



1st Sunday of Lent

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
Shippensburg, PA
February 17, 2021

We welcome you to St. Andrew's this morning. If you are looking for a church home, we are delighted that you have come to visit us. We hope you will come again and again to worship with us and allow us to be your spiritual home and parish family.

On the Sundays in Lent, you will notice a difference in how we come together as God's people to worship God. Much of the festive nature of the liturgy is missing. Music is restrained and carries a more somber tone. We do not adorn our altar area with flowers. Crosses are covered. A dark purple is used as the color of the season. The word *Alleluia*, which is sung throughout most of our church year and offered in the dismissal during the season of Easter, is absent.

These changes are not because Lent is a dreary season, but because it is a time of introspection, of drawing within ourselves, to find the place of renewal and hope, placed there by the Spirit of God in our baptism. This is a time of limiting our distractions, so that we can listen to that small, still voice of God and respond with a renewed heart.

We gather each weekend in our worship service where our story as the people of God reminds us that God has met and still meets our needs and that God alone can quench our yearning for the source of wholeness and goodness in our lives. Our fasting and self-denial give us the resources with which we can join Christ in his struggle against evil and death, so that we may also join him in his victory.

Together, may we keep a holy Lent. Mother Barbara

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

WELCOME

GATHERING & CENTERING MUSIC

Taize Chant #12 Wait for the Lord

SINGING BOWL CALLING US TO WORSHIP

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.
His mercy endures for ever.

THE DECALOGUE (*Kneeling or bowing your head*)

Hear the commandments of God to God's people:
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.
You shall have no other gods but me.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not make for yourself any idol.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

Honor your father and your mother.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit murder.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit adultery.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not steal.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not be a false witness.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your 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 commandment greater than these."

Mark 12:29-31

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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.

TRISAGION # S102 *Blue Hymnal (Sung three times.)*

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,

Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

THE SALUTATION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF GENESIS

Genesis 9:8-17

God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all

flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

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

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 25:1-9

- 1 To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you; *
let me not be humiliated,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.

- 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; *
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.

- 3 Show me your ways, O LORD, *
and teach me your paths.

- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, *
for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long.

- 5 Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, *
for they are from everlasting.

- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; *
remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

- 7 Gracious and upright is the LORD; *
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.

- 8 He guides the humble in doing right *
and teaches his way to the lowly.

**9 All the paths of the LORD are love and faithfulness *
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.**

A READING FROM PETER'S FIRST LETTER

1 Peter 3:18-22

Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you-- not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL MUSIC

Taize Chant #14 Our darkness is never darkness in your sight

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 1:9-15

The Holy Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, according to Mark.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE HOMILY

Mother Barbara

PRAYERS FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

Let us pray for ourselves and others.

Bless our visitors today that they may sense the love and compassion of Christ through our worship. Grant that we may serve Christ in them and we love one another as he loves us.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

We offer our thanksgiving for the birth of Crew Charles, son of Hannah and Andrew Lesagonicz and great grandson of Paula Knerr. May his family teach him to love whatever is just and true and good. And may your blessings of hope, love, and joy be with his family always.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

We hold before God those for whom life is very difficult; those who have difficult decisions to make, and who honestly do not know what is the right thing to do.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your loving care the soul of Dottie Leach, who died this past week. May your peace and comfort be with Stan, her beloved husband, and with all those who were companions to her on her earthly pilgrimage. Grant to her eternal rest.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially those who have asked for our prayers: Edna, Ellen, Eugene, Sue, Linda Gatchel, Lloyd Spooner and Andrew Szabat, Jack & Linda Horner, Ashleigh Mann, Chris, Rebecca, Jonathan, Pierre, Sassie, Tony Yancoskie, Janet, Melissa, Katherine, Kathy, Deb, Cameron, Jan McCrory, Emma Jean Bankson, Susan and Robert Glick, Chuck Bloom, Richard, Evan, Roseann, Jack, Kathleen, Amy, Tabitha, the Williams Family, Alice, Samantha, Wanda, Margaret, Brian Helman, Rachel Mooney, and for those who care for them and those who are grieving the loss of a loved one: Stan, the family of Dick Weller, Dina and Patrick, Pierre and Sassie, Laura, Christina, David, Jonathan, and Joseph, Laura and Pat, Deanna, Kathy, Jeanine, Ellen, Fred, Tom, Susan, Connor and Matthew, Blake and Katherine, and those whom we name, either silently in our hearts or aloud.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

We hold before God those who have difficult tasks to face, and who fear they may fail in them; those who have difficult temptations to face, and who know only too well that they may fall to them, if they try to meet them alone.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

We hold before God those who know that they can be their own worst enemies.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

We hold before God those who have difficult people to work with; those who have to suffer unjust treatment, unfair criticism, un-appreciated work.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

We hold before God those who are grieving because someone they loved has died, especially Stan Leach whose wife Dottie died this week; and any who are disappointed in something for which they hoped very much.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

We hold before God those who are victims of violence, those who are neglected or misunderstood, those who are unemployed and frightened, and those who have no one to pray for them.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Lord God, may our prayers, rising before you like incense, be pleasing to you; and may our outstretched hands be filled with your mercy, through Jesus Christ, your Son. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, as our Savior Christ hath 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 IN-BREAKING OF GOD'S JOY INTO OUR LIVES

Mother Barbara

A SOLEMN PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

Kneel down before the Lord.

Grant most merciful Lord to your faithful people pardon and peace that they may be changed from all their sins and serve you with a quiet mind, through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN #448

O love, how deep, how broad, how high

THE DISMISSAL

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Chopin *Sostenuto Waltz*

Kevin Gorman