
ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The
Season
of
Lent



The Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 22, 2020

10:00 a.m. Contemporary Service

Opening Hymn *MY SOUL IN STILLNESS WAITS*

Refrain **For you, O lord, my soul in stillness waits. Truly my hope is in you.**

Verse 1 **O Lord of Light, our only hope of glory, your radiance shines in all who look to you. Come light the hearts of all in dark and shadow.**

Verse 2 **O spring of joy, rain down upon our spirits. Our thirsty hearts are yearning for your word. Come, make us whole; be comfort to our hearts.**

Verse 3 **Come, let us bow before the God who made us. Let every heart be opened to the Lord, for we are all the people of his hand.**

Words and Music by Martin Haugen (Psalm 93) Copyright 1982 GIA Publications, Inc. Used with permission under OCP license #3011928.

Penitential Order

Celebrant: Bless the Lord, who forgives all our sins,

People: God's mercy endures for ever.

Celebrant: Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your hearts, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these. (*Mark 12:29-31*)

Deacon: The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit;
A broken and contrite heart God will not despise.
Let us come to the Lord, who is full of compassion,
And acknowledge our transgression in penitence and faith.

Leader: We confess to you our selfishness and lack of love:
Fill us with your Spirit.
Lord, have mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: We confess to you our fear and failure in sharing our faith:
Fill us with your Spirit.
Christ, have mercy.

People: Christ, have mercy.

Leader: We confess to your our stubbornness and lack of trust:
Fill us with your Spirit.
Lord, have mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Celebrant: God forgives you. Be at peace.

People: Amen.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

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.**

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

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.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

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.

Second Reading

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.”

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn *HOLY SPIRIT, BREATHE ON ME*

Holy spirit, breathe on me.

**Holy spirit, let me see all the things you are,
all the things you want me to be.**

Holy spirit, breathe on me.

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Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Gospel

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."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Gospel Hymn *HOLY SPIRIT, BREATHE ON ME*

Holy spirit, breathe on me.

**Holy spirit, let me see all the things you are,
all the things you want me to be.**

Holy spirit, breathe on me.

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Sermon

The Rev. Annie Mertz

A time of silence for reflection follows the sermon.

The Nicene Creed

**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.**

Prayers of the People

Hymn O LORD, HEAR MY PRAYER

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer:

When I call answer me. O Lord, hear my prayer,

O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.

Text: Psalm 102, Taize community; Tune: Jacques Berthier, copyright 1982 Les Presses de Taize, GIA Publications, From Gather, copyright 1985, GIA Publications, Inc. Reprinted under OneLicense.net license #9182.

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.**

Peace

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

People: And also with you.

Announcements

Closing Hymn *LORD, I LIFT YOUR NAME ON HIGH*

**Lord, I lift your name on high.
Lord, I love to sing your praises!
I'm so glad you're in my life.
I'm so glad you came to save us!
You came from heaven to earth to show the way.
From earth to the cross, my debt to pay.
From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky.
Lord, I lift your name on high!**

Music and Lyrics by Rick Founds, copyright 1989 Maranatha Praise, Inc. Used with permission under CCLI license #2426521.

Assisting in Today's Service

Celebrant & Preacher:

The Rev. Annie Mertz

Deacon: The Rev. Beth Gaines

Music: Mark Sackett

Videographers: Yann Jouvenot Sells,
Jorge Castaneda

Prayers for Healing

Gene Albers

Noreen L.

Alex Clouse

Gavin Hill

Amy

Birthdays

David Nicholas

Anne Seed

Sandra Clark

Anniversaries

Steve & Kim Rodekohr

**Prayers for Those Serving
in Our Armed Forces**

PFC Toby Williams, U.S. Army

PVT Andrew Contreras, U.S. Army

Warrant Officer Brandon Niemann,
U.S. Army

AB Andrew Severa, U.S. Air Force

SA Michelle Severa, PA, Air National Guard

Jake Sackett, U.S. Air Force

***Welcome to St. Paul's
Episcopal Church***

WE ARE HERE TO SERVE YOU

The Rev. Annie Mertz, Rector

Associate Priests:

The Rev. Canon Mary Goshert

The Rev. Pamela Higgins

The Rev. Dr. Arthur Holder

The Rev. Beth Gaines, Deacon

Grace Flint, Seminarian

VESTRY

Yann Jouvenot Sells, Senior Warden

Kim Rodekohr, Junior Warden

Betsy Zampa, Clerk

Jorge Castaneda, Cathy Cellini,

Heather Healy, Helen Kennedy-Lazar,

Charlie Kilbourne, Ken Nowinski,

**David White, Giovanna Zampa (Youth
Advisor)**

STAFF

Glenn Walp, Traditional Music Director

**Mark Sackett, Contemporary Music
Director**

Jim Brown, Peddlers' Fair Coordinator

Tim Markley, Archivist

**Beckie Pelkey, Youth & Family
Ministries Coordinator**

**Andria Reid, Godly Play/Nursery
Coordinator**

JoAnn Souza, Parish Administrator

**Betsy Zampa, Communications
Coordinator**

**Carolyn Conlin, Lily Field, Emma
Gilbert, Nayda Guerin, Giovanna
Zampa, Nursery Care**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Online Offering Available

During this time we also ask that you continue to be faithful in your giving because our bills won't stop coming. Mail your pledge or click the yellow "Donate" button on our home page at www.stpaulsbenicia.org. We appreciate your continued faithfulness!

New Weekly All-Parish Email on Tuesdays

St. Paul's has launched a new weekly Email to keep you informed about our response to the COVID-19 Pandemic. It will be sent every Tuesday, and it will include information about church closures, new parish initiatives, and volunteer opportunities. Double check your spam folder or "Updates" tab in Gmail if it doesn't make it to your inbox, or check the front page of the church website.

Our Friday Email with resources and announcements geared towards Sunday worship will continue. To be added to our all-parish Emails, please contact JoAnn, our parish administrator (admin@stpaulsbenicia.org).

St. Paul's, Meet Zoom!

Thanks to a grant from our diocese, we now have an account with Zoom! Zoom is a teleconference platform that allows people to come together digitally for video conferences and conference calls. It's a great way to "see" and meet with your friends at St. Paul's. If you'd like to use the account for any small group or ministry, Email Rev. Annie (rector@stpaulsbenicia.org) to get set up. Watch for new Zoom activities in the coming weeks!

UPCOMING

March 24 Worship Committee Meeting @ 6:30 pm (**via Zoom**)

March 25 Bible Study @ 11 am (**via Zoom**)

PIE Meeting @ 3:45 pm — **CANCELLED**

March 26 Lenten Program @ 6:30 pm — **CANCELLED**

March 27 TGIFF Social Gathering @ 5:30 pm — **CANCELLED**

March 29 Church Service @ 10 am (Live stream on Facebook)

This Week @ St. Paul's

Monday, 3/23/2020

7 am AA (PH) CANCELLED
9 am +Morning Prayer
CANCELLED
7 pm AA (PH) CANCELLED

Tuesday, 3/24/2020

7 am AA (PH) CANCELLED
9 am +Morning Prayer
CANCELLED
2 pm FA (PH) CANCELLED
4:30 pm Weight Watchers (UC)
CANCELLED
6:30 pm Worship Meeting via Zoom
7:30 pm AA (PH) CANCELLED

Wednesday 3/25/2020

7 am AA (PH) CANCELLED
9 am +Morning Prayer
CANCELLED
10 am +Holy Communion
CANCELLED
12 pm Bible Study via Zoom
4:30 pm Community Meal Take Out

Thursday 3/26/2020

7 am AA (PH) CANCELLED
9 am +Morning Prayer
CANCELLED
6:30 pm Lenten Program (PH)
CANCELLED

Friday, 3/27/2020

7 am AA (PH) CANCELLED
9 am +Morning Prayer
CANCELLED
5:30 pm TGIFF CANCELLED
8 pm NA (PH) CANCELLED

Saturday, 3/28/2020

7 am AA (UC) CANCELLED

5th Sunday in Lent, 3/29/2020

6:30 am AA (PH) CANCELLED
10 am +Church Service—
via Facebook
8 pm AA Meeting (UC)
CANCELLED

Serving This Week

Altar Guild

Kim Rodekohr, Steve Rodekohr,
Suzanna Sally

Godly Play

CANCELLED

Nursery Care

CANCELLED

Verger

Joe Brien

**The deadline for submitting
items for Friday online
announcements is
Wednesday at noon.**

Please e-mail information to:
admin@stpaulsbenicia.org.

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(707) 745-0307

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