

The Fourth Sunday in Lent 10 March 2024 10:15 a.m.

Voluntary Meditation on Amazing Grace

Fred Swann

Hymn 686 Nettleton

The Penitential Order Opening Sentences

Blessed the Lord who forgives all our sins.

God's mercy endures forever.

The presider may say one or more of the following

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this:

Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these."

-Mark 12:29-31

Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

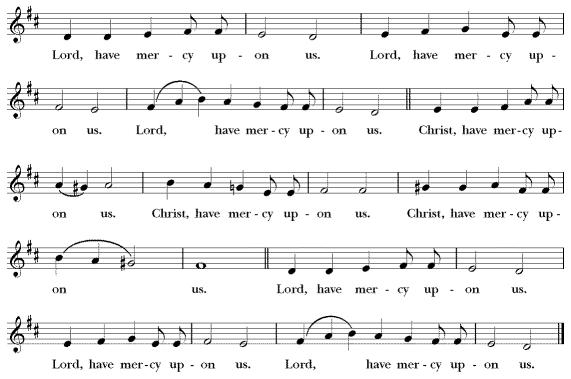
-Hebrews 4:14, 16

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.**

Kyrie Eleison



The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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. **Amen**.

The First Reading Numbers 21:4-9

Reader A reading from Numbers.

From Mount Hor they 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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

The psalm is sung by the congregation.



- Give thanks to the Lord, for / he is good, and his mercy endures / for ever.
- 2. Let all those whom the Lord has re-/deemed proclaim that he redeemed them from the hand / of the foe.
- 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 re-/bellious 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 thanks-/giving and tell of his acts with / shouts of joy.

The Second Reading

Ephesians 2:1-10

Reader A reading from Ephesians.

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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Hymn 605 Sharpthorne

The Gospel John 3:14-21

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

And 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."

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

A brief silence follows.

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: was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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

The presider introduces the prayers.

Let us offer our prayers for the Church and for the world. In this season of preparation, let us also remember to be silent and listen for a fresh word from God.

O God, you brought order out of chaos with a word. We pray for the good earth you have given us and ask that you will give us the will to care for it and protect it. Make us ever mindful of our call to be stewards of your creation. Speak, Lord, for your servants are listening.

Moment of Silence

O God, your Son Jesus Christ breathed new life on his disciples and sent them into the world to share the Gospel with all people. We pray for Justin the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael our Presiding Bishop, and Jennifer our Bishop; for the Episcopal Church; for St. Paul's, Evansville; for our companion Diocese of Brasilia and their bishop, Mauricio; for the Diocese of Haiti, and St. Andre's, Mithon; and for all those called to the Church's mission. Send your Holy Spirit to enliven the Church with a sense of urgency and purpose. Speak, Lord, for your servants are listening.

Moment of Silence

O God, your prophets demanded justice and offered your vision of true peace. We pray for peace in Israel and Palestine, Ukraine, and all other places of conflicts. We pray for Joe our President, Eric our Governor, Tony and Erin our mayors, and all those in authority. Send your prophets to call us back to the ways of justice, mercy, and humility that all people may share in your kingdom. Speak, Lord, for your servants are listening.

Moment of Silence

O God, in you we live, and move, and have our being. We give you thanks for the many blessings of this life. We give thanks for the work of the LUM Food Pantry at St. John's, Food Finders, and all those who work to address food insecurity. We give thanks for those who find community here including: Mara Fox, Rosemary Frederickson & Chuck Pavlue, Carolin Frueh, Todd & Dana Garrett. Help us to remember that our common life depends upon one another and upon your never-failing care. Speak, Lord, for your servants are listening.

Moment of Silence

O God, with a word your Son Jesus Christ healed the sick, gave sight to the blind, and even raised the dead. We remember before you all who are sick, alone, or in any other need. We remember all who have been commended to our prayers and those we name now either silently or aloud... Have compassion, O God, on those who suffer granting them peace, comfort, and healing. Speak, Lord, for your servants are listening.

Moment of Silence

O God, you are the God of the living and the dead. We remember all who have died including Jerry, those buried in the Memorial Garden, and those we name now either silently or aloud.... Give us hope in the face of death and by your promise bring them and us to the joys of eternal life. Speak, Lord, for your servants are listening.

Moment of Silence

The presider continues

Wise and loving God who sought out those living on the margins; bring us into the light of your presence; focus our hearts on your love and lead us in discernment of your will, that we may stretch out our arms to share your love with our neighbors, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Then the people greet one another in the name of Christ.

Announcements & Blessings for Personal Life

Those celebrating birthdays, anniversaries, or other milestones are invited to come forward.

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

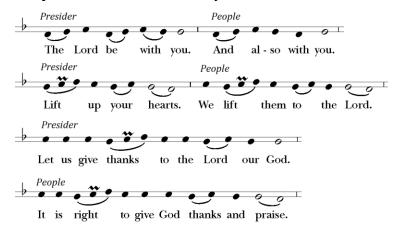
Come to this table you who have much faith and you who would have more; Come to this table you have been here often and you who have not been for a long time; Come to this table you who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have failed. Come to this table for it is Christ who invites us to meet him here.

You are invited to contribute to the ministry of St. John's by using the QR code or by going to www.stjohns-laf.org.

Offertory God So Loved the World

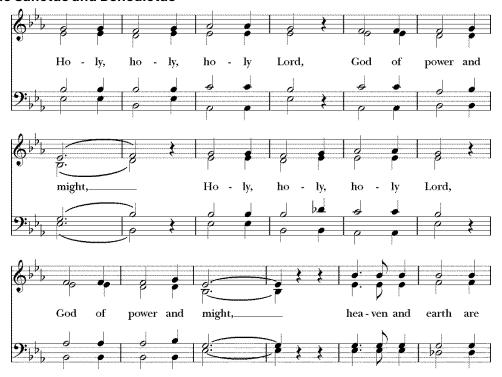
John Goss

The Holy Eucharist Eucharistic Prayer D



It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever. Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance. Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,

The Sanctus and Benedictus





We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation....

... Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you, and we pray to you, Lord our God.

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ....

... Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and 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 Agnus Dei



The Invitation & Communion of the People

The consecrated Bread and Wine are living signs of the presence of Christ in this gathering. All Baptized Christians are welcome to receive Communion; however, no one who comes forward will be refused. If you would like a gluten-free wafer, please ask when you come forward.

Music during Communion

Hymn 323 Hymn 671 Jesu, Jesu, du mein Hirt New Britain

The Prayer After Communion

Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Lenten Prayer

The presider continues

Let us kneel before the Lord.

Keep this your family, Lord, with your never-failing mercy, that relying solely on the help of your heavenly grace, they may be upheld by your divine protection; through Christ our Lord. Amen. **Amen.**

Hymn 530 Gott sei Dank

The Dismissal

A member of the clergy dismisses the people, and they respond

Thanks be to God.

Voluntary Little Prelude and Fugue in C Major

J.S. Bach

Our worship has ended. Our service begins.



Welcome

May today's worship give you a sense of Christ's peace and inspire you to God's service.

We welcome the full participation of children in our worship. Activity bags are located at the rear of the church and may help them during the liturgy. Please return the bags after the service. We also offer nursery care during the service. If you feel it is more comfortable for your child to be in childcare, an usher can direct you to the nursery.

St. John's has a Hearing Loop system, which allows those wearing appropriate hearing aids to receive the church's sound system directly. If you wear a hearing aid, you may need your audiologist to activate the T-coil in your device.

New To St. John's?

We're glad you're here.

If you are visiting with us, we invite you to worship, explore, ask questions, and help yourself to all our parish has to offer. Please take a moment to introduce yourself to an usher, a member of the clergy, or by filling out a guest card. Please visit stjohns-laf.org/guest or use the QR code.





Those Serving

Presider Jason Fortner
Preacher Bradley Pace
MC Kathy Johnson
Acolyte Jack Kueberth

Lectors Carol L'Homme, Heather Johnston Nicholson

LEMJennifer Stein, Sally BonieceUshersCarl Taylor, Michael BennerCountersSally Hastings, Jennifer Stein

Altar Guild Dorinda Kueberth, Heather Johnston Nicholson, Linda Jeffries,

Michael Benner, Robert Kurtz

Parish Announcements

Lost & Found

Have you misplaced your reading glasses? Did you leave your hat or gloves behind? Remember that favorite dish, tray or pan you brought to the pot luck? We found it! Take a few minutes, look through the items on the tables outside the kitchen, and take what is yours. (If anything is left on the 24th you can take what you want. Everything must go.)

St. John's Offering of Letters 2024 Continues

The U.S. Farm Bill is our nation's most important national food system legislation. It is critical to ending hunger and affects each of us. Bread for the World, a non-partisan Christian advocacy organization, calls on Christians from all political parties and denominations to encourage our elected leaders to do all they can to end hunger. Reauthorizing a family-friendly Farm Bill will go a long way to helping those suffering from food insecurity in the U.S. and internationally.

St. John's will collect letters to our Senators and Representative through March 17. Look for more information in the St. John's Commons. We will again have sample letters and letter templates available. The QR code links to more information to assist with writing your letters. Letters may be mailed directly, delivered to the church, or submitted electronically (using the QR code or http://tinyurl.com/yckeyhen). For more information, contact Becky Dick at beckydick.wl@gmail.com.

New Fire: An Ecological Reading of the Easter Vigil Concludes TODAY after the 10:15 a.m. service

"New Fire" will explore the intersections of theology, liturgy, and ecology in the Easter Vigil during the weeks leading up to the service. **The class will meet in the church from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** We will be engaging with all the liturgical elements of the Vigil, so there will be smells and there will be bells as well as bread, water, and wine. For more information, contact Jason at isanowstiphns-laf.org.

Lenten Book Discussion—Wild Hope-Stories for Lent from the Vanishing Continues Thursday at 6:15 p.m.

St. John's will host a discussion of stories from *Wild Hope* by Gayle Boss on Thursdays in Lent with Caleb Redick. This book attempts to orient us towards the brokenness of creation during the season of Lent by presenting short stories and illustrations of endangered creatures. A limited number of copies of the book will be available.

All ages are welcome to participate, however a few of the stories may be disturbing, as they present the reality of pollution, poaching, and sickness of creatures. Please contact Caleb Redick at <u>calebredick@gmail.com</u> for more information.

Support the Episcopal Campus Ministry at Purdue—Volunteer for Sunday meals!

The Purdue Campus Ministry is inviting St. John's folks to help prepare dinner for our students on Sunday nights. The church can pay for the ingredients (save your receipts!). Hilary Cooke, the Episcopal Campus Minister at Purdue, can help navigate recipes to address dietary concerns. For more information, contact Hilary at hilary@goodshep.org or sign up at https://tinyurl.com/mreez3bc.

Parish Prayer List

- **St. John's Cycle of Prayer** Mara Fox, Rosemary Frederickson & Chuck Pavlue, Carolin Frueh, Todd & Dana Garrett
- Parish Prayer List— John & Elizabeth Barrett, Paul Lawson, Alyce Dressler, Pam Ogorzaly, Paul Roberts, Carol Helgerman, Ginny Hull, John Howland, Sue Eichhorn, Pequita Behrndt, Don Nead, Barbara Hess, Rosemarie Goonewardene, Janet Huber, Carolyn Speer, Kathie Basden, Bill McInerney, Ben, Judy, Sandra, Carole, Lynn, Jacob, Nancy, Kirsten, Scott, John, Bonnie, Johanna, Lowell, Roy, David, and their families.

For the people of Israel, Palestine, and Ukraine; for hostages and all innocent civilians in harm's way; for peace in all places of conflict; for the victims of violence; and for repair, understanding, and healing across the world, in our nation, and within our communities.

- **For those who have died**—For all who have died, including Jerry, and those buried in the St. John's Memorial Garden
- **The leaders of our Communion**—Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, the Presiding Bishop; & Jennifer our Bishop
- **St. John's Leadership, Staff, Clergy, & Seminarian—**The Vestry, Wardens, and Volunteer staff; Amanda, Eva, Michael, & Teresa; Jason, Bradley, & Carolin
- **Our Ministry Partners**—The Diocese of Brasilia and their bishop Mauricio and the Diocese of Haiti and St. Andre's, Mithon; The Episcopal Church, and St. Paul's, Evansville.

This nation and all in authority—Joe, our President; Eric, our Governor; and Tony and Erin, our mayors.

ST. JOHN'S LAFAYETTE

Worshiping · Sharing · Making Christ Known

600 Ferry Street · Lafayette, IN 47901-1142 · 765.742.4079 www.stjohns-laf.org · stjohns@stjohns-laf.org · facebook.com/stjohnslaf · @stjohnslaf

Parish Staff & Leadership

Jennifer Baskerville-Burrows, Bishop · Bradley Pace, Rector Jason Fortner, Curate · Teresa Lohrman, Associate for Administration & Finance Michael Bennett, Director of Music · Amanda Yauney, Director of Christian Education Maggie McClure, Sr. Warden · Julie Peretin, Jr. Warden

St. John's is a parish of the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Indianapolis.

