

8:00 SERVICE



The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist

(831) 708-2278 125 Canterbury Drive Aptos CA 95003
www.st-john-aptos.org



The Fifth Sunday in Lent
March 26, 2023

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Rite II from the Book of Common Prayer (1979)

Welcome to St. John's!

- **Face Masks are required indoors for worship.** (The music director does not wear a mask, but tests for COVID before every service. The clergy also test before services.) Masks are optional for outdoor worship and indoor small group meetings, but encouraged when in close proximity with others.
- **Restrooms** are located on both ends of the building.
- **For prayer requests, email prayer@st-john-aptos.org** (routes to a group of 40+ parishioners who will pray for your request immediately upon receipt of the message.)
- **To reach a priest 24/7**, call the clergy on-call line: **831-531-7187**.

† The Liturgy of the Word †

Opening Acclamation

BCP 355

Presider Bless the Lord, who forgives all our sins.

People His mercy endures for ever.

The Collect for Purity

Presider 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.**

Trisagion (said three times)

BCP 324

Presider Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One,

People **Have mercy upon us.**

Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray. (Silence.) Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14

The Jerusalem Bible

In our first reading, the prophet Ezekiel has a vision of a valley of dry bones coming to life, representing God's promise to bring life back to the people of Israel. It is also seen as a foreshadowing of the Resurrection of the Dead.

The hand of Yahweh was laid on me, and he carried me away by the spirit of Yahweh and set me down in the middle of a valley, a valley full of bones. He made me walk up and down among them. There were vast quantities of these bones on the ground the whole length of the valley; and they were quite dried up. He said to me, 'Son of man, can these bones live?' I said, 'You know, Lord Yahweh.' He said, 'Prophesy over these bones. Say, "Dry bones, hear the word of Yahweh. The Lord Yahweh says this to these bones: I am now going to make the breath enter you, and you will live. I shall put sinews on you, I shall make flesh grow on you, I shall cover you with skin and give you breath, and you will live; and you will learn that I am Yahweh."' "

I prophesied as I had been ordered. While I was prophesying, there was a noise, a sound of clattering; and the bones joined together. I looked, and saw that they were covered with sinews; flesh was growing on them and skin was covering them, but there was no breath in them. He said to me, 'Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man. Say to the breath, "The Lord Yahweh says this: Come from the four winds, breath; breathe on these dead; let them live!"' I prophesied as he had ordered me, and the breath entered them; they came to life again and stood up on their feet, a great, an immense army.

Then he said, 'Son of man, these bones are the whole House of Israel. They keep saying, "Our bones are dried up, our hope has gone; we are as good as dead." So prophesy. Say to them, "The Lord Yahweh says this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am Yahweh, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, Yahweh, have said and done this – it is the Lord Yahweh who speaks."' "

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

A bell is rung. We wait until we cannot hear the residual of the bell ringing before continuing.

Psalm 130

BCP Translation

- 1 Out of the depths have I called to you, O LORD; LORD, hear my voice; *
let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.
- 2 If you, LORD, were to note what is done amiss, *
O Lord, who could stand?

- 3 For there is forgiveness with you; *
therefore you shall be feared.
- 4 I wait for the LORD; my soul waits for him; *
in his word is my hope.
- 5 My soul waits for the LORD, more than watchmen for the morning, *
more than watchmen for the morning.
- 6 O Israel, wait for the LORD, *
for with the LORD there is mercy;
- 7 With him there is plenteous redemption, *
and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

Epistle Reading: Romans 8:6-11

The Jerusalem Bible

In our second reading, Paul reminds the Christians in Rome that the same Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead lives in them, and that Spirit will also give them new life, both now and after death.

It is death to limit oneself to what is unspiritual; life and peace can only come with concern for the spiritual. That is because to limit oneself to what is unspiritual is to be at enmity with God: such a limitation never could and never does submit to God's law. People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

A bell is rung. We wait until we cannot hear the bell ringing before continuing.

Gospel Reading: John 11:1-45

The Jerusalem Bible

Deacon The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Today's Gospel reading, the story of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead, foreshadows Jesus's own Resurrection. Portions of this passage are often read at funerals.

There was a man named Lazarus who lived in the village of Bethany with the two sisters, Mary and Martha, and he was ill. It was the same Mary, the sister of the sick man Lazarus, who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair. The sisters sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.' On receiving the message, Jesus said, 'This sickness will end not in death but in God's glory, and through

it the Son of God will be glorified.’ Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, ‘Let us go to Judaea.’

The disciples said, ‘Rabbi, it is not long since the Jews wanted to stone you; are you going back again?’ Jesus replied: ‘Are there not twelve hours in the day? A man can walk in the daytime without stumbling because he has the light of this world to see by; but if he walks at night he stumbles, because there is no light to guide him.’ He said that and then added, ‘Our friend Lazarus is resting, I am going to wake him.’ The disciples said to him, ‘Lord, if he is able to rest, he is sure to get better.’ The phrase Jesus used referred to the death of Lazarus, but they thought that by ‘rest’ he meant ‘sleep,’ so Jesus put it plainly, ‘Lazarus is dead; and for your sake I am glad I was not there because now you will believe. But let us go to him.’

Then Thomas – known as the Twin – said to the other disciples, ‘Let us go too, and die with him.’ On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. Bethany is only about two miles from Jerusalem, and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to sympathize with them over their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus had come, she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, ‘If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that, even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.’ ‘Your brother,’ said Jesus to her, ‘will rise again.’ Martha said, ‘I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.’ Jesus said: ‘I am the resurrection. If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?’ ‘Yes, Lord,’ she said, ‘I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.’

When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in a low voice, ‘The Master is here and wants to see you.’ Hearing this, Mary got up quickly and went to him. Jesus had not yet come into the village; he was still at the place where Martha had met him. When the Jews who were in the house sympathizing with Mary saw her get up so quickly and go out, they followed her, thinking that she was going to the tomb to weep there. Mary went to Jesus, and as soon as she saw him, she threw herself at his feet, saying, ‘Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.’ At the sight of her tears, and those of the Jews who followed her, Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, ‘Where have you put him?’ They said, ‘Lord, come and see.’ Jesus wept; and the Jews said, ‘See how much he loved him!’ But there were some who remarked, ‘He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man’s death?’

Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, ‘Take the stone away.’ Martha said to him, ‘Lord, by now he will smell; this 5

is the fourth day.’ Jesus replied, ‘Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?’ So, they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said: ‘Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer. I knew indeed that you always hear me, but I speak for the sake of all these who stand round me, so that they may believe it was you who sent me.’ When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, ‘Lazarus, here! Come out!’ The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, ‘Unbind him, let him go free.’ Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in him.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon: Mother Tracy Wells Miller, Rector

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, and 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.

Prayers of the People for Lent

compiled by the Rev. Terry Gleason

Deacon In this holy season, we bring to God the deepest needs and desires of our hearts: for ourselves, for one another, and for our world.

Intercessor For those preparing for Baptism and for all the holy people of God, that we may heed the voice of the Lord and reform our ways and our deeds. Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor For Lucinda, our Bishop, and the congregations of our diocese; for the Anglican Communion and the entire Church of God; that in the wilderness of this world the church may provide waters of life to all who thirst. Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor In the Anglican cycle of prayer, we pray for The Anglican Church of South America. In our diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for those in prayer and healing ministries, especially the Order of St. Luke. In our Parish cycle of prayer we pray for Lane Jouvett, Bill Priest and Richard & Jackie. Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor That civil authorities may open their ears and listen to the voices that cry out for food and shelter, for dignity, for equality and peace. Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor That enemies will be reconciled to God and to one another in our parish, our community, our nation, and our world. Lord, in your mercy

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor For lands made desolate by war, and refugees driven from their homes by conflict, that we may come to a sabbath of healing and a season of peace. Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor For the sick and those who have asked our prayers; especially those we now name, either silently or aloud: (pause). May they find in Christ crucified new strength in their suffering and, in Christ's disciples, wise allies in their struggles. Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor That those who have been sown with Christ in death, particularly those we now name: (pause). may bear an abundant harvest with Christ in eternal life. Lord, in your mercy,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Concluding Collect (A Collect for Peace)

BCP 123

All Most holy God, the source of all good desires, all right judgments, and all just works: Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, so that our minds may be fixed on the doing of your will, and that we, being delivered from the fear of all enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through the mercies of Christ Jesus our Savior. Amen.

Confession of Sin

BCP 360

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence, to allow time for individuals to silently confess specific sins to God.

All 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

EW 1

Presider 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

The Peace

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Because the sharing of the peace symbolizes being reconciled with one another before receiving communion, it is particularly appropriate to seek out anyone with whom you may have had a conflict recently and offer a sign of peace at this time.

Community Prayers

Modified from BCP 830, 421, 431, & 831

For Birthdays, Baptism Anniversaries, Wedding Anniversaries, and Travelers

Presider Watch over Fiona Campbell (3/26), Don Zimmerman (3/30), Parker Guy (3/30), Natally Medina (3/30), Sheila Challberg (3/31), Brian Medina (3/31), Wendy Sevens 3/31 and Diane Scofield (4/1), O Lord, as their days increase; O Lord, as their days increase;

People **Bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives.**

Presider We ask for courage, patience and vision for Eileen Fernald (4/1), Peter Goodman (4/1), Amma Eliza Linley (4/1) and Kyle VonSchmacht (4/1) who celebrate their baptism anniversaries this week.

People Strengthen them in their Christian vocation of witness to the world and of service to others.

Presider Send your blessing upon ____ as they celebrate their wedding anniversary.

People May they so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace.

Presider O God, whose glory fills your whole creation, and whose presence we find wherever we go, preserve _____ as they travel.

People Surround them with your loving care, protect them from every danger, and bring them in safety to their journey's end. Amen.

† The Holy Communion †

The Offertory

During the offertory portion of the service, we offer our gifts to God. At St. John's, that takes the form of both financial gifts and gifts of our time. Time donated is documented on a form and put in the offering plate along with financial offerings. If you're participating online, you can find links to donate on the Virtual Worship page of our website: www.st-john-aptos.org/virtual-worship.html

Offertory Sentence

2 Corinthians 9:8, Jerusalem Bible

“There is no limit to the blessings which God can send you – he will make sure that you will always have all you need for yourselves in every possible circumstance, and still have something to spare for all sorts of good works.” - *The Apostle Paul*

Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP 361

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Presider 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:

All Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Presider 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:

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

Presider 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. AMEN.

The Lord's Prayer

BCP 364

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

All Our Father 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

Presider: Jesus, Lamb of God,

People: Have mercy on us.

Presider: Jesus, bearer of our sins,

People: Have mercy on us.

Presider: Jesus, redeemer of the world,

People: give us your peace.

Invitation to Communion

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Receiving communion is an act of renewing one's commitment to Christ and receiving grace to continue to follow him. Please join us in the circle, even if you choose not to receive communion, which you can indicate by crossing your arms over your chest as the servers come by. If you choose not to receive, the priest will say a blessing over you instead.

Distribution of Communion

The bread is distributed first. Please hold out your hands to indicate your desire to receive; the priest will place the bread in your hand. Gluten-free wafers are available if needed; they are in a separate gold container on the paten (plate) with the bread. The wine will be served in the common cup (chalice) and from a flagon (pitcher) that is not shared with others. To receive from the non-shared flagon, you must have brought a cup from home; hold out that cup as the servers come around so they can see that you would like to receive from the flagon instead of the chalice. If you would like to abstain from the wine entirely, cross your arms over your chest when the wine comes by.

For Online Participants: Prayer for Spiritual Communion

Those not physically present to receive communion can say this prayer while communion is being distributed: "In union, O Lord, with the faithful of St. John's, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I present to you my soul and body, with the earnest wish that I may always be united to you. And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all the love of my soul. Let nothing ever separate you from me. May I live in you, and may you live in me, both in this life and in the life to come. Amen." If you live in Santa Cruz County and would like someone to bring you communion at home, please contact the church office at 831-708-2278 or email LEVs@st-john-aptos.org.

Sending Forth of Lay Eucharistic Visitors

Deacon We send you forth bearing these gifts
People that those to whom you go may share with us in this Holy Communion.

The Postcommunion Prayer

Anglican Church of Australia (adapted)

All **Compassionate and loving God, through your Son Jesus Christ you have fed us, and reconciled your people to yourself. May we who have shared in this holy meal know your forgiveness in our lives, bring your reconciliation to others, and be a sign of your wholeness in this broken world. Following Christ's example of fasting and prayer, may we obey you with willing hearts and serve one another in holy love. Amen.**

Solemn Prayer Over the People

Lent 5

Look with compassion, O Lord, upon this your people; that, rightly observing this holy season, they may learn to know you more fully, and to serve you with a more perfect will; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Dismissal

BCP 366

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Serving Today at 8 a.m.

Presider: The Rev. Eliza Linley, Assisting Priest
Preacher: The Rev. Tracy Wells Miller, Rector
Server: Sally Lewis
First Reading: Chris Cottle
Epistle: Nancy Goehring
Usher: Bart Coddington
Altar Guild: Kathy Butler, Lise Crowley, Andrew Pudan
Scripture Introductions: The Rev. Tracy Wells Miller



The Leadership of St. John's

Ministers: All of us!



Clergy Staff

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Avihay Saady, Media Technician
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Realm (view directory & giving info, post messages to parishioners)
www.onrealm.org (contact the office for a password)

Assisting Clergy clergy@st-john-aptos.org

The Rev. Mary Craig Caruthers (“Rev. Mary Craig”)
The Rev. John Duncan (“Father John”)
The Rev. Eliza Linley (“Amma Eliza”)
The Rev. Mary Lou McKenney (“Rev. Mary Lou”)

Vestry (Governing Board)

To reach the entire vestry, email vestry@st-john-aptos.org.

Administration Team vestry-admin@st-john-aptos.org

Mother Tracy, Rector
Win Fernald, Senior Warden
Debra Spencer, Junior Warden
Alliee DeArmond, Clerk
Nelson Crandall, Treasurer
Jon Showalter

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