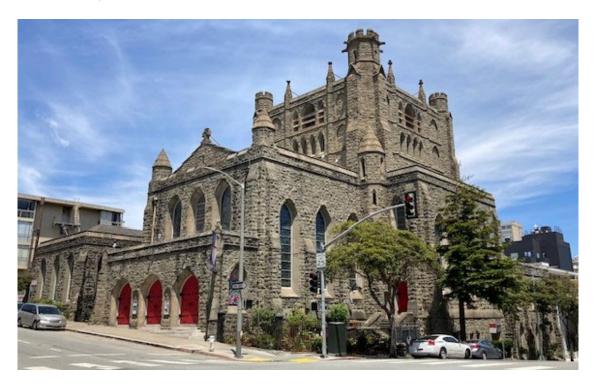
Trinity†St. Peter's Episcopal Church

The Third Sunday of Lent

March 23, 2025



Prelude: "O Lamb of God, Spotless"

Johann Sebastian Bach

Holy Eucharist

Entrance Rite

At the sound of the bell, all stand as they are able for the beginning of our worship.

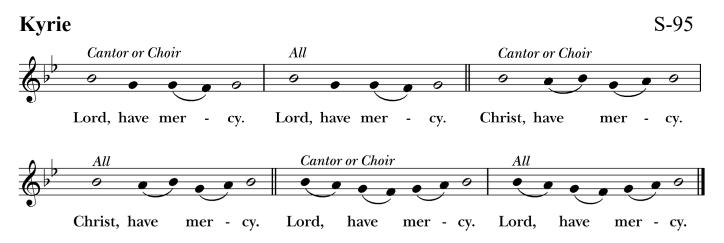


Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People God's mercy endures for ever.

Celebrant and People

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.



The Liturgy of the Word

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People Amen.

First Reading Exodus 3:1-15

All sit.

A Reading from the book of Exodus.

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the Lord said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians,

and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain."

But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I am who I am." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I am has sent me to you." God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you':

This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations."

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

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 63:1-8 Deus, Deus meus

- 1 O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; *
 my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,
 as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.
- 2 Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, * that I might behold your power and your glory.
- 3 For your loving-kindness is better than life itself; * my lips shall give you praise.
- 4 So will I bless you as long as I live * and lift up my hands in your Name.

- 5 My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness, * and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,
- 6 When I remember you upon my bed, * and meditate on you in the night watches.
- 7 For you have been my helper, * and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.
- 8 My soul clings to you; * your right hand holds me fast.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

A Reading from the First Book of Corinthians.

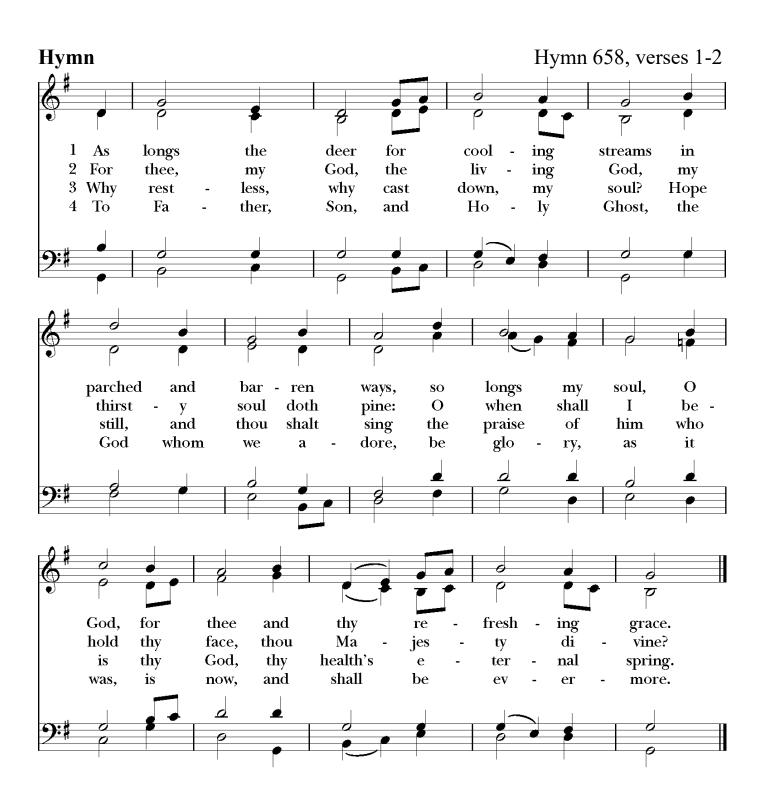
I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.

People Thanks be to God.

All stand as are able.



Holy Gospel Luke 13:1-9

All remain standing as are able.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them — do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Hymn 658, verses 3-4

Homily

Pause — a time for reflection

Nicene Creed

All stand as are able.

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: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. 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,

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.

The Prayers of the People

All remain standing, as they are able.

Leader Loving God who is our refuge and our strength; hear us as we beg you; Listen to our words and the longings of our hearts as we turn to you in prayer, saying, Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Leader Give strength to your people across the whole earth, that we may be the lights of the world in our generations. Lord, in your mercy:

People Hear our prayer.

Leader Give mercy to those in authority over us that they might be leaders in service to the well-being of all people. Lord, in your mercy:

People Hear our prayer.

Leader Give hope and courage to this congregation, that together, we might be bold and courageous in taking up Christ's ministries as our own. Lord, in your mercy:

People Hear our prayer.

Leader Give wisdom and determination to us and to all people, so that we might create a sustainable future for the equitable use of the abundance of creation. Lord, in your mercy:

People Hear our prayer.

Leader Give wholeness to those bent and broken by sickness, pain, fear, oppression or abuse, so that they might hold on to their own dignity as your beloved children. Lord, in your mercy:

People Hear our prayer.

Leader Give comfort to those who grieve and care to those who have died, and grant that we might all know resurrected life in your new age. Lord, in your mercy:

People Hear our prayer.

Celebrant and People

God of creation and salvation, you have promised to answer when we knock. We offer these prayers and all the intentions of our own hearts in the confidence of your promises, and we ask these through our advocate and Lord, Christ Jesus. Amen.

Confession of Sin

Celebrant:

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

The people kneel, or remain standing, as they are able.

Silence may be kept.

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.

Absolution

Celebrant:

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen*.

Peace

All stand as are able.

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

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

Announcements

Announcements may be made at this point in the service, during which the people may be seated.

The Holy Communion

The Offertory

Bread and Wine are offered at the Altar, and the table is set for the Eucharist. A collection is taken for the work of the church and then blessed. In this set of actions, the whole assembly brings together our food, our material resources, our spirits, our bodies, our cares, our relationships, and our intentions, in order to present ourselves and our world as completely as possible to God. All of them will be blessed in the Eucharistic action to come, and creation itself will be renewed.

Offertory Sentence

The Celebrant says

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High.

Offertory Anthem: "The Lord is Kind and Merciful"

Psalm 103

Music by Marty Haugen

The Lord is kind and merciful. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all my being bless God's name; bless the Lord, and forget not God's benefits. God pardons all your iniquities, and comforts your sorrows, redeems your life from destruction and crowns you with kindness. Merciful and gracious is our God; slow to anger, abounding in kindness.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

All stand as are able.

Celebrant Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we

have this bread to offer, which the earth has given, and human hands

have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

People Blessed be God forever.

Celebrant Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we

have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine, and work of human hands. It

will become for us the cup of salvation.

People Blessed be God forever.

Celebrant Pray, my sisters, and brothers, that my sacrifice and yours may be

acceptable to God, the Almighty.

People May the Lord receive this sacrifice at your hands to the praise and

glory of God's name, to our benefit, and to that of all God's holy

Church.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

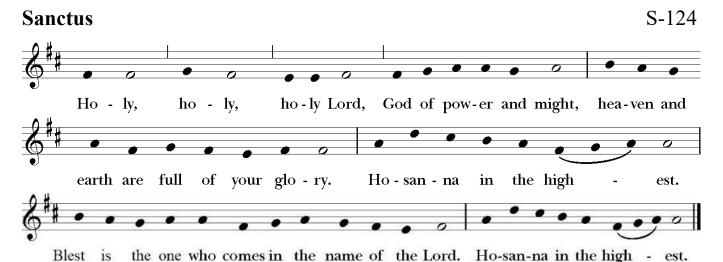
People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



The people kneel, or remain standing, as they are able.

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."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

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. 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.

People Amen.

The Celebrant then continues

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

People and Celebrant

Our Father and Mother in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

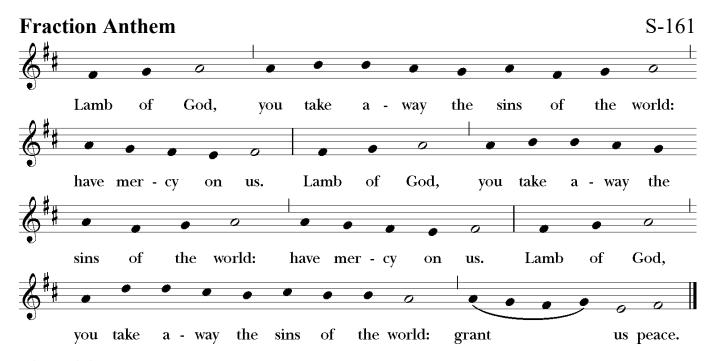
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast.



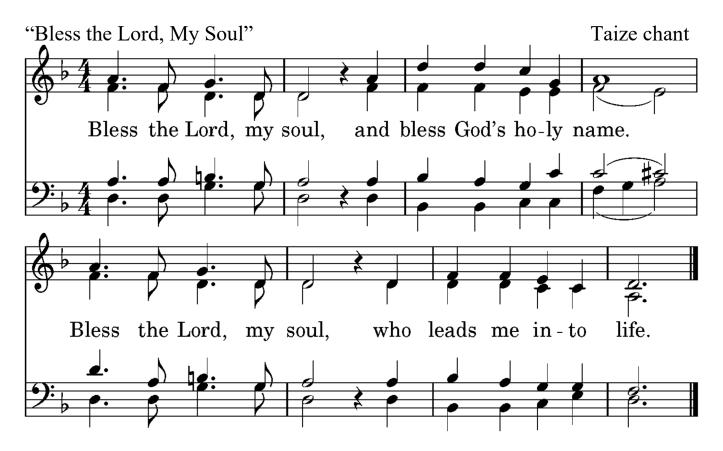
The Celebrant says,

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The People may be seated; the usher will indicate each row for communion.

All who feel called are welcome to receive communion; alternatively, you may cross your arms over your chest if you prefer to receive a blessing.





After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People, all standing or kneeling as they are able

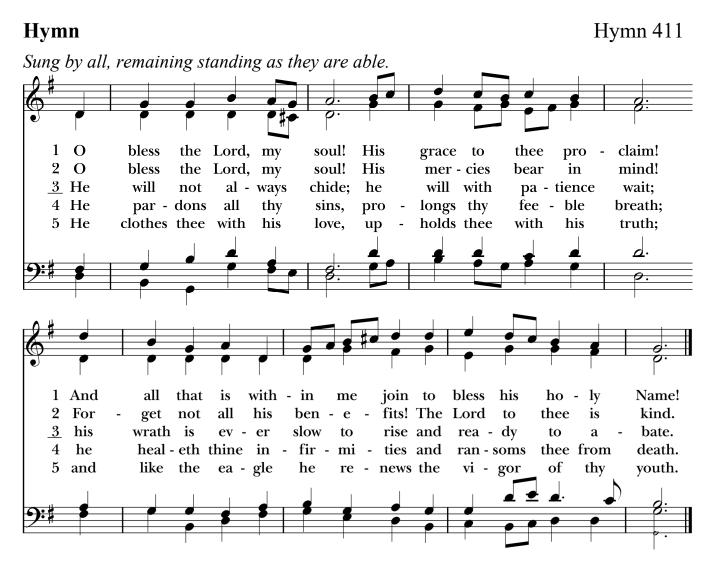
Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness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

Blessing

Celebrant

May the blessing of the God of Abraham and Sarah, and of Jesus Christ born of our sister Mary, and of the Holy Spirit, who broods over the world as a mother over her children, be upon you and remain with you always.

People Amen.



6 Then bless his holy Name,
whose grace hath made thee whole,
whose loving-kindness crowns thy days:
O bless the Lord, my soul!

Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Improvisation on "O Lamb of God, Spotless"

Future First Sundays Organ Recital Series, and Evensong, at 5:00 p.m., Spring 2025

April 6 David Troiano (Gross Point Park, Michigan)

May 4 Evensong and Concert with the Choir of Trinity†St. Peter's

June 1 Dr. Michael Szostak (Warsaw, Poland)

We're glad you joined us this Sunday! If you'd like to learn more about T+SP, please feel free to contact us using the information below or visit our website: trinity-stpeters.org

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