

Morning Prayer Rite II & a Litany for the One Year
Anniversary of the Pandemic
March 14th 2021
Fourth Sunday in Lent

Officiant

I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him,
"Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am
no longer worthy to be called your son." *Luke 15:18, 19*

Confession of Sin

The Officiant says to the people

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of
Almighty God our heavenly Father, to set forth his praise, to
hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf
of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our
salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and
mind to worship him, let us be in silence, and with
penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may
obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

Silence is kept.

Officiant and People together

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.

Officiant

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.*

The Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant Lord, open our lips.
People And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Officiant and People

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.

Venite *Psalm 95:1-7*

Officiant and People

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

Come, let us sing to the Lord; *
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, *
and a great King above all gods.
In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are his also.
The sea is his, for he made it, *
and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.*
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

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

The Psalm Appointed

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 *Confitemini Domino*

Officiant and People

- 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.

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.

The Lessons

A reading from Numbers 21:4-9

From Mount Hor the Israelites 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.

Answer The word of the Lord.
 Thanks be to God.

Canticle 14 A Song of Penitence *Kyrie Pantokrator*

Prayer of Manasseh 1-2, 4, 6-7, 11-15

Officiant and People

O Lord and Ruler of the hosts of heaven, *
God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob,
and of all their righteous offspring:
You made the heavens and the earth, *
with all their vast array.
All things quake with fear at your presence; *

they tremble because of your power.
 But your merciful promise is beyond all measure; *
 it surpasses all that our minds can fathom.
 O Lord, you are full of compassion, *
 long-suffering, and abounding in mercy.
 You hold back your hand; *
 you do not punish as we deserve.
 In your great goodness, Lord,
 you have promised forgiveness to sinners, *
 that they may repent of their sin and be saved.
 And now, O Lord, I bend the knee of my heart, *
 and make my appeal, sure of your gracious goodness.
 I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned, *
 and I know my wickedness only too well.
 Therefore I make this prayer to you: *
 Forgive me, Lord, forgive me.
 Do not let me perish in my sin, *
 nor condemn me to the depths of the earth.
 For you, O Lord, are the God of those who repent, *
 and in me you will show forth your goodness.
 Unworthy as I am, you will save me,
 in accordance with your great mercy, *
 and I will praise you without ceasing all the days of my life.
 For all the powers of heaven sing your praises, *
 and yours is the glory to ages of ages. Amen.

A Reading from Ephesians 2:1-10

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.

Answer The word of the Lord.
 Thanks be to God.

Canticle K A Song of Our Adoption

Ephesians 1:3-10

Officiant and People

Blessed are you, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, *
 for you have blessed us in Christ
 with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.
 Before the world was made, you chose us to be yours in Christ, *
 that we should be holy and blameless before you.
 You destined us for adoption as your children through Jesus Christ, *
 according to the good pleasure of your will,
 To the praise of your glorious grace, *
 that you have freely given us in the Beloved.
 In you, we have redemption through the blood of Christ,
 the forgiveness of our sins,
 According to the riches of your grace *
 which you have lavished upon us.
 You have made known to us, in all wisdom and insight, *
 the mystery of your will,
 According to your good pleasure which you set forth in Christ, *
 as a plan for the fullness of time,
 To gather together all things in Christ, *
 things in heaven and things on earth

A Reading from the Gospel of John 3:14-21

Jesus said, "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."

Answer The Word of the Lord.
 Thanks be to God.

Sermon

The Apostles' Creed

Officiant and People

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.
 I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
 He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
 and born of the Virgin Mary.
 He 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,
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
 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 Prayers

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray.

Officiant and People

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.

Our Father in heaven,
 hallowed be your Name,
 your kingdom come,
 your will be done,
 on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins
 as we forgive those
 who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,
 and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,
 and the glory are yours,
 now and for ever. Amen.

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;
 R. And grant us your salvation.
 V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
 R. Let your people sing with joy.
 V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
 R. For only in you can we live in safety.
 V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
 R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.
 V. Let your way be known upon earth;
 R. Your saving health among all nations.
 V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
 R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.
 V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
 R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit

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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 Sundays

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *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 Litany for the Pandemic Anniversary

We pause to name our losses and griefs.

Silence

We pause to acknowledge our anger, our fatigue, our frustration, and our fear.

Silence

We pause to remember what is missing, what has been altered, the things we long for, and the people we miss.

Silence

We pause to name the lessons we have learned, the new skills, values, and abilities that have come with adaptability.

Silence

We pause to look around, to be reminded of what is most precious, the principles that we have recovered, the spaces we have found anew, the reminders of what really matter most in this life.

Silence

Lord Christ, we pray for the Church, your body in the world. Bless our bishops, clergy, lay leaders and congregations with the courage to lead in these times, and sustain them with your love. Free us from fear, that we may bear witness to your liberating love in this broken world.

Lord in your Mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We pray for this Nation: for our President, our elected representatives and all who hold authority. Open their hearts and ours, to see and address the human needs of those suffering from the effects of the pandemic. Guide our leaders toward policies that uphold the dignity of our most vulnerable. Open their eyes and ours, to see all who are ill, and all who have lost their livelihoods, as fellow siblings in Christ.

Lord in your Mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We pray for healing for all who are affected by this pandemic: for all who are ill, that they may receive prompt and appropriate care, and for those who are dying alone, that they may find peace and comfort.

Lord in your Mercy,
Hear our prayer.

We pray for the scientists and physicians throughout the world who are working toward treatments and the vaccines, that their work may continue to bear fruit in ways that are safe, timely, and fully available to all.

Lord in your Mercy,
Hear our prayer.

For all who tend to the sick and for their families, especially doctors and nurses and first responders, that they may find continued strength and support.

Lord in your Mercy,
Hear our prayer.

For all who have died, especially for those in this time who have died alone, that they may be held in the company of all your saints.

Lord in your Mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Gracious God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. So guide us by your Spirit, that we may walk through the struggles and trials of this life, towards the glory of the world to come. Strengthen our steps as we pick up our cross, and unite us as one people, in the one Body of Jesus Christ our Savior . *Amen*

The General Thanksgiving

Officiant and People

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
 we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
 for all your goodness and loving-kindness
 to us and to all whom you have made.
 We bless you for our creation, preservation,
 and all the blessings of this life;
 but above all for your immeasurable love
 in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
 for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
 And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
 that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
 not only with our lips, but in our lives,
 by giving up our selves to your service,
 and by walking before you
 in holiness and righteousness all our days;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord,
 to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
 be honor and glory throughout all ages. *Amen.*

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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*

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Look down in mercy, Lord, on your people before you; and
 grant that those whom you have nourished by your Word
 and Sacraments may bring forth fruit worthy of repentance;
 through Christ our Lord. Amen