

Winter Church, Holy Communion

Fourth Sunday in Lent





Welcome and Good Morning!

Holy Communion, **Book of Alternative Services**(Eucharistic Prayer 4)

- Celebrant and Preacher: Reverend Taunya Dawson
- Deacon: Reverend Jerry Cavanaugh



The Symbols of Lent: The Nails

Today we lay before the cross the nails that pierced the hands and feet of the Son of God.





The nails were our verdict, condemning this innocent man to the undeserved suffering and disgrace of crucifixion.

The empty tomb is God's verdict, vindicating him.

Yet, in him, God comes to roll away our own deserved disgrace.



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

Forgive us our cruelty, and fear, and quickness to condemn.

We see the disgrace you bore because of us, and confess it as our own.

In the shadow of your cross we cry, "Have mercy on us."



Jesus led the blind man on a journey of faith until he saw with the eyes of his heart. We too fearfully refuse to trust, and to enter into God's promises. We pray to God to lead us from the blindness of self-pride to the clarity of eyes opened to life with him.



We give thanks to God for the amazing grace that saves us, for we were blind and now we see.

The light of Christ dawned upon us when we were reborn in the waters of baptism.

Then as the baptismal candle was handed over to us, we were bade to walk always as children of the light and to keep the flame of faith alive in our hearts.



Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on us. In fear we refuse to trust you fully; we reject your provision for us. 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.

Forgive us our fearful lack of trust.

Deliver us from our willful fear; conform us to his trust and obedience.



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

Amen.

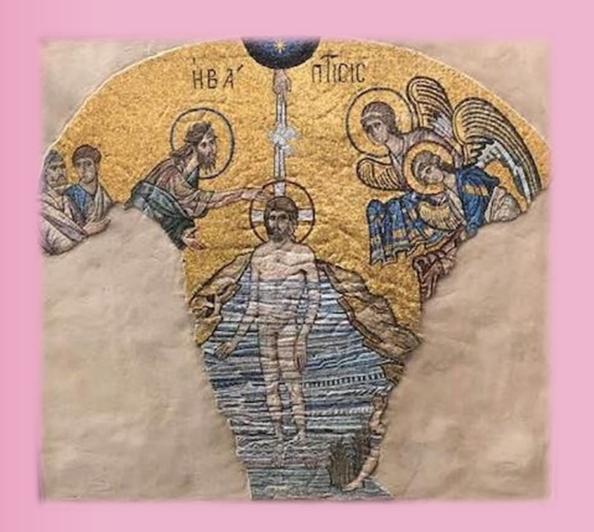
(The nails are placed at the foot of the cross)





The Gathering of the Community

Opening Hymn:
On Jordan's Bank





On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry Announces that the Lord is nigh; awake and hearken, for he brings Glad tidings of the King of kings!

Then cleansed be every breast from sin; make straight the way of God within, Prepare we in our hearts a home, where such a mighty guest may come.



For thou art our salvation, Lord, our refuge, and our great reward; without thy grace we waste away like flowers that wither and decay.

To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and bid the fallen sinner stand; shine forth and let thy light restore earth's own true loveliness once more.



All praise, eternal Son, to thee Whose advent sets thy people free, Whom, with the Father, we adore And Holy Ghost forevermore.



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,

through the waters of baptism your Son has made us children of light.

May we ever walk in his light and show forth your glory in the world;

through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

and for ever

Amen



The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading:

1 Samuel 16:1-13





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.



Glory to you, Jesus Christ, our good shepherd. In the waters of baptism you give us new birth, at your table you nourish us with heavenly food, and in your goodness and mercy, you guide us beyond the terrors of evil and death to your Father's home to dwell in eternal light. Glory to you for ever. Amen.



Second Reading:

Ephesians 5:8-14





Gradual Hymn:

Forty Days and Forty Nights





Forty days and forty nights you were fasting in the wild, forty days and forty nights tempted, and yet undefiled:

Burning heat throughout the day, bitter cold when light had fled, prowling beasts around your way, stones your pillow earth your bed.



Shall not we your trials share, learn your discipline of will, and with you by fast and prayer wrestle with the powers of hell?

So if Satan, pressing hard, soul and body would destroy, Christ who conquered, be our guard; give to us the victor's joy.



Saviour, may we hear your voice; keep us constant at your side; and with you we shall rejoice at the eternal Eastertide.



The Gospel John 9:1-41

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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,

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





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.



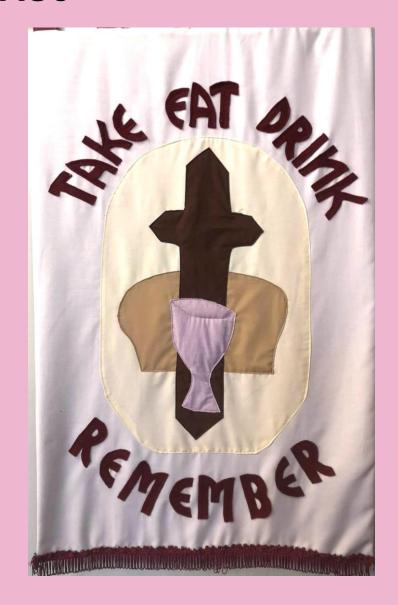


The Celebration of the Eucharist

Preparation of the Gifts

Offertory Hymn:

Precious Lord, Take My Hand





Precious Lord, take my hand
Lead me on, let me stand
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn
Through the storm, through the night
Lead me on to the light
Take my hand precious Lord,
lead me home



When my way grows drear,
Precious Lord linger near
When my life is almost gone
Hear my cry, hear my call
Hold my hand lest I fall
Take my hand precious Lord,
lead me home



When the darkness appears and the night draws near And the day is past and gone At the river I stand Guide my feet, hold my hand Take my hand precious Lord, lead me home



Prayer over the Gifts:

God of light, your Word brings to us a new vision of your glory.

Accept our offering of praise and thanksgiving, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen



Eucharistic Prayer #4

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.



It is right to give you thanks and praise,

O Lord, our God, sustainer of the universe,

you are worthy of glory and praise.



At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home; by your will they were created and have their being.



From the primal elements
you brought forth the human race,
and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill;
you made us the stewards of creation.



But we turn against you, and betray your trust; and we turn against one another.

Again and again you call us to return.

Through the prophets and sages you reveal your righteous law.

In the fullness of time you sent your Son, born of a woman, to be our Saviour.



He was wounded for our transgressions, and bruised for our iniquities.

By his death he opened to us the way of freedom and peace.



Therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:



Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.



Blessed are you, Lord our God, for sending us Jesus, the Christ, who on the night he was handed over to suffering and death, took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, gave it to his friends, and said, "Take this, and eat it: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."



In the same way, after supper, he took the cup of wine; he gave you thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you:

this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."



Gracious God, we recall the death of your Son Jesus Christ,

we proclaim his resurrection and ascension, and we look with expectation for his coming as Lord of all the nations.

We who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring you these gifts.



Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this offering of your Church,

that we who eat and drink at this holy table may share the divine life of Christ our Lord.



Pour out your Spirit upon the whole earth and make it your new creation. Gather your Church together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, where peace and justice are revealed, that we, with all your people, of every language, race, and nation, may share the banquet you have promised; through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, all honour and glory are yours, creator of all. Glory to you for ever and 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. Amen.



The Communion

The gifts of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.





Music During Communion





Prayer After Communion

Father, through your goodness we receive your Son in word and sacrament.

May we always have faith in him, 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? R P R P R P













Closing Hymn:

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me





Rock of ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee; let the water and the blood, from thy riven side which flowed, be of sin the double cure, cleanse me from its guilt and power.



Not the labours of my hands can fulfill thy laws demands; could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow, all for sin could not atone: thou must save, and thou alone.



Nothing in my hand I bring; simply to thy cross I cling; naked, come to thee for dress; helpless, look to thee for grace; foul, I to the fountain fly; wash me, Saviour, or I die.



While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eyelids close in death, when I soar through tracts unknown, see thee on thy judgement throne, rock of ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee.



Dismissal

