

Thou shalt not commit adultery.  
*Lord have mercy upon us,  
and incline our hearts to keep this law.*

Thou shalt not steal.  
*Lord have mercy upon us,  
and incline our hearts to keep this law.*

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.  
*Lord have mercy upon us,  
and incline our hearts to keep this law.*

Thou shalt not covet.  
*Lord have mercy upon us,  
and write all these thy laws in our hearts, we beseech thee.*

Hear what our Lord Jesus 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.

*The Celebrant then says*

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister and people*

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against thee  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved thee with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;

that we may delight in thy will,  
and walk in thy ways,  
to the glory of thy Name. Amen.

*The Priest stands and says*

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins,  
true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

*The people stand.*

## **The Trisagion**

*Celebrant*     Holy God.  
                  Holy and Mighty.  
                  Holy Immortal One,  
*People*         **Have mercy upon us.**

## **The Collect of the Day**

*The Celebrant says to the people*

The Lord be with you.

*People*         **And with thy spirit.**

*Celebrant*     Let us pray.

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

## **The Lessons**

*The people sit.*

### **The First Lesson: 1 Samuel 16:1-13**

*Lector*         A Reading from 1 Samuel.

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*            *The Word of the Lord.*  
*People*            *Thanks be to God.*

**The Response: Psalm 23** *(Read in unison)*

- 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.

**The Second Lesson:** *Ephesians 5:8-14*

*Lector*        A Reading from Ephesians.

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.”

*Lector*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        ***Thanks be to God.***

**The Gospel:** *John 9:1-41*

*Then, all standing, the minister appointed reads the Gospel.*

*Gospeler*      The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

*People*        ***Glory be to thee, O Lord.***

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.”

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

## **The Sermon**

*The people are seated at the invitation of the preacher, the Rev. Brandon S. McGinnis, Assistant Rector*

## **The Nicene Creed**

*BCP 358*

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 worshiped 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.

## The Prayers of the People

BCP 329

*The people kneel.*

*The intercessor begins by saying*

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

*A brief silence is kept.*

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.

*A brief silence is kept.*

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

*A brief silence is kept.*

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; to the whole order of the baptized; our lay pastors, musicians, and all the faculty and staff of St. Paul's School; 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.

*A brief silence is kept.*

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

*A brief silence is kept.*

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.

*A brief silence is kept.*

Bless, O Lord, the milestones of our lives, that, in the course of our mortal pilgrimage, we may know that thou art ever walking beside us. We offer particular thanks for the life and occasion we celebrate with our altar greenery.

*A brief silence is kept.*

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those persons who have requested our prayers, those we remember in our hearts, and all those who in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

*A brief silence is kept.*

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 blessed Paul and of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

*A brief silence is kept.*

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

## **The Peace**

*BCP 332*

*All stand for the exchange of the peace.*

*Celebrant*      The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People*          ***And with thy spirit.***

*The ministers and people may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## **The Offertory**

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good thy vows unto the Most High.

*People may offer the fruit of their time and labor by placing a financial gift in the offering plate as it is passed through the pews, or by securely giving online at [saintpaulswaco.org/give](http://saintpaulswaco.org/give).*

## The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer I

*The people remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and says*

The Lord be with you.

*People*        **And with thy spirit.**

*Celebrant*    Lift up your hearts.

*People*        **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

*Celebrant*    Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

*People*        **It is meet and right so to do.**

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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.

Who dost bid they faithful people cleanse their hears, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, renewed by thy Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which thou hast prepared for those who love thee.

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

*Celebrant and People*

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:  
Heaven and earth are full of thy Glory.  
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.**

**Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*The people kneel or stand.*

*Then the Celebrant continues*

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.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated*

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 hath taught us, we are bold to say,

*People and Celebrant*

**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**

*BCP 337*

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.*

*A period of silence is kept.*

*Celebrant* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

*The Clergy and other Ministers prepare the Eucharistic elements.*

## **The Prayer of Humble Access**

*The Celebrant and People say the following together*

**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.**

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation*

## The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*Communion will be distributed at the altar rail. All baptized Christians are welcome to receive communion at the usher's or acolyte's direction. If you would prefer to receive communion from your pew, you may remain seated during altar rail distribution. A priest will come down to the congregation for anyone wishing to remain in the pew. You may raise your hand to get their attention.*

*After Communion the People kneel or stand, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

**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 Blessing

*BCP 339*

*Celebrant*

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 Dismissal

*BCP 340*

*Celebrant* Let us bless the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**



## The Worship Leadership 8:00 AM

Celebrant & Preacher  
Vestry Host  
Lector and Intercessor  
Altar Guild

The Rev. Brandon S. McGinnis, Assistant Rector  
K. Paul Holt  
Tricia Braswell  
Team I: Tricia Braswell, Melisa Bennett, AliceAnne  
Brunn, Patty Burgess, Lori Burris, Diane Deaver, Kira  
Harris, Brooke Richards, Elizabeth Smith,  
Susan Vonder Hoya, Christine Wilkins, Carl Ballew

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### **Altar Flowers**

The greenery on the altar is presented by Jana and Curtis Cleveland to the Glory of God and in thanksgiving for their grandchildren Mary Michael, Tucker, Wallace, Poppy and Piper.

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### **Prayer for Birthdays**

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### **Prayer for Anniversaries**

O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*