

St. Timothy's Episcopal Church

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The Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 30, 2014

Holy Eucharist Rite II

11:00 a.m.

Prelude

Voluntary on "Houston"

Robert J. Powell

The Word of God

At the tolling of the bell, all stand.

Entrance Hymn

I want to walk as a child of the light

Hymnal 490

The Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People *His mercy endures for ever.*

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:8, 9

The Confession *(Please kneel as able)*

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

People: *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.*

The Celebrant stands for the absolution; the people remain kneeling through the end of the collect.

Celebrant: 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.**

Kyrie (sung)

Hymnal S 96

Lord, have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant 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.**

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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People ***Thanks be to God.***

Psalm 23 *Spoken*

- 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.

The Second 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 The Word of the Lord.
People ***Thanks be to God.***

Sequence Hymn

Amazing Grace

Hymnal 671

The Gospel

John 9:1-41

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

As he 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."

Celebrant *The Gospel of the Lord.*
People *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

Sermon

The Reverend Liz Tomlinson, *Seminarian & Deacon*

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.

The Prayers of the People

Leader: Sons and daughters of God, sisters and brothers in Christ, let us pray.

(Silence)

Leader: God of luminous glory, we lift our voices on behalf of the world you have made. Your creation is threatened by human greed and casual disregard. Give us knowledge and wisdom, compassion and courage. Help us revere and preserve this magnificent earth and all of your creatures. **Gracious Creator, help us restore your world.**

(Silence)

Leader: Benevolent Governor, we pray for communities and nations devastated by poverty, tyranny, and war. We wound, enslave, and destroy one another. Have mercy on us. Draw us ever more deeply into your love, that we may establish peace and equity for all. **Healer of the world, save us from ourselves.**

(Silence)

Leader: Divine Benefactor, your world is in upheaval, the economy is in turmoil; show us new solutions for our problems. Help us create new industries that are good for the earth, and good for your people. Lead us through these stressful and uncertain times to a better world, a better economy, and a better life for all people. **God of the Exodus, guide us into a future full of promise.**

(Silence)

Leader: Steadfast Deliverer, we plead for your Church. We are divided, many of your people are persecuted; we have been silent and complacent, unresponsive to your Gospel. Grant us new faith and vision, integrity and passion. Unite us in your truth and inspire us with your love. **Merciful Redeemer, renew your Church.**

(Silence)

Leader: Blessed Savior, we cry out to you for people who are injured, sick, and suffering; for the victims of natural disasters and human contempt. Increase our knowledge, wisdom, and concern for one another. Help the entire human family respond quickly and graciously when any of our neighbors are in crisis; help us provide comfort and relief to our sisters and brothers who are in anguish. **Lamb of God, heal your people; make us whole.**

(Silence)

Leader: Sovereign of Heaven and earth, we give thanks for the people we love who have died, and pray for those who will pass this week into paradise. Deliver us from faithless fears and anxieties. Confirm our faith in your promises. **God of hope and salvation, help us bear the cross with dignity, and proclaim the Gospel with confidence.**

(Silence)

Leader: Bread of heaven, cup of Salvation, we pray for one another. We stumble and fall. We wander and fail. Help us become the people you want us to be – fill us with faith, hope, and love; generosity, peace, and joy. **Blessed Jesus, infuse us with your Spirit, and direct us in your service.**

(Silence)

Leader: God of providence, Host of Heaven, we do not deserve the blessings you bestow so generously and abundantly. Give us grateful hearts, we pray, and make us faithful stewards of all your gifts, that your love may be known throughout the world, and your praises sung by all creation, now and for ever. **Gracious and compassionate Savior, we praise you, we thank you, and we offer ourselves to you - all we are and all we have. Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People ***And also with you.***

Welcome & Announcements

The Offering

Celebrant: But do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

The Holy Communion

Offertory

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

Wilbur Held

Presentation Hymn

This is my Father's world

Sung to the tune TERRA BEATA

**This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears
All nature sings and round me rings the music of the spheres;
This is my Father's world; I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas, his hand the wonders wrought.**

**This is our Father's world, oh let us not forget
That though the wrong is great and strong, God is our Father yet.
He trusts us with his world; to keep it clean and fair,
All earth and trees, all skies and seas, all creatures everywhere.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The people remain standing.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People *We lift them up to the Lord.*

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People *It is right to give God thanks and praise.*

The Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

Holy, holy, holy Lord

Hymnal S 130

Celebrant and People

**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.

The people stand or kneel.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

Celebrant On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, 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."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Celebrant We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN!**

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

***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.***

Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

Fraction Anthem

Jesus, Lamb of God

Hymnal S 164

*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.*

Celebrant 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.

The Administration of Communion

Communion Hymns

*My Shepherd will supply my need
The King of love my shepherd is*

**Hymnal 664
Hymnal 645**

Postcommunion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

***Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior, Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit
be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen***

The Blessing

Closing Hymn

O for a thousand tongues to sing

Hymnal 493

Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People ***Thanks be to God.***

Postlude

Recessional

Gerald Near