



# CHRIST AND GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*It is our custom to observe a prayerful silence before the service begins.  
During the service, please feel free to stand or kneel as you are able.*

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## FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT March 14, 2021

**10:00 AM HOLY COMMUNION RITE II – live streamed**

### The Word of God

**Prelude:** *Alle Menschen müssen sterben* J. S. Bach

**Opening Acclamation** *standing*  
*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.  
*People* **His mercy endures forever. Amen.**

**Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: 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.**

**Hymn 686** *Come thou fount* Nettleton

*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.*

*Here I find my greatest treasure; hither by thy help, I've come;  
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;  
he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.*

*Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee;  
prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;  
here's my heart, oh, take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant* Let us pray.

### The Collect of 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.

**First Reading: Numbers 21:4-9** *sitting (see readings on last page)*

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

**Gospel:** *standing*

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

**John 3:14-21**

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

### The Sermon

Robin Teasley

**Hymn 470** *There's a wideness in God's mercy* Beecher

*There's a wideness in God's mercy like the wideness of the sea;  
there's a kindness in his justice, which is more than liberty.  
There is welcome for the sinner, and more graces for the good;  
there is mercy with the Savior; there is healing in His blood.*

*There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heaven;  
there is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgment given.  
There is plentiful redemption in the blood that has been shed;  
there is joy for all the members in the sorrows of the Head.*

*For the love of God is broader than the measure of the mind;  
and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.  
If our love were but more faithful, we should take him at his word;  
and our life would be thanksgiving for the goodness of the Lord.*

### The 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.**

**Prayers of the People** *standing or kneeling*

Have mercy on us, O God, according to your loving kindness; in your great compassion, hear our prayers. We pray for the whole Church, all leaders and ministers, and all the holy people of God. In our Parish Cycle of Prayer we remember: John & Teresa Brockwell, Jonathan, Taylor & Hartleigh Bruton and Martha Burton.

Wash us through and through,  
**And cleanse us from our sin.**

We pray for our nation, for all the nations of the earth, and for all who govern and judge.

Purge us from our sin,  
**And we shall be pure.**

We pray for those who hunger, those who thirst, those who cry out for justice, those who live under the threat of terror, and those without a place to lay their head.

Make them hear of joy and gladness,  
**that those who are broken may rejoice.**

We pray for those who are ill, those in pain, those under stress, and those who are lonely. We pray for the sick, the suffering, and those in distress of any kind, especially for Dale Bateman, Daniel, Katie, and Thomas Clark, John Haman, Sharon Plymire, Tasha Rempfer, Lilly Rudd, Mark Sheffield, Ted Simpson and Elaine Yeatts. *pause*

Give them the joy of your saving help,  
**and sustain them with your bountiful Spirit.**

In this season of Lent we pray that we might be given the grace and strength to repent and grow closer to you, O God.

Create in us clean hearts, O God,  
**and renew a right spirit within us.**

We pray for those who have died, and have entered into the land of eternal Light and your abiding peace.

Cast them not away from your presence,  
**and take not your Holy Spirit from them.**

Gracious God, because of your great love for the world you gave us your son; grant us the strength and wisdom to believe in him that we would not perish but have eternal life. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *(pause)*

**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.**

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.**

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

### Greeting and Announcements

### Offertory Sentence

*Please remember while we are closed for in person services, you may mail your offering to the church office, or give online through your bank or our website.*

### The Holy Communion

#### The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer A

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.  
*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**  
*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*People* **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere 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 say this hymn 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 he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

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. 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:

**Christ has died.**  
**Christ is risen.**  
**Christ will come again.**

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,

**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.**

#### The Breaking of the Bread

*Celebrant* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us  
*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

We pray together with those who are unable to receive communion.

**Faithful God, in the wonder of your wisdom and love, you fed your people in the wilderness with the bread of angels and you sent Jesus to be the bread of life. Though not everyone can consume these gifts of bread and wine with us today, we thank you that we have received Christ’s presence, the forgiveness of sins, and all other benefits of Christ’s passion and resurrection. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may we embody your love, be renewed for your service, and be reflections of the awakened and risen Lord. Amen.**

The Gifts of God for the People of God.  
**Prayer of Thanksgiving** *standing*  
Let us pray.

**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 for ever. Amen.**

### Blessing & Dismissal

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

**Postlude:** *On “Lift high the cross”*

*If you would like to receive reserved sacrament, please contact the church office or Rev. Robin.*

Lay Reader: 10:00 Sean Little  
Audio/Visual: Lee Adams, Bill Miller  
Cantor: Bill Miller

**WELCOME VISITORS:** We extend a warm welcome to our visitors today. If you would like to know more about our church, visit our website where you will also find links to our YouTube channels. You may also email us and we will be in touch. We are glad you are here.

The Rt. Rev. Susan Haynes	Bishop, Diocese of Southern Virginia
The Rev. Robin Teasley	Rector
William Owen	Organist – Choirmaster
Matthew Little	Assistant Organist
Mrs. Jill Donnelly	Parish Administrator
Mr. Greg Gwaltney	Property Administrator

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*Our mission: Offering Hope, Healing and Hospitality*

### **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.

### **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.”