

The Second Sunday in Lent

SOLEMN MASS

Sunday, February 25, 2024, 11:00 AM

The Church of Saint Mary the Virgin in the City of New York

About the Liturgy

After the legalization of the Christian community in the Roman world in A.D. 313, a forty-day period of preparation for Easter and for baptism at Easter was adopted by most Christian communities in the Mediterranean world. We know this season as "Lent." However, the origins of Lent, that is, what came before and why it spread so widely so quickly, remain obscure—and this issue is a matter of continuing study and debate by liturgical scholars. Recent scholarship has shown that the fourth-century preference for baptism at Easter, especially in Rome and in the churches of North Africa, did not really take root elsewhere. That said, there is much to commend Lent as a time for Christians to prepare for the celebration of Easter and for those coming to faith to prepare for baptism at the Great Vigil of Easter.

Outward signs of the season of Lent are the liturgical colors of purple and, on the fourth Sunday, rose. Flowers are used only on the Fourth Sunday in Lent—a Sunday of respite from the disciplines of the season.

For Episcopalians, the ordinary weekdays of Lent are observed by special acts of discipline and self-denial in commemoration of the crucifixion of the Lord. In addition, the ordinary Fridays of Lent are traditionally days of abstinence from flesh meats. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fasting.

We recommend *The Origins of Feasts, Fasts and Seasons in Early Christianity* (2011) by Paul F. Bradshaw and Maxwell E. Johnson for more information about what we know and what we don't know about the beginnings of Lent and the Christian year.

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About the Music

The organ prelude today is one of the miscellaneous chorale preludes of Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750). It is based upon the German paraphrase of Psalm 51, *Erbarm dich, mein o Herre Gott* ("Have mercy on me, O God"). This work, cataloged as BWV 721, is unusual among the organ chorales of Bach in that its unadorned melody, stated in half-notes, is accompanied throughout by a steady succession of eighth-note chords which provide homophonic harmonic support. One finds this sort of texture from time to time in other music of Bach, but not in the organ repertory. In light of its style, some scholars consider this chorale prelude an homage to Johann Kuhnau (1660–1701) whose music was known to Bach and whom Bach eventually succeeded as organist of the Church of Saint Thomas in Leipzig. The text paraphrase of *Erbarm dich* is attributed to Erhart Hegenwalt based upon a broadsheet from 1524. The anonymous melody, in Phrygian mode, dates from the same 1524 Wittenberg source. Bach's four-voice harmonization of this chorale, catalogued as BWV 305, will be played for today's postlude.

Today's choral music is English in origin. The setting of the Mass is by Charles Wood (1866–1926). Wood had a decided influence on the development of English church music in his time. His principal composition teachers were Charles Villiers Stanford (1852–1924) and Charles Hubert Hastings Parry (1848–1918), and his students included Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958) and Herbert Howells (1892–1983). Irish by birth, Wood received his early musical training as a treble chorister in the choir of the Church of Ireland's Saint Patrick's Cathedral. In 1883, he became a member of the inaugural class of the Royal College of Music. His career included teaching music, directing, and playing the organ at several colleges. After Stanford's death in 1924, Wood succeeded his mentor as Professor of Music at Cambridge. Wood's compositions are varied and include eight string quartets, but he is chiefly remembered for his church music and his arrangements of carols. His Short Communion Service, sung this morning, is described as "In the Polyphonic style, written for unaccompanied singing, chiefly in the Phrygian mode." As such, Wood has done what church music composers throughout the centuries have done by returning to a *stilo* antico ("antique style") for inspiration.

Bob Chilcott (b. 1955) has had a long and deep involvement in choral music. He was a chorister and choral scholar at King's College, Cambridge. He also was a member of The King's Singers for twelve years. Much of his work is for young singers, and he has

conducted choral festivals worldwide. John 3:16 is arguably one of the most frequently quoted verses in the New Testament. Musical settings of this text, in various languages, can be found among the past several centuries of choral literature. Of all the settings, that of Sir John Stainer (1840–1901) from his 1887 Passion Cantata *The Crucifixion* is almost as familiar to English-speaking Christians as the scripture verse itself. Chilcott's 1999 setting of this beloved scripture verse, sung today as the Communion motet, was commissioned in memory of Dan and Pat Jacobson for the Lovers Lane United Methodist Sanctuary Choir, Dallas, Texas. Curiously, it imitates Stainer by repeating the word 'believeth' in the course of the text. This sort of word repetition, presumably to accommodate a predetermined musical idea, was a typical liberty taken by Victorian composers but critiqued by a later generation. However, perhaps in part because of this familiar resonance with Stainer, and also because of its simple and expressive beauty, Chilcott's setting of *God so loved the world* has taken a place of prominence among musical settings of this familiar scripture verse.

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Please join us in Saint Joseph's Hall following Mass for refreshments.

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The Third Sunday in Lent March 3, 2024

Solemn Evensong & Benediction 5:00 PM

Music at Evensong to include Psalm 34, Anglican Chant by J. Marcus Ritchie (1946–1989)

Magnificat & Nunc dimittis: Evening Service in G minor by Richard Farrant (c. 1530–1581)

> Motet: Lord, for thy tender mercy's sake by Richard Farrant

SOLEMN MASS

The Prelude

Erbarm dich mein, o Herre Gott, BWV 721

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

THE ENTRANCE RITE

The Entrance Song

All stand at the signal of the bell. The ministers of the assembly enter, and the Choir sings the appointed Introit.

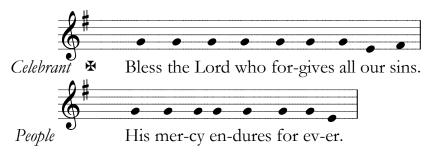
Reminiscere miserationum tuarum, Domine, et misericordiae tuae, quae a saeculo sunt: ne unquam dominentur nobis inimici nostri: libera nos Deus Israel ex omnibus angustiis nostris. Ad te Domine levavi animam meam: Deus meus in te confido, non erubescam. Gloria Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto. Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in saecula saeculorum. Amen. Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting. Do not let our enemies triumph over us; deliver us, O God of Israel, from all our troubles. To you, O Lord, have I lifted up my soul; My God, I put my trust in you, let me not be humiliated. 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 Sprinkling of Holy Water

The assembly is sprinkled with holy water while Asperges me is sung.

Asperges me, Domine, hyssopo, et mundabor: lavabis me, et super nivem dealbabor. Miserere mei, Deus, secundum magnam misericordiam tuam. Gloria Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto. Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in saecula saeculorum. Amen. You will sprinkle me with hyssop, O Lord, and I shall be cleansed; you will wash me and I shall be made whiter than snow. Have mercy upon me, O Lord, according to your great mercy. 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 Opening Acclamation



The Song of Praise

The Choir sings Kyrie eleison. The setting of the Mass ordinary is Short Communion Service by Charles Wood (1866–1926).

Kyrie eleison.	Lord, have mercy.
Kyrie eleison.	Lord, have mercy.
Kyrie eleison.	Lord, have mercy.
Christe eleison.	Christ, have mercy.
Christe eleison.	Christ, have mercy.
Christe eleison.	Christ, have mercy.
Kyrie eleison.	Lord, have mercy.
Kyrie eleison.	Lord, have mercy.
Kyrie eleison.	Lord, have mercy.

The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant sings

People	The Lord be with you. And also with you.
Celebrant	Let us pray.
	O God, whose glory it is a have gone astray from you hearts and steadfast faith t

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever.

All AMEN.

The Lessons

All are seated for the Lessons. The first Lesson, Genesis 22:1–14, is now read.

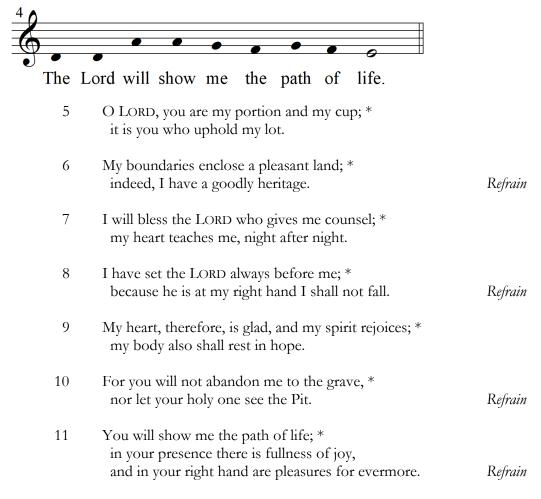
After these things God tested Abraham, and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here am I." He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Mori'ah, and offer him there as a burnt offering upon one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his ass, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; and he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place afar off. Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the ass; I and the lad will go yonder and worship and come again to you." And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son; and he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. And Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father!" And he said, "Here am I, my son." He said, "Behold, the fire and the wood; but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Abraham said, "God will provide himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So, they went both of them together. When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built an altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar, upon the wood. Then Abraham put forth his hand and took the knife to slay his son. But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here am I." He said, "Do not lay your hand on the lad or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns; and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So, Abraham called the name of that place The LORD will provide; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."

After the Lesson, the Reader says

The Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

Psalm 16:5–11

The Congregation remains seated. The Cantor sings the Refrain. The Congregation then repeats the Refrain. Then the Choir sings the psalm verses to plainsong tone 4.1, and the Congregation sings the Refrain following the appointed verses.



The second Lesson, Romans 8:31-39, is now read.

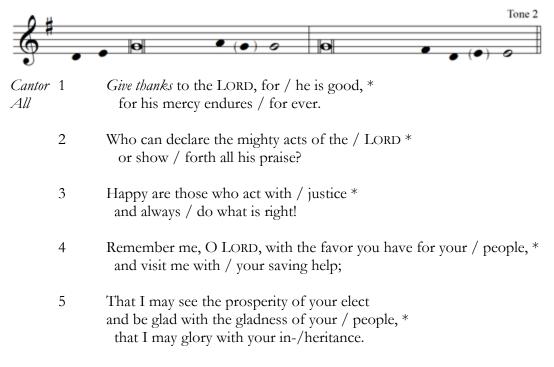
What then shall we say to this? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, will he not also give us all things with him? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies; who is to condemn? Is it Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised from the dead, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us? Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, "For thy sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

After the Lesson, the Reader says

The Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

The Gospel Acclamation: Psalm 106:1-5

All stand. The Choir and the Congregation sing the appointed tract to plainsong tone 2 as the ministers of the assembly prepare for the proclamation of the Gospel.



The Holy Gospel

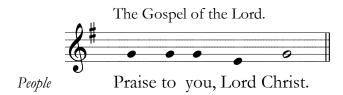
A Minister proclaims the Gospel, first singing



The appointed Gospel, Mark 8:31-38, is now proclaimed.

And Jesus began to teach his disciples that the Son of man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. And he said this plainly. And Peter took him and began to rebuke him. But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter, and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are not on the side of God, but of men." And he called to him the multitude with his disciples, and said to them, "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? For what can a man give in return for his life? For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

After the Gospel, the Minister sings



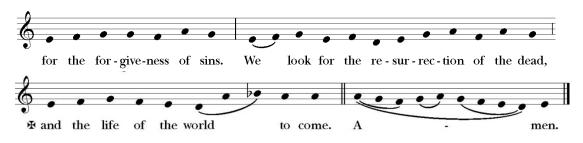
The Sermon

The Reverend James Ross Smith

The Nicene Creed





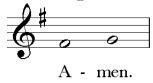


Setting: Plainsong, Mode 4; Credo I; adapted by Mason Martens (1933-1991)

The Prayers of the People: Form II

A Minister bids the prayers of the assembly. In the course of the silence after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.

The Celebrant adds a concluding collect, and the People respond,



The Confession of Sin

The Minister says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

The People kneel. Silence is observed.

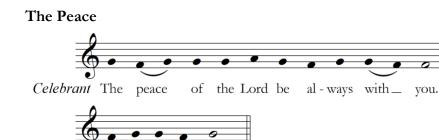
Celebrant and People

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. and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Celebrant says

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.

People AMEN.



People And al - so with you.

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Preparation of the Gifts

All are seated as the appointed antiphon is sung and the offerings of the assembly are collected.

Meditabor in mandatis tuis, quae dilexi valde: et levabo manus meas ad mandata tua, quae dilexi. I will meditate on your commandments which I have always loved; and I will lift up my hands to your commandments, which I have loved.



Hymn: O love, how deep, how broad, how high *All stand and sing the hymn.*

The Hymnal 1982 #449

The Great Thanksgiving





Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, you bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

The Choir sings Sanctus and Benedictus. The setting is the Short Communion Service by Charles Wood.

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.
✤ Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

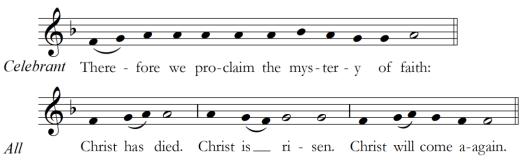
The People stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."



Celebrant We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

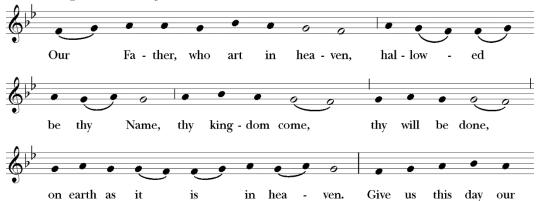
Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. A Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.



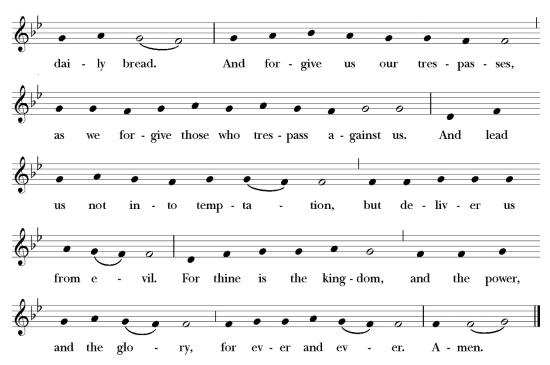
Memorial Acclamation: Ambrosian Chant adapted by Mason Martens (1933-1991)

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,



Then all sing the Lord's Prayer.

All

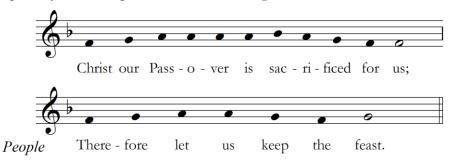


Setting: Plainsong; adapted by Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944)

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept. Then the Celebrant sings



Music: Memorial Acclamation & Fraction Anthem, Ambrosian Chant, adapted by Mason Martens (1933-1991)

The Choir sings Agnus Dei. The setting is by Charles Wood.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

*

The Invitation

The Celebrant invites the People to receive the Holy Communion.

We are all invited to the Lord's Table

Those who wish to receive Communion should proceed to the Communion rail, guided by the ushers. At the rail, you may either stand or kneel.

In the Episcopal Church all baptized persons are invited to receive the Holy Communion. Members of other Christian churches who are baptized are also invited to receive the Body and Blood of Christ.

Persons who do not wish to receive the Holy Communion are also invited to come forward to receive a blessing.

If you would like someone to bring you Communion at your seat, please notify an usher. We would be happy to accommodate you.

*

The Communion Song & Motet

As the ministration of Communion begins, the appointed antiphon is sung.

Visionem quam vidistis,	Concerning the vision you have seen,
nemini dixeritis,	tell no one,
donec a mortuis resurgat	until the Son of Man
Filius hominis.	has risen from the dead.

Then the motet, God so loved the world. The setting is by Bob Chilcott (b. 1955).

God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoso believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Text: John 3:16

Hymn: Wherefore, O Father

The Hymnal 1982 #338

All stand and sing the hymn.

The Postcommunion Prayer

The Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant	Almighty and everliving God,
<i>All</i>	we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Solemn Prayer over the People

A Minister gives the invitation, saying

Let us bow our heads and pray for God's blessing.

The Celebrant extends his hands and sings

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.

People Amen.

Welcome and Announcements

All are seated for the announcements.

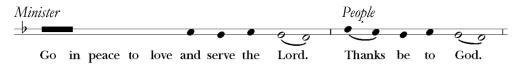
Hymn: The Christ who died but rose again

All stand and sing the hymn.

The Dismissal

A Minister dismisses the assembly, first singing

PeopleThe Lord be with you.And also with you.



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The Postlude

Erbarm dich mein, o Herre Gott, BWV 305

J.S. Bach

The Hymnal 1982 #447

- 23 -

The Church of Saint Mary the Virgin 145 West 46th Street New York, New York 10036 212-869-5830 info@stmvnyc.org

The Parish Clergy

The Reverend Sammy Wood, priest-in-charge The Reverend James Ross Smith, associate rector The Reverend Dr. Matthew Daniel Jacobson, assistant to the rector The Reverend Dr. Peter Ross Powell, assisting priest

The Music Program

Dr. David Hurd, organist & music director Mr. Lawrence Trupiano, organ curator

The Parish Staff

Mr. Christopher Howatt, *parish administrator* Mr. Shalim Peña, Mr. Marcos Orengo Roman, Mr. Jorge Trujillo, *sextons*

Ms. MaryJane Boland, assistant to the priest-in-charge for special projects

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