



CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL
HOUSTON, TEXAS

The Third Sunday of Lent
March 15, 2020
11 a.m.

We welcome you to Christ Church Cathedral. Since 1839, this Christian community has gathered for worship.

Morning Prayer, Rite I

THE VERY REV. BARKLEY S. THOMPSON, *Dean*
Officiant

*The Liturgy is found in The Book of Common Prayer (BCP).
Hymns and service music (S) are in The Hymnal 1982.*

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Ich ruf zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ, BWV 639

J.S. Bach (1685–1750)

INTROIT

Tone VII

V: Mine eyes are looking unto the Lord, for he shall pluck my feet out of the net:

R: Look thou upon me, and have mercy upon me, for I am desolate, and in misery.

HYMN 437

Birmingham

OPENING SENTENCES

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

— *Philippians 1:2*

I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go to the house of the Lord.”

— *Psalms 122:1*

CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Silence may be kept.

Officiant and People together, all kneeling

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep, we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, we have offended against thy holy laws, we have left undone those things which

we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, spare thou those who confess their faults, restore thou those who are penitent, according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord; and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

The Priest alone stands and says

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER *All stand.*

Officiant O Lord, open thou our lips.

People **And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.**

Officiant and People

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.

VENITE S 35

Jack Noble White (b.1938)

PSALM OF THE DAY, PSALM 93 Anglican Chant: Frederick Oussley (1825–1889)

Sung by choir

The Lord is King;

he has put on splendid apparel; *

the Lord has put on his apparel
and girded himself with strength.

He has made the whole world so sure *

that it cannot be moved;

Ever since the world began, your throne has been established;

you are from everlasting.

The waters have lifted up, O Lord,

the waters have lifted up their voice; *

the waters have lifted up their pounding waves.

Mightier than the sound of many waters,

mightier than the breakers of the sea, *

mightier is the Lord who dwells on high.

Your testimonies are very sure, *

and holiness adorns your house, O Lord,
for ever and for evermore.

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.

THE FIRST READING

Exodus 17:1–7

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 The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

CANTICLE *Sung by choir*

Healey Willan (1880–1968)

Blessed art thou, O Lord God of our fathers: praised and exalted above all for ever. Blessed art thou for the Name of thy Majesty: praised and exalted above all for ever. Blessed art thou in the temple of thy holiness: praised and exalted above all for ever. Blessed art thou that beholdest the depths, and dwellest between the Cherubim: praised and exalted above all for ever. Blessed art thou on the glorious throne of thy kingdom: praised and exalted above all for ever. Blessed art thou in the firmament of heaven: praised and exalted above all for ever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

THE SECOND READING

Romans 5:1–11

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person — though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we

were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

HYMN 686

Nettleton

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 4:5–42

Deacon A reading from the Gospel according to 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 answered 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."

Deacon The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

The Very Rev. Barkley S. Thompson, Dean

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Officiant and People together, all standing

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;**

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord.

who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,

born of the Virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, dead, and buried.

He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven,

and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost,

the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS *The People stand or kneel.*

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Officiant and People

**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.**

Officiant O Lord, save thy people, and bless thine heritage;

People **Govern them and lift them up for ever.**

Officiant Day by day we magnify thee;

People **And we worship thy Name ever, world without end.**

Officiant Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin;

People **O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.**

Officiant O Lord, let thy mercy be upon us;

People **As our trust is in thee.**

Officiant O Lord, in thee have I trusted;

People **Let me never be confounded.**

THE COLLECT FOR THE DAY

A Collect for Sundays

O God, who makest us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of thy Son our Lord: Grant us this day such blessing through our worship of thee, that the days to come may be spent in thy favor; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Form II, page 385

A COLLECT FOR MISSION

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of thy faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before thee for all members of thy holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and godly serve thee; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

THE OFFERTORY

ANTHEM

S.S. Wesley (1810–1876)

The Lord hath been mindful of us, and he shall bless us; he shall bless the house of Israel; he shall bless the house of Aaron. He shall bless them that fear the Lord, both small and great. Ye are blessed of the Lord, you and your children. Ye are blessed of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

— *Psalm 115:12–13, 15*

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

Officiant and People

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we thine unworthy servants
do give thee most humble and hearty thanks
for all thy goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all men.**

**We bless thee for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for thine inestimable 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 beseech thee,
give us that due sense of all thy mercies,
that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful;
and that we show forth thy praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to thy service,
and by walking before thee
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost,
be all honor and glory, world without end.**

THE BLESSING

HYMN 680

St. Anne

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Praeludium in D Minor, BuxWV140

Dietrich Buxtehude (1637–1707)

Music Notes

The offertory anthem today is a portion of a larger work, *Ascribe unto the Lord*, by the noted 19th century English composer Samuel Sebastian Wesley. His father, a noted composer himself, clearly had high hopes for his son by giving him the same middle name as the great Johann Sebastian Bach. He was the nephew of John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist Church. S.S. Wesley lived up to his father's aspirations. He is credited with elevating the level of Cathedral music throughout England and is considered by many as the greatest English composer between Henry Purcell (1659–1695) and Charles Villiers Stanford (1852–1924). — RLS

The Book of Remembrance

This week we remember Fred Cunningham Alter.

The Beauty of Flowers

The flowers on the Cathedral Altar are given to the glory of God in honor of Gina Greenwood and Jody McIntyre for their birthdays by Kristy Greenwood.

Welcome Sunday, March 15, 2020 Announcements

❖ TODAY

Today is the last day to make dedications for Palm Sunday, Easter, and the Flowering of the Cross • Go our website (under "Registrations") to make a dedication.

Support the Cathedral Youth Program by giving to the Giving Tree • The Giving Tree is the annual fundraiser for Cathedral Youth that supports young people doing mission work in the U.S. and abroad. Please join your Cathedral family in donating on our website (under "Registrations").

❖ **Lenten meditations are available via email** • See the weekly enews for meditations from Episcopal Relief & Development.

*For more information about these and other events
at the Cathedral, visit christchurchcathedral.org.*

After-Hours Emergency Pastoral Care Line • 713-826-5332

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