

# ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 22, 2020

10:00 am

Prelude

*Improvisation on "O Christ, the healer"*

Ted Davis

Welcome and Comments

The Rev. Florence Ledyard

Opening Hymn

*O Christ the Healer*

Wonder, Love and Praise 772

1. O Christ, the heal - er, we have come to pray for  
2. From ev - ery ail - ment flesh en - dures our bod - ies  
3. How strong, O Lord, are our de - sires, how weak our  
4. In con - flicts that de - stroy our health we rec - og -  
5. Grant that we all, made in one faith, in your com -

health, to plead for friends. How can we fail to  
clam - or to be freed; yet in our hearts we  
know - ledge of our - selves! Re - lease in us those  
nize the world's dis - ease; our com - mon life de -  
mu - ni - ty may find the whole - ness that, en -

be re - stored, when reached by love that nev - er ends?  
would con - fess that whole - ness is our deep - est need.  
heal - ing truths un - con - scious pride re - sists our selves.  
clares our ills: is there no cure, O Christ, for these?  
rich - ing us, shall reach the whole of hu - man - kind.

Words: Fred Pratt Green (b. 1903)

Music: Kedron, melody att. Elkanah Kelsay Dare (1782-1826); harm. *The Southern Harmony*, 1835; adapt. *Hymnal 1982*

## Opening Acclamation

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People* **His mercy endures forever.**

## The Decalogue

*Celebrant* Hear the commandments of God to his people:  
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.  
You shall have no other gods but me.

*People* **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

*Celebrant* You shall not make for yourself any idol.

*People* **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

*Celebrant* You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

*People* **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

*Celebrant* Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

*People* **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

*Celebrant* Honor your father and your mother.

*People* **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

*Celebrant* You shall not commit murder.

*People* **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

*Celebrant* You shall not commit adultery.

*People* **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

*Celebrant* You shall not steal.

*People* **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

*Celebrant* You shall not be a false witness.

*People* **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

*Celebrant* You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

*People* **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

*Celebrant* 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

Most merciful God, I confess that I have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what I have done, and by what I have left undone. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved my neighbors as myself. I am truly sorry and I humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on me and forgive me; that I may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

## Kyrie

Hymnal S-91

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up -  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer-cy up -

on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.  
Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Music: From *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880-1968)  
Copyright: By permission of Oxford University Press.

### 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.

*People* **Amen.**

### The Lesson

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* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; \*  
I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures \*  
and leads me beside still waters.

He revives my soul \*  
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

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.

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.

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 Epistle

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* Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn

*There is a balm in Gilead*

Hymnal 676

*Refrain*

There is a balm in Gil - e - ad, to make the wound - ed  
whole, there is a balm in Gil - e - ad, to  
heal the sin - sick soul. 1 2  
1 Some - times I feel dis - cour - aged, and  
2 If you can - not preach like Pe - ter, if you  
think my work's in vain, but then the Ho - ly  
can - not pray like Paul, you can tell the love of  
Spi - rit re - vives my soul a - gain.  
Je - sus, and say, "He died for all." *Repeat Refrain*

Words: African-American spiritual  
Music: *Balm in Gilead*, Afro-American spiritual; acc. David Hurd (b. 1950)

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

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.**

*A time of silence is observed following the sermon.*

## Nicene Creed

Prayer Book 358

**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

*Intercessor* Brothers and sisters, live as children of the light—for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true.

Lord our Shepherd, you have given your Church all that we need. Rain down on us mightily with your Spirit, that we may testify to the astonishing things you have done in our lives, remembering \_\_\_\_\_.

Light of the world,

*People* **Open our eyes.**

*Intercessor* God, you are present in the valley of the shadow of death. Comfort all those around the world who know danger or violence or war. By your love, cast out all evil and fear.

Light of the world,

*People* **Open our eyes.**

*Intercessor* Lord, you make us to lie down in green pastures; you lead us by still waters. You have blessed us with a beautiful planet. May we work to preserve the holy gift of nature.

Light of the world,

*People* **Open our eyes.**

*Intercessor* Lord, spread a table for those who are hungry; where there is scarcity and need in our neighborhoods, fill empty hearts, lives and cups with your abundance. By your light expose all the unfruitful works of darkness.

Light of the world,

*People* **Open our eyes.**

*Intercessor* God of life, pursue the sick and sorrowful with your goodness and mercy. Reveal your works in those who are suffering. Make yourself known as Healer, remembering \_\_\_\_\_.

Light of the world,

*People* **Open our eyes.**

*Intercessor* Reviver of Souls, give to the dying and the dead your promise of new and unending life, remembering \_\_\_\_\_. May we one day live with them forever in the light of Christ.

Light of the world,

*People* **Open our eyes.**

The Lord's Prayer, *contemporary*

**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.**

The Peace

*Celebrant* The peace of Christ be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

Hymn

*Be Thou My Vision*

Hymnal 488



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;  
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;  
3 High King of hea - ven, when vic - tory is won,



all else be nought to me, save that thou art—  
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
may I reach hea - ven's joys, bright hea - ven's Sun!



thou my best thought, — by day or by night,  
thou my great Fa - ther; thine own may I be;  
Heart of my heart, — what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.  
thou in me dwell - ing, and I one with thee.  
still be my vis - ion, O Ru - ler of all.

Words: Irish, ca. 700; versified Mary Elizabeth Byrne (1880-1931); tr. Eleanor H. Hull (1860-1935), alt.

Music: *Slane*, Irish ballad melody; adapt. *The Church Hymnary*, 1927; harm. David Evans (1874-1948)

Copyright: Music: By permission of Oxford University Press.

Blessing

Dismissal

*Deacon* As we go forth into the world, refreshed and renewed, we reaffirm our commitment to our vision and mission as a congregation:

*People* **We will, with God’s help, be a vibrant faith community that is a blazing beacon of God’s transforming love in the world. God is calling us to take righteous risks. We accept this call, and will respond by seeking and serving Christ in ALL people.**

*Deacon* Let us bless the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

\*Postlude

*Improvisation on “Be Thou My Vision”*

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

*Your prayers are requested for members and friends of St. B’s ...*

Lucy Marshall; Doris Haughey; Vince Marsiglia;; Donna Cartwright; Janet Churchill; David Schneider; Shirley Nathan Pulliam; Lenora Patterson; Wyvetta Dupree; Tony Creek; Mike Knudsen; Lib Shipley; Irene Hardy; Lillian Thomas; Theresa Sexton; Celia Vismale; Patrick Mellin; Ray Zeigler; Larry Brown; Sandra DeSilva; Tim Wolf; Tiger Watts; Justine Zurita; Peter Griffin; Jon Davis; David Chevront; Young Sam; Michelle Haynie Madison; Kate Henshall; Mary Warfield; the Trovato and Harris-Trovato family; 40 West Assistance and Referral Center Clients; Hope Harbor partner families; Heidi; Theresa Thomas; Meg and Shaun; Kathy and Andy; Angel; John and Jean; Allen; James Cooper; Kathie Goblirsch; Sherry McCollum; Steven Coffman; Joan Beilstein; Pushpa Sokhey; Lance Perry; Anna Miller; Sue Goodall; Jimmy, Terry, and Ashley Beauford; Hyun Brackens, Elizabeth Jefferson; William Edmonds; Lynn Calhoun; Amanda Ash Freeland; Cheryl Murdock; Doris Mote; Kyle Yoder; Warren Pulliam; Bernie Feely; Camille Madison Robinson; those in our midst who are un– or under-employed & the homeless; AND any others we name at this time.