

The Third Sunday in Lent

March 12, 2023

Words of Welcome

Gathering Hymn: "Amazing grace"

Hymn #671

**Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see.**

**'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.**

**The Lord has promised good to me,
His word my hope secures,
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.**

**Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come,
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far
And grace will lead me home.**

**When we've been there ten thousand years
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we've first begun.**

A Litany of Penitence

This Litany of Penitence is adapted from the Ash Wednesday liturgy (page 267 in the Book of Common Prayer).
Text in bold is spoken by all.

Officiant Let us examine our lives in the presence of God, humbly confessing
our sins and opening our hearts.

The Voice of the People leads the prayer:

**Most holy and merciful God:
We confess to you and to one another,**

**and to the whole communion of saints
in heaven and on earth,
that we have sinned by our own fault
in thought, word, and deed;
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.**

The Officiant continues,

We confess to you, Lord, that we have not loved you with our whole heart,
and mind, and strength.

We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.

We confess to you, Lord.

Officiant

We confess that we have turned away from to your call to serve,
as Christ served us.

We have not been true to the mind of Christ.

We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

We confess to you, Lord.

Officiant

We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness:

the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience of our lives,

our self-indulgent appetites and ways,

and our exploitation of other people.

We confess to you, Lord.

Officiant

We confess to you, Lord, our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts,

and our dishonesty in daily life and work,

our anger at our own frustration,

and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves.

We confess to you, Lord.

Officiant

We confess to you, Lord, our negligence in prayer and worship,

and our failure to commend the faith that is in us.

Our neglect of human need and suffering,

and our indifference to injustice and cruelty;

We confess to you, Lord.

Officiant

We confess to you, Lord, our false judgments and uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors,

and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us;

our waste and pollution of your creation,

and our lack of concern for those who come after us,

We confess to you, Lord.

Officiant

Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us;

Favorably hear us, for your mercy is great.

Accomplish in us the work of your salvation,

That we may show forth your glory in the world.

By the cross and passion of your Son our Lord,

Bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

The Celebrant pronounces absolution, saying

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 Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Glory to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God;

As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.

Officiant The Lord is full of compassion and mercy: O come let us worship.

Psalm 95

Come, let us sing to the Holy One;*

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving,*

and raise a loud shout with psalms.

For you, O God, are a great God;*

you are great above all gods.

In your hand are the caverns of the earth,*

and the heights of the hills are yours also.

The sea is yours, for you made it,*

and your hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down and bend the knee,*

and kneel before God, our Maker,

For you are our God, and we are the people of your pasture and the sheep of your hand,*

Oh, that today we would hearken to your voice!

Harden not your hearts, as your forebears did in the wilderness,*

at Meribah, and on that day at Massah, when they tempted me;

They put me to the test,*

though they had seen my works.

Forty years long I detested that generation and said, *

“This people are wayward in their hearts; they do not know my ways.”

So I swore in my wrath, *

“They shall not enter into my rest.”

Glory to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God;

As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.

The First Reading: Exodus 17:1-7

Reader A reading from the book of Exodus.

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, “Give us water to drink.” Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?” But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?” So Moses cried out to the Lord, “What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” The Lord said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, “Is the Lord among us or not?”

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle G: A Song of Ezekiel

Ezekiel 36:24-28

I will take you from among all nations; *

and gather you from all lands to bring you home.

I will sprinkle clean water upon you; *

and purify you from false gods and uncleanness.

A new heart I will give you * and a new spirit put within you.

I will take the stone heart from your chest * and give you a heart of flesh.

I will help you walk in my laws *

and cherish my commandments and do them.

You shall be my people, * and I will be your God.

Glory to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God;

As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.

The Gospel Reading: John 4:5-42

Reader A reading from the Gospel of John.

Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, “How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?” (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus an-

swered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you." Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" They left the city and were on their way to him. Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Homily

The Rev. Miranda Hassett

The Prayers

Officiant We now enter a time of prayer. You may wish to bow your head, open your hands, or prepare your body for prayer in some other way.

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Now, let us pray as God's beloved children, using the prayer Jesus taught us.

**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 Prayers of the People

Send prayer requests to to prayers@stdunstans.com.

Officiant Let us continue in prayer. We will hold up our needs and blessings to God. You can speak your prayers out loud, type them into the Chat area, or hold them in your heart. As you are able, please hold others' prayer requests before God in your heart as well.

Officiant Let us pray for all churches and their leaders, and for all God's people everywhere.
The people may offer their prayers aloud.

Officiant Let us pray for all those in authority.
The people may offer their prayers aloud.

Officiant Let us pray for all nations and peoples.
The people may offer their prayers aloud.

Officiant Let us pray for the earth and the whole created order.
The people may offer their prayers aloud.

Officiant Let us pray for our local communities.
The people may offer their prayers aloud.

Officiant Let us pray for those in any need or trouble, especially those on our parish prayer list: You are invited to name others in need of prayer, and to hold up your own struggles to the light of God's love.
The people may offer additional names.

Officiant Let us pray for all who have died, and for those who mourn.
The people may offer additional names.

Officiant Let us pray for our common life and work as God's people.
The people may offer their prayers aloud.

The Collect of the Day

Officiant

Let us pray. Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Officiant may read one of the following Collects as well:

A 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.

A Collect for Grace

Lord God, almighty and everlasting One, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Collect for Guidance

Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Sharing of Blessings

Officiant Does anyone have any blessings or celebrations to share with the assembly today?

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you!

All **And also with you!**

Celebrant Let us speak Christ's peace to one another. ...

Announcements

The Blessing

Celebrant The Wisdom of God, the Love of God, and the Grace of God
bless you and strengthen you to be Christ's hands and heart in this
world, in the name of the Holy and Undivided Trinity.

People **Amen.**

Dismissal

Officiant Let us bless the Lord,

People **Thanks be to God!**