

Christ Episcopal Church



*Held in the Hands of God...
Reaching our Hands out to others*

The Third Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 7, 2021

10:00 a.m.

12 Prospect Street

Babylon, New York

The Third Sunday in Lent

Year B

March 7, 2021

10:00 a.m. Penitential Order and Decalogue and Ante-Communion, Rite I

Opening Hymn *We the Lord's people*

Hymnal 51

1 We the Lord's people, heart and voice uniting,
praise him who called us out of sin and darkness
into his own light, that he might
anoint us a royal priest-hood

2 This is the Lord's house, home of all his people,
school for the faithful, refuge for the sinners,
rest for the pilgrims, haven for the weary;
all find a welcome.

3 This is the Lord's day, day of God's own making,
day of creation, day of resurrection,
day of the Spirit, sign of heaven's banquet,
day for rejoicing.

The people standing, the Officiant says

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.

People His mercy endureth for ever.

The Decalogue

God spake these words, and said:

I am the Lord thy God who brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

Thou shalt have none other gods but me.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not make to thyself any graven image, nor the likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or in the earth beneath, or in the water under the earth; thou shalt not bow down to them, nor worship them.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in vain.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Honor thy father and thy mother.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt do no murder.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not commit adultery.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not steal.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not covet.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and write all these thy laws in our hearts, we beseech thee.

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith:

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets. *Matthew 22:37-40*

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Silence may be kept.

Officiant and People

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.

Officiant, 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.*

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, who seest that we have no power of 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 liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Old Testament: A Reading from the Book of Exodus

Then God spoke all these words: I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it. Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you. You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor. *Exodus 20:1-17*

Reader Here endeth the Reading.

Psalm 19

- 1 The heavens declare the glory of God, *
and the firmament shows his handiwork.
- 2 One day tells its tale to another, *
and one night imparts knowledge to another.
- 3 Although they have no words or language, *
and their voices are not heard,
- 4 Their sound has gone out into all lands, *
and their message to the ends of the world.
- 5 In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; *
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.
- 6 It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens
and runs about to the end of it again; *
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.
- 7 The law of the LORD is perfect
and revives the soul; *
the testimony of the LORD is sure
and gives wisdom to the innocent.
- 8 The statutes of the LORD are just
and rejoice the heart; *
the commandment of the LORD is clear
and gives light to the eyes.
- 9 The fear of the LORD is clean
and endures for ever; *
the judgments of the LORD are true
and righteous altogether.
- 10 More to be desired are they than gold,
more than much fine gold, *

sweeter far than honey,
than honey in the comb.

- 11 By them also is your servant enlightened, *
and in keeping them there is great reward.
- 12 Who can tell how often he offends? *
cleanse me from my secret faults.
- 13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion over me; *
then shall I be whole and sound,
and innocent of a great offense.
- 14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my
heart be acceptable in your sight, *
O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

Epistle: A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. *1 Corinthians 1:18-25*

Reader Here endeth the Epistle.

The Gospel: A Reading from the Gospel according to John

Officiant The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

Reader Glory be to thee, O Lord.

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken. *John 2:13-22*

Officiant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Sermon

Mother Nesmith

Nicene Creed

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 and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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

Keep your Church secure from the dangers of worldliness and greed. We pray for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Lawrence, Geralyn, Daniel, and Bill, our Bishops; Clare, our Rector; and all ordained and lay who minister in Christ's Church. Give grace to your ministers, to preach and spread the Gospel of Christ and to fulfil your commandments both in their words and in their lives. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Give true wisdom to all in authority ... Pardon and cleanse the individuals and organizations whose goodness has been corrupted by love of gain. Pity the world where ignorance and prejudice often rule ... Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Bless our families and keep them in purity of faith and goodness of living ... Strengthen those in our community who have responsibility for teaching and training, that they may give leadership in the way you have commanded. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Have mercy on those who suffer because they have fallen into evil ways ... Comfort and relieve the victims of lust, dishonesty, and violence ... Restore them to the freedom that is found in Christ alone. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We pray for all who suffer in body, mind, and spirit, especially ... Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We pray for those who have died in the body, that they may be raised in Christ, especially ... Bring them to the joy of your heavenly temple, where worship is perfect and eternal. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

The Officiant adds any local prayers and a concluding Collect.

Lord, hear the prayers of thy people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Lord's Prayer

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Officiant And now as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say.

People and Officiant

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 Peace

Officiant The peace of the Lord be always with you

People And with thy spirit.

The Blessing

Look mercifully on this your family, Almighty God, that by your great goodness they may be governed and preserved evermore; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Announcements

Postlude on Kind Maker of the world, O here

Hymnal 152

1 Kind Maker of the world, O hear
the fervent prayer, with many a tear
Poured forth by all the penitent
who keep this holy fast of Lent!

2 Each heart is manifest to Thee;
thou knowest our infirmity;
Now we repent and seek Thy face;
grant unto us Thy pardoning grace.

3 Spare us, O Lord, who now confess
our sins and all our wickedness,
And, for the glory of Thy Name,
our weakened souls to health reclaim.

4 Give us the discipline that springs
from abstinence in outward things
With inward fasting, so that we
in heart and soul may dwell with Thee.

5 Grant, O Thou blessed Trinity,
grant, O unchanging Unity,
That this our fast of forty days
may work our profit and Thy praise!

Dismissal

Officiant Let us go forth into the world, walking in the Way of Love.

People Thanks be to God!

All Are Welcome

Christ Episcopal Church of Babylon represents and celebrates the diversity that is Long Island. We welcome everyone and believe that there should be no outcasts in the Episcopal Church. Our welcome knows no boundaries of marital status, age, race, ethnicity, cultural or religious background, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, economic condition, and physical or mental ability. Wherever you are on your journey of faith, there is a place for you at Christ Episcopal Church.

This is God's House...

and we are blessed by the gift of your presence with us. In the Episcopal Church all baptized Christians are welcome to receive Communion. If you would like to receive a blessing instead, please let the priest know by crossing your arms in front of your chest when you come forward. Gluten-free bread is available; please ask at the communion rail.

Handicapped Accessibility

Our building is equipped with a lift located in the Sanctuary Annex, and a handicapped bathroom located on the lower level. For full access of the building and to join us for Coffee Hour downstairs, please ask a Greeter for assistance.

Sunday Worship Schedule

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Healing Service, 1st and 3rd Sundays following the Eucharist
Sunday School 9:30 a.m. (Sept. – June)

Church Officers and Vestry

John Foley, Warden (2023)	Diane Gaidon, Warden (2022)	
Anne Napolitano, Treasurer	Vikki Boning, Clerk	
Jackie Barnes (2022)	Desmond Reid (2023)	Vikki Boning (2024)
Karen Drummond (2022)	Lynn Simmons (2023)	Kathy Hannan (2024)
Annette Lepsis (2022)	Blosome Whyte (2023)	Vera Langstone (2024)

Clergy and Staff

The Rt. Rev. Lawrence C. Provenzano, Bishop of Long Island
The Rev. E. Clare Nesmith, Rector
Nancy Hemendinger, Organist/Choir Director

Parish Office Hours:

Wednesday 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
and by appointment

Christ Episcopal Church

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