

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

LENT – MARCH 19, 2023

PRELUDE: CARSON

OPENING HYMN: The Gory of These Forty Days:#143

1. The glory of these forty days we celebrate with songs of praise; for Christ, through whom all things were made, himself has fasted and has prayed.

2. Alone and fasting Moses saw the loving God who gave the law; and to Elijah, fasting, came the steeds and chariots of flame.

3. So Daniel trained his mystic sight, delivered from the lions' might; and John, the Bridegroom's friend, became the herald of Messiah's name.

Welcome: Pastor Beverly

Priest: Blessed the Lord who forgiven all our sins.

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

People: **Amen**

Pastor: Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ 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.

Music: Lord, have mercy upon us. Lord have mercy upon us. Lord have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Christ have mercy upon us. Christ have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us. Lord have mercy upon us. Lord have mercy upon us.

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Priest: Let us Pray.

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.*

THE LESSONS: *Please be seated for the reading of the Lessons:*

Old Testament 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.

Reader: Here ends the reading from the 1st Book of Samuel.

Response: Thanks be to God

THE PSALM: Psalm 23 *Let us read it together.*

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.

He revives my soul and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

**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.**

**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.**

**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.**

Reader: Here ends the reading of the Psalm.

Response: **Thanks be to God.**

NEW TESTAMNET LESSON: 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.”

Reader: Here ends Paul’s letter to the Ephesians.

Response: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL HYMN: O For A Thousand Tongues: #493

*1. O for a thousand tongues to sing my dear Redeemer's praise, the
glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!*

2 My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim and spread through all the earth abroad the honors of thy Name.

3 Jesus! the Name that charms our fears and bids our sorrows cease; 'tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.

Pastor: *Please stand for the reading of the Gospel.*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ according to St. John.

People: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

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.”

Priest: The Gospel of our Lord.

People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

SERMON:

SERMON RESPONSE: CARSON

Priest: *Please stand as we confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.*

Nicene Creed:

People: 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

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE.

Priest/Deacon: With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying "Lord, have mercy."

Reader: For the peace from above, for the loving-kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: *Lord, have mercy.*

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

Response: *Lord, have mercy.*

Reader: For our Bishop, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: *Lord, have mercy.*

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

Response: *Lord, have mercy.*

Reader: For this city Port Clinton, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: *Lord, have mercy.*

Reader: For seasonable weather, and for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: *Lord, have mercy.*

Reader: For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: *Lord, have mercy.*

Reader: For those who travel on land, on water, or in the air let us pray to the Lord.

Response: *Lord, have mercy.*

Reader: For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: *Lord, have mercy.*

Reader: For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: *Lord, have mercy.*

Reader: For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: *Lord, have mercy.*

Reader: For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: *Lord, have mercy.*

Reader: For the absolution and remission of our sins and offenses, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: *Lord, have mercy.*

Reader: That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

Response: *Lord, have mercy.*

Reader: Defend us, deliver us, and in thy compassion protect us, O Lord, by thy grace.

Response: *Lord, have mercy.*

Reader: Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble; especially: **Alex, Diane, Nana Jo, Patricia K., Terrie, Judy, Scott, Fr. John, Alec, Roseann, David, Michael, Steve and Donna:**

Response: *That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Reader: We pray for the men and women serving in our armed forces, especially: **Fr. Tony, Mitchell, Emily, Steven, Chris and Chelsey, the 200th Red Horse Squadron, the 983rd, Army Combat Engineer Battalion and the 393rd Air Force Bomb Squadron.**

Response: **Protect, guide and comfort them and bring them home safely when their work is done.**

Reader: Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ sake, our only Mediator and advocate. Amen

Priest/Deacon: Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

People: **Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all men: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.**

We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Priest: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

COMMUNION:

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Priest: Lift up your hearts

People: We lift them up unto the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People: It is meet and right to do so.

Priest: 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.

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

Everyone: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

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.

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, ourselves, 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.

Everyone: AMEN, AMEN, AMEN

And now, as our Savior hath taught us, we are bold to say:

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.

Priest: Christ our Passover lamb is sacrificed for us.

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

MUSIC: *Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us. Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us. Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world: give us your peace, give us your peace.*

Pastor: Let us Pray:

People: **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.**

Pastor: The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Priest: Let us pray with those who are unable to receive the Eucharist with us this morning:

EVERYONE: Dear Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Holy Sacrament, but since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, I ask that you come spiritually into my heart.

Unite me with you and never permit me to be separated from you.
Amen.

Priest: St. Thomas practices open communion which means that all baptized Christians are welcome at the Lord's Table.

In light of the presence still of the Covid virus, I am asking you to receive communion by intinction only. Intinction is the dipping of the wafer into the chalice instead of drinking from the chalice.

Priest: The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven.

LEM/Deacon: The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.

Music: *(during communion)*

1. As we gather at your Table, as we listen to your Word, help us know, O God, your presence; let our hearts and minds be stirred. Nourish us with sacred story till we claim it as our own; teach us through this holy banquet how to make Love's vict'ry known.

2. Turn our worship into witness in the sacrament of life; send us forth to love and serve you, bringing peace where there is strife. Give us, Christ, your great compassion to forgive as you forgave; may we still behold your image in the world you died to save.

3. Gracious Spirit, help us summon other guests to share that Feast where triumphant Love will welcome those who had been last and least. There no more will envy blind us nor will pride our peace destroy, as we join with saints and angels to repeat the sounding joy.

Priest: Let us Pray:

Everyone:

Almighty and ever living 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.

Priest: May the Lord bless you and keep you, may the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you. May the Lord look upon you with favor and bring you peace. Amen

RECESSIONAL HYMN: Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah: #690

***1. Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty; hold me with thy powerful hand;
bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me now and evermore, feed me
now and evermore.***

***2. Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth
flow; let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through;
strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield,
be thou still my strength and shield.***

*3. When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side;
songs of praises, songs of praises, I will ever give to thee, I will ever
give to thee.*

Please be seated for the playing of the Postlude.

POSTLUDE: CARSON

Priest: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Thanks: Pastor Beverly

Announcements: