

Winter Church, Holy Communion

The Third Sunday in Lent





Welcome and Good Morning!

Holy Communion


Book of Alternate Services, p.185

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- ❖ Preaching: Reverend Taunya Dawson
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- ❖ Readers: Cindy Simms and Catherine Chandler

The Symbols of Lent: The Coins


Today we lay before the cross
the bag of coins,
reward for treachery
toward the Son of God.






Judas handed Jesus over to the authorities,
in greed and self-interest
deliberately betraying his Lord.

Our Scripture readings today reminds us
that out of the depths of wilderness and
fasting,
will come a hunger for the feast
of God's holy friendship,



**Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
have mercy on us. We blame Judas
for his greed, his selfishness,
but excuse our own.
We too are grasping and self-seeking.
In the shadow of your cross we cry,
“Have mercy on us.”**



While Judas sought payment for
unfaithfulness,
Jesus died in faithfulness. In his life and
death
he became the bread broken for us,
the blood poured out for us.
Jesus freely offers to all who hunger
and thirst the eternal nourishment
of his very self.



**Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
have mercy on us.**

At times we too live unfaithfully.

**We spend our money for that which is not
bread;**

we labor for that which does not satisfy.

In the shadow of your cross we cry,

“Have mercy on us.”



Let us pray together,

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy:

**We look at Jesus, and we look at ourselves,
and we confess the great difference.**

**Truly your ways are higher than our ways,
and your thoughts than our thoughts!**

**Forgive our unfaithfulness; conform us to his
love.**

**We thank you that through the
resurrection
your grace abundantly pardons and
transforms us!
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

(The bag of coins are placed at the foot cross)



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The Gathering of the Community


Opening Hymn:
*As Longs The Hart
For Flowing Streams*






As Longs the Hart for Flowing Streams, (3 verses)

**As longs the hart for flowing streams,
so longs my soul for you, O God;
my soul does thirst for the living God:
when shall I come to see your face?**



**2. My tears have fed me day and night,
while others said, “Where is your God?”
But I recall, as my soul pours dry,
the days of praise within your house.**


- 
- 3. Why do I mourn and toil within,
when it is mine to hope in God?
I shall again sing praise to God,
who is my help, who is my God.**



The Grace

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with you all.

And also with you.



**Almighty God,
To you all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hidden.
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Kyrie Eleison

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.





The Collect of the Day

Almighty God,

whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal life, may we always thirst for you,

the spring of life and source of goodness;

through him who lives and reigns with you

and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever. Amen

The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading:
Exodus 17:1-7





Psalm 95

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!



Harden not your hearts,
as your forebears did in the wilderness, *
**at Meribah, and on that day at Massah,
when they tempted me.**
They put me to the test, *
though they had seen my works.




Forty years long I detested that generation and
said,*

**“This people are wayward in their hearts;
they do not know my ways.”**

So I swore in my wrath, *

“They shall not enter into my rest.”

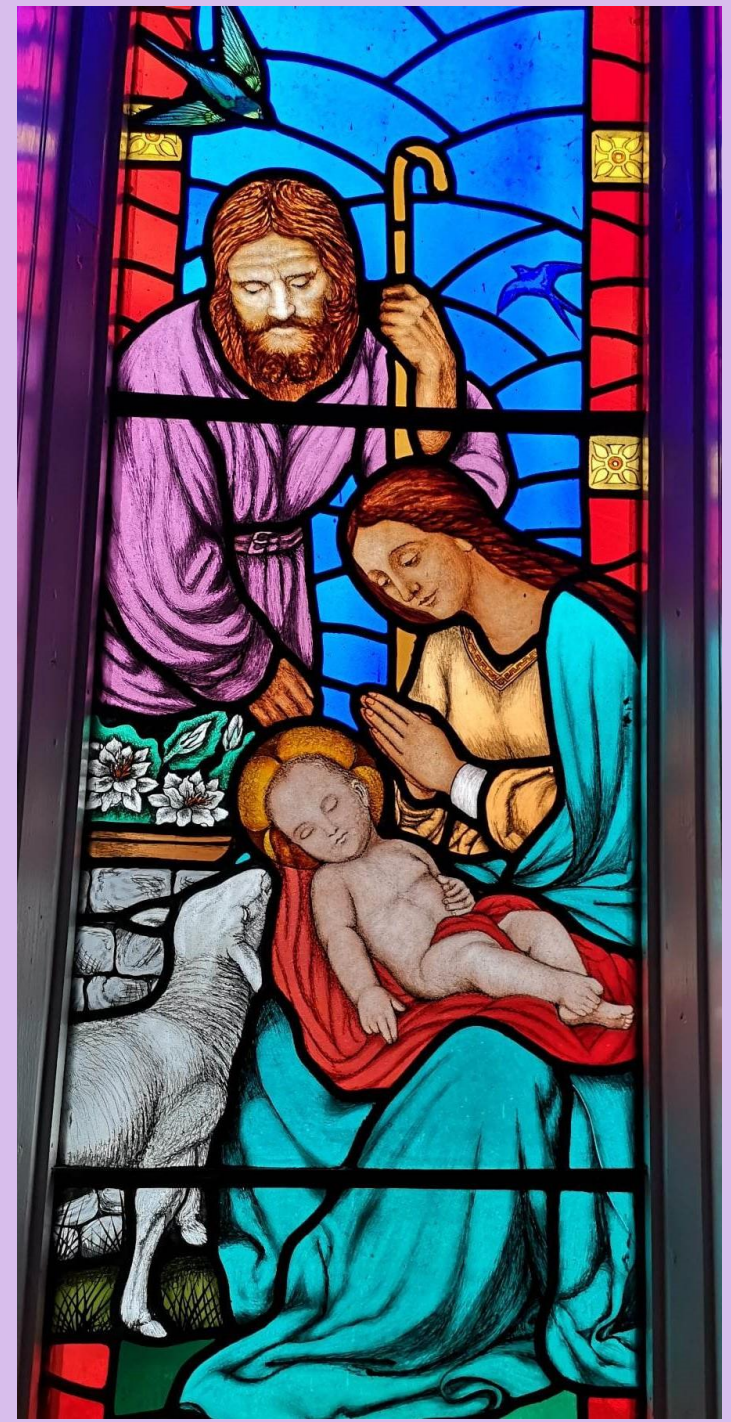


Creator of all, we give you thanks for a world full of wonder, but above all because you have called us into a holy fellowship with you and with each other. Guide us in the ways of this your new creation, rooted and grounded in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Second Reading:
Romans 5:1-11**



Gradual Hymn:
Giver of the Perfect Gift







Gradual Hymn:


Giver of the Perfect Gift, (5 verses)


**Giver of the perfect gift,
only hope of human race,
hear the prayer our hearts uplift,
trembling at thy throne of grace.**

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2. **Though the accusing voice within
Speaks of many a wrong to thee,
thou canst cleanse from every sin;
thou can set the conscience free.**



**3. Who can save us, Lord, but thou?
Let thy mercy show thy power.
Lo, we plead thy promise now,
now, in this the accepted hour.**

- 
- 4. Oh! may these our Lenten days,
blest by thee, with thee be passed,
that with purer, nobler praise
we may keep thy feast at last.**



**5. God the holy Trinity,
grant the mercy we implore;
God the One, all praise to thee
through the ages evermore.**

The Gospel: John 4:5-42

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Saint John **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

...

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The Sermon

Rev. Taunya






The Apostles' Creed


Let us confess the faith of our baptism,
as we say,

**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 of the People






PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

So, I've been blessed to be a LLM in this Parish for approximately 7 years now and I've developed quite an inventory of prayers. So, full disclosure....if the timing works, I often go back and reuse the prayers I developed as a starting point – refreshing them with how my connection to the readings has evolved, and whatever I am being called to pray for, since I wrote the original version.



When I went back to the prayers for this week, three years ago, I was reminded of that Third Sunday of Lent, which was the last time we gathered here in the Parish Hall before the Pandemic. What a scary time! And we thought we would close and reopen on Easter Sunday! As I reflected on the changes I wanted to make for this morning's prayers, I was moved by the following passage from Romans which speaks to me of the power of perseverance, resilience, and hope which really sums up the journey we've been on for the past three years:



Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.




Let us pray,

Friends, Jesus led the Samaritan woman step by step on a journey of faith.


Just as she gladly shared what she found with her neighbours, we gather here, with open hearts and minds, gladly sharing all that we are, and all that we have.

Hear us, gracious God, as Jesus heard the woman at the well, as we pray together saying, Lord in your mercy, hear our prayers,

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers.




Bless and inspire all who lead us in faith and share your holy Word, especially Revs. Taunya, Jerry and Bill, and our entire lay ministry team. Sustain all churches as places where God's people seek the faithful path, never thirst, leave refreshed and renewed, and joyfully welcome others with caring and faithful hearts;
Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers.



God of wholeness, we pray for all imprisoned by fear, haunted by the past or scared of the future. Pour your strength over them as you guide them towards a thirst for deeper meaning, faith and hope.


Bless them with wise guides and supportive friends.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers.




We pray, God of Refuge, for all who live in danger, for peace in the world, and for all nations, their governments and leaders. Pour a spirit of respect and reconciliation over your entire creation.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers.




Loving Father, from whose hands comes all life and healing, we pray for those facing another day of pain and suffering, especially those who we now share with you aloud or silently in our hearts. Support and strengthen all who care for the sick and distressed as you renew and strengthen them with faith and hope in your gracious compassion.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers.



Almighty Father, be with all who grieve. Light
their sorrow with confidence in the brightness of
the Resurrection.


Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers.



God of creation, as the earth once again turns to face the sun, we are ready to let go of winter and welcome and give thanks to you for the new beginning of spring.

We pray that this season of new life and birth to fill our hearts and souls with hope.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers.




God of spirit and truth, how we need you! As we continue our Lenten journey, walk with us and reveal those truths known only to you.

In this season of repentance, we are reminded that your son was tempted by the forces of evil but chose faithfulness rather than popularity, service instead of fame, and sacrifice instead of power. Draw us close to you so that we who confess Jesus as our Lord and Saviour, may put aside temptations, shunning them as he did. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**




Confession and Absolution

Dear Friends in Christ,
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; God
welcomes sinners
and invites us to his table.
Let us confess our sins,
confident in God's forgiveness.



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 neighbours 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.**

Absolution



Almighty God have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Peace

The peace of the Lord
be always with you.

And also with you.



The Celebration of the Eucharist

Preparation of the Gifts


Offertory Hymn:
Jesus the Joy of Loving Hearts





Jesus, the Joy of Loving Hearts, (5 verses)


**Jesus, the joy of loving hearts,
true source of life, our lives sustain;
from the best bliss that earth imparts,
we turn unfilled to you again.**



- 
- 2. Your truth unchanged has ever stood;
you rescue those who on you call:
to those yet seeking, you are good;
to those who find you, all in all.**

- 
- 3. We taste of you, the living bread,
and long to feast upon you still.
We drink from you, the fountainhead;
our thirsty souls from you we fill.**

- 
- 4. Our restless spirits long for you,
however may our lot be cast,
glad when your gracious smile we view,
blessed when our faith can hold you fast.**

- 
- 5. Jesus, forever with us stay:
make all our moments calm and bright;
chase the dark night of sin away;
spread through the world your holy light.**



Prayer over the Gifts

**God of life and freedom,
we celebrate the revelation of Jesus
as the Christ who makes all creation new.
Accept all we offer you this day
and make us new in him,
who is Lord for ever and ever.**



The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer 2)

The Lord be with you.


And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.


We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.


It is right to give our thanks and praise.



We give you thanks and praise, almighty
God,
through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ,
our Saviour and Redeemer.
He is your living Word
through whom you have created all things.




By the power of the Holy Spirit
he took flesh of the Virgin Mary
and shared our human nature.
He lived and died as one of us,
to reconcile us to you,
the God and Father of all.




In fulfillment of your will
he stretched out his hands in suffering,
to bring release to those who place their hope in you;
and so he won for you a holy people.

He chose to bear our griefs and sorrows,
and to give up his life on the cross,
that he might shatter the chains of evil and death,
and banish the darkness of sin and despair.
By his resurrection
he brings us into the light of your presence.




Now with all creation we raise our voices
to proclaim the glory of your name.


**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory,
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the
Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**




Holy and gracious God,
accept our praise,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ;
who on the night he was handed over
to suffering and death,
took bread and gave you thanks,
saying, "Take, and eat:
this is my body which is broken for you."



In the same way he took the cup,
saying, “This is my blood which is shed for you.
When you do this, you do it in memory of me.”
Remembering, therefore, his death and
resurrection, we offer you this bread and this cup,
giving thanks that you have made us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.



We ask you to send your Holy Spirit
upon the offering of your holy Church.
Gather into one all who share in these sacred
mysteries,
filling them with the Holy Spirit
and confirming their faith in the truth,
that together we may praise you
and give you glory through your Servant, Jesus Christ.



All glory and honour are yours,
Father and Son,
with the Holy Spirit
in the Holy Church,
now and for ever.
Amen.




The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, we are bold to pray

**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,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**



The Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread,

Communion in Christ's body once broken.

Let your Church be the wheat
which bears its fruit in dying.

If we have died with him,

we shall live with him;

if we hold firm,

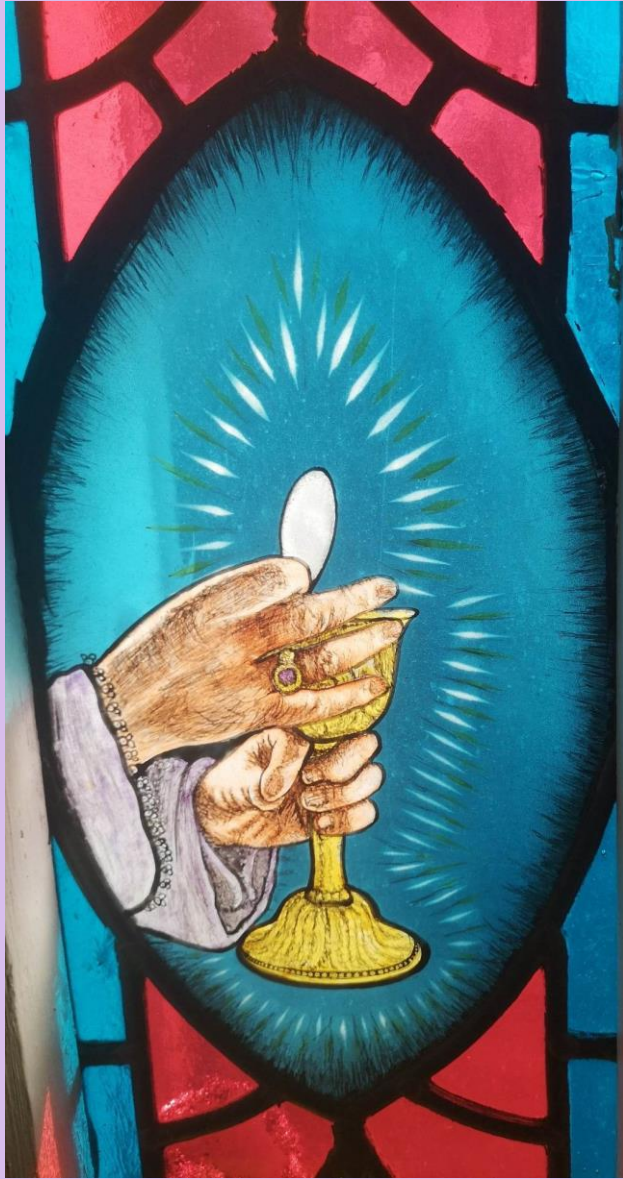
we shall reign with him.

The Communion

The gifts of God
for the Children of God.

Thanks be to God.







Prayer After Communion

Let us pray.

**God of our pilgrimage,
we have found the living water.
Refresh and sustain us
as we go forth on our journey,
in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.
Amen**



Doxology

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

The Blessing



May the God of mercy transform you by his grace,
and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the
Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain
with you always

Amen.

Announcements

Birthdays? 🎂 🍰 🎂

Anniversaries? 🥂 💕 🥂 💕 🥂 💕


Closing Hymn:
*A Spendthrift Lover Is
The Lord*






A Spendthrift Lover is the Lord, (3 verses)

**A spendthrift lover is the Lord
who never counts the cost
or asks if heaven can afford
to woo a world that's lost.
Our lover tosses coins of gold
across the midnight skies
and stokes the sun against the cold
to warm us when we rise.**

- 
- 2. Still more is spent in blood and tears
to win the human heart,
to overcome the violent fears;
that drive the world apart.
Behold the bruised
and thorn-crowned face
of one who bears our scars
and empties out the wealth of grace
that's hinted by the stars.**

- 
- 3. How shall we love this heart-strong God
who gives us everything
whose ways to us are strange and odd
what can we give or bring?
Acceptance of the matchless gift
is gift enough to give.
The very act will shake and shift
the way we love and live.**

Dismissal

