

# GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Lexington Parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Southwestern Virginia

March 22, 2020

Fourth Sunday in Lent

10:30 a.m.

## Morning Prayer

Introit Immortal, invisible, God only wise

Hymn 8 Morning has broken *Bunessan*

*Unison or harmony*

1 Morn-ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing,  
2 Sweet the rain's new fall sun - lit from hea - ven,  
3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing

black-bird has spo - ken like the first bird.  
like the first dew - fall on the first grass.  
born of the one light E - den saw play!

Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the morn - ing!  
Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet gar - den,  
Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - ery morn - ing,

Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!  
sprung in com - plete - ness where his feet pass.  
God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

Words: Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965), alt., Copyright © by permission of David Higham Associates Limited, London. Music: *Bunessan*, Gaelic melody; harm. Alec Wyton (b. 1921) Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

## Opening Sentences

### 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.*

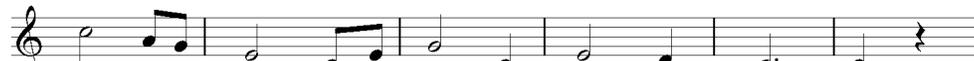
Hymn 664 My Shepherd will supply my need *Resignation*



1 My Shep - herd will sup - ply my need, Je - ho - vah  
 2 When I walk through the shades of death, thy pres - ence  
 3 The sure pro - vi - sions of my God at - tend me



is his Name; \_\_\_\_\_ in pas - tures fresh he  
 is my stay; \_\_\_\_\_ one word of thy sup -  
 all my days; \_\_\_\_\_ oh, may thy house be



makes me feed be - side the liv - ing stream.\_\_\_\_  
 port - ing breath drives all my fears a - way.\_\_\_\_  
 mine a - bode and all my work be praise.\_\_\_\_



He brings my wan - dering spi - rit back when I for -  
 Thy hand, in sight of all my foes, doth still my  
 There would I find a sett - led rest, while o - thers



sake his ways, \_\_\_\_\_ and leads me, for his  
 ta - ble spread; \_\_\_\_\_ my cup with bless - ings  
 go and come; \_\_\_\_\_ no more a stran - ger



mer - cy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.\_\_\_\_  
 o - ver - flows, thy oil a - noints my head.\_\_\_\_  
 or a guest, but like a child at home.\_\_\_\_

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748); para. of Psalm 23  
 Music: *Resignation*, American folk melody, acc. David Hurd (b. 1950) Copyright ©1985, David Hurd. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

**John 9:1-41**

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."

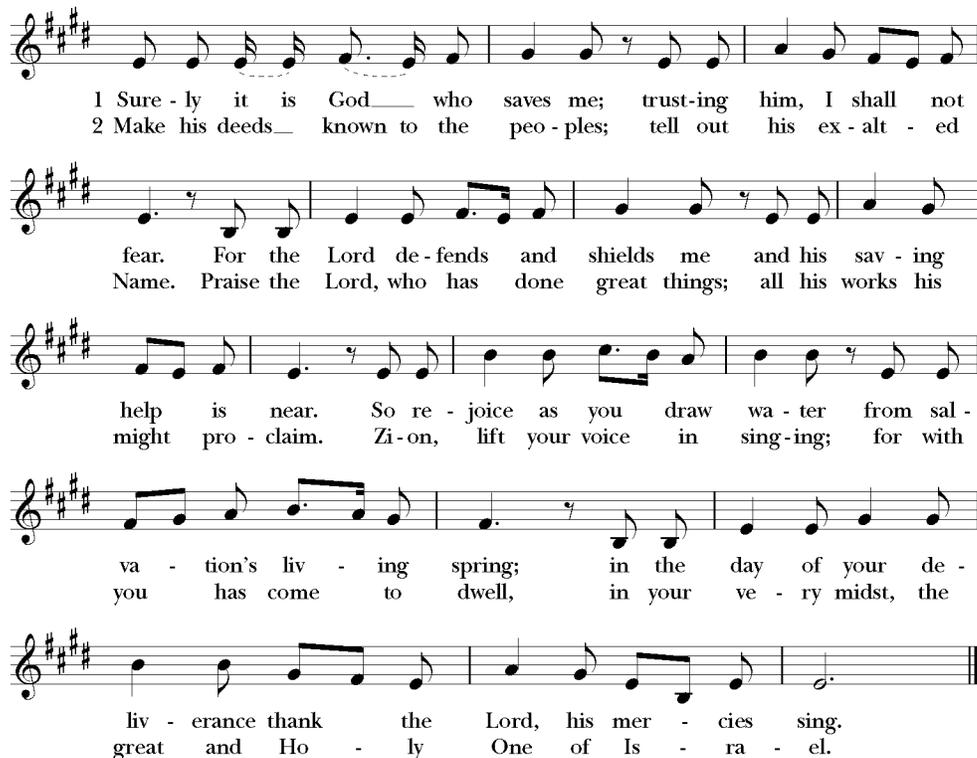
They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees 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."

## Hymn 679 Surely it is God who saves me *Thomas Merton*



1 Sure - ly it is God who saves me; trust - ing him, I shall not  
2 Make his deeds known to the peo - ples; tell out his ex - alt - ed  
fear. For the Lord de - fends and shields me and his sav - ing  
Name. Praise the Lord, who has done great things; all his works his  
help is near. So re - joice as you draw wa - ter from sal -  
might pro - claim. Zi - on, lift your voice in sing - ing; for with  
va - tion's liv - ing spring; in the day of your de -  
you has come to dwell, in your ve - ry midst, the  
liv - erance thank the Lord, his mer - cies sing.  
great and Ho - ly One of Is - ra - el.

Words: Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944); para. of *The First Song of Isaiah* Copyright ©1982, Carl P. Daw, Jr. Music: *Thomas Merton*, Ray W. Urwin (b. 1950)  
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### The Sermon

Fr. Tuck

### Anthem The Lord is my Shepherd

Howard Goodall

### The Prayers of the People

*Please pray for the wider Church and intercessions requested by our congregants: Pray for the Church of England, The Most Rev. and Right Hon Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury. Pray for the people of Trinity Staunton. Pray for the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Haiti as they search for their new Bishop, the Diocese of Leeds and their Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Nick Baines, the Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan and their Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Justin Badi Arama.*

*Pray for Jeanne Eichelberger, Bettie Cadden, Frances Harcus, Rev. Susan Bentley, Lynda DeMaria, Bob DeMaria, Mary Craighill, Lori Sadler, Pam Holsten, Jordan (friend of David Cox), Lynne Johnson, Melissa Hays-Smith, Pat Gibson, Polly Lawrence, Greg Lemmer, Kent Wilson, Myra Brush.*

*Pray for those affected by unsafe living conditions, poverty, disease, violence and oppression. Pray for those suffering with opioid addiction and their families.*

*Pray for those who are affected by COVID-19 - those who are sick, the medical personnel that care for them, the caretakers. Pray that we can be present to our brothers and sisters in our community; those who are alone, those who are afraid, those worried about lost wages. Pray that we are ever mindful of the needs of others.*

*Pray for Martha Burford as she discerns her call to the diaconate and her local reflection group, Uncas McThenia, Jeanne Eichelberger, Steve Shultis, Carey Harveycutter, Anne Hansen and Preston Evans.*

*In thanksgiving for birthdays this week of Mary Doyle, Polly Lawrence, Laura Stearns, Sharon Massie, AP Smith, and Kathryn Hill.*

**Priest:** As a sign of our obedience, let us bend the knee of our hearts, and make an offering of prayer and thanksgiving to God, as we respond, “Kyrie eleison.”

**Litanist:** For those preparing for baptism and other rites of initiation, and those who will renew their baptismal vows at the Great Vigil of Easter, that they may find in the Church a place of spiritual integrity, renewal and hope, forgiveness and restoration; let us pray. ***Kyrie eleison***

That Christians throughout the world who are being persecuted for being followers of Christ may be protected by the strong armor of faith, and sustained by the fervent prayers of all the baptized; let us pray. ***Kyrie eleison***

That the work of God may be made visible through our weaknesses and shortcomings, bearing witness to others of the power of the Holy Spirit to overcome the heartache and despair that visits every human heart; let us pray. ***Kyrie eleison***

That we who celebrate this Eucharistic Meal may receive the mercy of the Lamb, who shares our burdens, removes our sin, and restores us to the company of the faithful; let us pray. ***Kyrie eleison***

For all who are preparing for Holy Week and the Great Paschal Feast of Easter, especially choirs, altar guilds, church staff, and clergy, that their efforts may inspire our participation; let us pray. ***Kyrie eleison***

That those who have died may rest in peace, and we who hear of war and famine remain restless until the day of peace has come; let us pray. ***Kyrie eleison***

Knowing that Jesus opens the eyes of the blind, gives voice to the voiceless, and frees those who are imprisoned by fear, let us with confidence continue our prayers (*you may add your intentions silently or aloud*); let us pray. ***Kyrie eleison***

Hymn 665 All my hope on God is founded *Michael*

The Christian Life

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1 All my hope on God is found - ed; he doth still my  
2 Mor - tal pride and earth - ly glo - ry, sword and crown be -  
3 God's great good - ness e'er en - dur - eth, deep his wis - dom  
\* 4 Dai - ly doth the al - might - y Giv - er boun - teous gifts on  
5 Still from earth to God e - ter - nal sac - ri - fice of



1 trust re - new, me through change and chance he  
2 tray our trust; though with care and toil we  
3 pass - ing thought: splen - dor, light, and life at -  
4 us be - stow; his de - sire our soul de -  
5 praise be done, high a - bove all prais - es



1 guid - eth, on - ly good and on - ly true. God un -  
2 build them, tower and tem - ple fall to dust. But God's  
3 tend him, beau - ty spring - eth out of , nought. Ev - er -  
4 light - eth, plea - sure leads us where we go. Love doth  
5 prais - ing for the gift of Christ, his son. Christ doth



1 known, he a - lone calls my heart to be his own.  
2 power, hour by hour, is my tem - ple and my tower.  
3 more from his store new-born worlds rise and a - dore.  
4 stand at his hand; joy doth wait on his com - mand.  
5 call one and all: ye who fol - low shall not fall.

Words: Robert Seymour Bridges (1844-1930), alt., after Joachim Neander (1650-1680)  
Music: *Michael*, Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

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Blessing  
Peace