

The Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 26, 2023

Words of Welcome

Gathering Hymn: "I want to walk as a child of the light"

Hymn #490

We will have a video that includes the words for this hymn.

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 130

The Holy One is my shepherd;*

I shall not be in want.

You make me lie down in green pastures *

and lead me beside still waters.

You revive my soul *

and guide me along right pathways for the sake of your Name.

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 God for ever.

Glory to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God;

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

The First Lesson: Ephesians 5:8-14

Reader A reading from the letter to the church in Ephesus.

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.**

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 9:1-41

Reader A reading from the Gospel of John.

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.”

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. Discerner of hearts, you look beneath our outward appearance and see your image in each of us. Heal everything in us that prevents us from recognizing truth, and help us see the world through your eyes and with the compassion of Jesus Christ who redeems us. **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!**