

–St. Paul’s Episcopal Church –

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 14, 2021

Prelude

Rule Beasley

Opening Hymn *Come thou fount of every blessing*

LEVAS 111

1. Come Thou fount of every blessing
Tune my heart to sing thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
Sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! O fix me on it,
Mount of God's unchanging love.
2. Here I raise my Ebenezer,
Hither by thy help I'm come;
And I hope, by thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wand'ring from the fold of God;
He, to save my soul from danger,
Interposed His precious blood.
3. O, to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be;
Let that grace, Lord, like a fetter,
Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
Prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, Lord, take and seal it,
Seal it from thy courts above.

Officiant Rend your hearts and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and repents of evil. *Joel 2:13*

Officiant Let us confess our sins against God, our neighbor and ourselves:

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.

Officiant Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.
Amen.

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

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

Jubilate *Psalm 100*

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; *
serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song.
Know this: The Lord himself is God; *
he himself has made us, and we are his; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.
Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise; *
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.
For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; *
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

First Reading

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.

Leader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

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

- 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.

Second Reading

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.

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People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle D A Song of the Wilderness

Isaiah 35:1-7,10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, * the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
 It shall blossom abundantly, * and rejoice with joy and singing.
 They shall see the glory of the Lord, * the majesty of our God.
 Strengthen the weary hands, * and make firm the feeble knees.
 Say to the anxious, "Be strong, do not fear! * Here is your God, coming with judgment to save you."
 Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened, * and the ears of the deaf be unstopped.
 Then shall the lame leap like a deer, * and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
 For waters shall break forth in the wilderness * and streams in the desert;
 The burning sand shall become a pool * and the thirsty ground, springs of water.

The ransomed of God shall return with singing, * with everlasting joy upon their heads.
Joy and gladness shall be theirs, * and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

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.

Hymn

Have thine own way

LEVAS 145

1. Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
Thou art the Potter, I am the clay!
Mold me and make me after thy will,
While I am waiting, yielded and still.
2. Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
Search me and try me, Master, today!
Whiter than snow, Lord, wash me just now,
As in thy presence humbly I bow.
3. Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
Wounded and weary, help me, I pray!
Power, all power, surely is thine!
Touch me and heal me, Savior divine.

A reading from the Gospel of John

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."

Officiant Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God**

Homily

Rev. Gigi Siekkinen and Neighborhood Team

The Apostles' Creed

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.

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.

Collect for 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.**

Collect for Sunday

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.**

Collect for the Renewal of Life

O God, the King eternal, whose light divides the day from the night and turns the shadow of death into the morning: Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet into the way of peace; that, having done your will with cheerfulness during the day, we may, when night comes, rejoice to give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Collect for Peace

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your

defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Prayers of the People *Written by the inmates of Grace Chapel Prison Ministry*

Leader O Lord, my God, my Savior, by day and night, I cry to you. Let my prayer enter into your presence; incline your ear to my lamentation. *Psalm 88 1-2*

Leader Lord above all, who hears us no matter how we pray, hear us now and grant us the wisdom to recognize that we are already one regardless of our differences, our location or our circumstances. In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for St. Paul's, The Dalles
The Rev. Marilyn Roth.

People **May our bishops, priests, clergy and laity work to bring us closer together.**

Leader Grant our leaders wisdom and forbearance. May they govern with your truth, justice and compassion. Please give us guidance in and through all our trials, our nation's health, financial, spiritual, and all other related crises.

People **May there be peace and healing from You for your will be done.**

Leader May we never be asleep in the work we have been called to do. Help us to use the gifts and talents you have given us to glorify you. May those who have gone before us be remembered and honored. Praise you Lord for your provisions that you provide for those who are in need.

People **Lord help us to remember that we were once asleep, may we remain alert against the deceiver of the world.**

Leader For those in office, and out of office, those incarcerated, First Responders, those who represent the spiritual body of Christ, those who minister and those who volunteer. Please give them strength, wisdom and courage to spread the love and spirit of Christ to all.

People **May all praise, honor, and glory go to Christ the Lord.**

Leader May the people who suffer, suffer no more. Banish the yoke from our necks. Please keep the evil spirits at bay. Lift up the aged and infirmed, the widowed, the orphaned and sick.

People **Lord in your mercy, let light shine in darkness.**

Leader We pray for all those who have gone before us to wait in the company of Christ the Redeemer.

People **Bring us with all your saints to the joy in the Resurrection to come.**

Leader Holy God, who journeys with us in all the places of our lives: Be with us throughout this Lenten season. Open our hearts to know and speak truth in our lives and to see you as our way and our life. Guide us to trust that we are working to make all things new and whole. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen**

General Thanksgiving

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.

Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Closing Hymn *My faith looks up to thee*

LEVAS 88

1. My faith looks up to thee
Thou lamb of Calvary
Savior divine!
Now hear me while I pray
Take all my guilt away;
O let me from this day
Be wholly thine.
2. May thy rich grace impart
Strength to my fainting heart,
My zeal inspire;
As thou hast died for me,
O may my love to thee
Pure, warm, and changeless be
A living fire.
3. While life's dark maze I tread
And griefs around me spread,
Be thou my guide;
Bid darkness turn to day,
Wipe sorrow's tears away;
Nor let me ever stray
From thee aside.

Blessing May the God of covenant faithfulness enfold you;
May the beloved Son encourage you;
And the Holy Spirit descend upon you in blessing, this day and forever. Amen.

Dismissal ~~ Go out into the world to practice the way of Jesus.

Serving today: Homilist: Rev. Gigi Siekkinen and Neighborhood Team; Readers: Jeanie Senior, Lowry Browning; Musicians: Rule Beasley and Amy McIlvena.

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For your prayers: Peggy Davis, Skip & Carol Fisher, Bobbi Green, Ross & Deb Hucke, Don and Alice, Dale Newton, Jeff Krier, Ginger Crowley, Oscar Martinez, Ruth Welle (Carol Yakish's sister), Sarah, Barbara Portwood, John Davis, Carol healing from lung cancer, Judith (Sandy Kice's sister), Lee Keifer, Rosemary Ross, Andrew Larive, Melanie from Ascension, Wanda Hilderbrand, Connor (Jeanine Dirksen's grandson), Stuart Foster (Jim Foster's son healing from a ski accident), Kathy Scarborough's cousin who has Covid, Mary who is suffering from ALS (Amy McIlvenna's friend), Pete Speight (Georgia Giocobbe's husband), relief from the Covid-19 virus spread throughout the community and country, and Our Nation.

3/1/21

For the departed: Kaethe Worcester, Norma Clark, George Beasley, Kathy Cogswell.

COLUMBIA GORGE FOOD BANK (A transitional program of Oregon Food Bank)

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