



Morning Prayer

The First Week of Lent

March 9th, 2025

David K. Moyer, *Worship Leader*

Grace Episcopal Church

Diocese of Bethlehem

Please silence your phones and other electronic devices, thank you.

Welcome & Announcements – David Lyons, Sr. Warden

Gathering Music – John Adamson

Opening Sentences

Worship Leader Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ. *Philippians 1:2*

Confession of Sin

Please stand as you are able.

Worship Leader Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

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.*

Worship Leader

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

The Invitatory and Psalter

Worship Leader Lord, open our lips.

People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

**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 Invitatory Psalm - Psalm 95:1-7 *Venite*

Psalm is led by the Worship Leader and read responsively by whole verse.

Worship Leader The Lord is full of compassion and mercy:

People **Come let us adore him.**

Worship Leader Come, let us sing to the Lord; *
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

People **Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.**

For the Lord is a great God, *
and a great King above all gods.

**In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are his also.**

The sea is his, for he made it, *
and his hands have molded the dry land.

**Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.**

For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

The Lessons

Please be seated.

First Lesson – Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Lector – A Reading from the Book of Deuteronomy

When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, “Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us.” When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, you shall make this response before the Lord your God: “A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he

went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me.” You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm of the Day – Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

Led by Lector and read responsively by whole verse.

¹ He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High, *
abides under the shadow of the Almighty.

² **He shall say to the Lord,**
“You are my refuge and my stronghold, *
my God in whom I put my trust.”

⁹ Because you have made the Lord your refuge, *
and the Most High your habitation,

¹⁰ **There shall no evil happen to you, ***
neither shall any plague come near your dwelling.

¹¹ For he shall give his angels charge over you, *
to keep you in all your ways.

¹² **They shall bear you in their hands, ***
lest you dash your foot against a stone.

¹³ You shall tread upon the lion and adder; *
you shall trample the young lion and the serpent
under your feet.

¹⁴ **Because he is bound to me in love,**
therefore will I deliver him; *
I will protect him, because he knows my Name.

¹⁵ He shall call upon me, and I will answer him; *
I am with him in trouble;
I will rescue him and bring him to honor.

¹⁶ **With long life will I satisfy him, ***
and show him my salvation.

Hymn

Please stand as you are able.

Unison or harmony

1 Morn-ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing,
2 Sweet the rain's new fall sun - lit from hea - ven,
3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing

black-bird has spo - ken like the first bird. _____
like the first dew - fall on the first grass. _____
born of the one light E - den saw play! _____

Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the morn - ing!
Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet gar - den,
Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - ery morn - ing,

Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word! _____
sprung in com - plete - ness where his feet pass. _____
God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day! _____

Second Lesson – Romans 10:8b-13

Please be seated.

Lector – A reading from the Epistle of Paul to the Romans.

“The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.”

For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel – Luke 4:1-13

Worship Leader – *A reading from the Gospel of Luke.*

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.” Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’” Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, “To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’” Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, ‘He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,’ and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’” Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

Worship Leader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Meditation

Lector – A Reading for Meditation.

After the reading, a period of silence follows for contemplation.



The Apostles' Creed –

Please stand as you are able.

All **I believe in God, the Father almighty,**
 creator of heaven and earth;
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
 He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
 and born of the Virgin Mary.
 He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried.
 He descended to the dead.
 On the third day he rose again.
 He ascended into heaven,
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. *Amen.*

The Prayers

Worship Leader The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**

Worship Leader Let us pray.

People **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.***

Suffrages

Worship Leader Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;
People **Govern and uphold them, now and always.**

Day by day we bless you;
We praise your name for ever.
Lord, keep us from all sin today;
Have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy.
Lord, show us your love and mercy;
For we put our trust in you.
In you, Lord, is our hope;
And we shall never hope in vain.

The Serenity Prayer

God, grant us the serenity to accept the things we cannot change, the courage to change the things we can, and the wisdom to know the difference.

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 Collect for Sundays

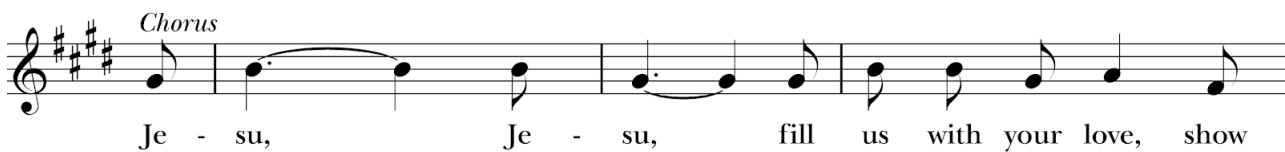
O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Collect for Grace

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn

Please stand as you are able.



- 1 Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their
- 2 Neigh - bors are rich and poor, neigh - bors are black and
- 3 These are the ones we should serve, these are the ones we should
- 4 Lov - ing puts us on our knees, serv - ing as though we were



feet, Mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.
white, neigh - bors are near - by and far a - way.
love. All are neigh - bors to us and you.
slaves; this is the way we should live with you.

Prayers of the People - The Fast

The Intercessor begins the poem, and the people respond with the verses in bold.

Holy Spirit, from which all wisdom flows, guide us in this Season of Lent.
With your help, may we fast from our short comings.

Fast from judging others.

Feast on Christ dwelling in them.

Fast from fear of illness.

Feast on the healing power of God.

Fast from words that pollute.

Feast on speech that purifies.

Fast from discontent.

Feast on gratitude.

Fast from self-recrimination.

Feast on the Grace to change.

Fast from anger.

Feast on patience.

Fast from pessimism.

Feast on hope.

Fast from dark thoughts.

Feast on encouragement.

Fast from bitterness.

Feast on forgiveness.

Fast from suspicion.

Feast on truth.

Fast from self-concern.

Feast on compassion.

Fast from problems that overwhelm.

Feast on prayer that sustains.

Fast from anxiety.

Feast on faith.

Fast from noise.

Feast on purposeful silence.

For whom and for what else shall we pray?

You may offer prayers silently or aloud.

The Worship Leader concludes with a prayer.

Blessed are you, O Lord our God who made us in your image. Hear our prayers for all people and strengthen us by your Spirit that we may conquer every test and each temptation of the evil one. Glory to you for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A moment of silence follows the Prayers.

The General Thanksgiving

All Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. *Amen.*

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

All Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord
to make our common supplication to you;
and you have promised through your well-beloved Son
that when two or three are gathered together in his Name
you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord,
our desires and petitions as may be best for us;
granting us in this world knowledge of your truth,
and in the age to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

Worship Leader Let us bless the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

The Worship Leader then concludes:

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace
in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. *Amen. Romans 15:13*

Music for Reflection

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Worship ~ Save the Dates

Day	Worship	Celebrant / Worship Leader
Mar 16 Sun 10:00 am	Liturgy with Eucharist	The Rev. Jonathan Mayo
Mar 23 Sun 10:00 am	Morning Prayer	John and Pam Adamson
Mar 30 Sun 10:00 am	Morning Prayer	Brother William Sebastian
April 6 Sun 10:00 am	12 Step Recovery Liturgy with Eucharist	The Rev. Jonathan Mayo

- **Vestry** will meet today following Coffee & Conversation. All are welcome. (Meetings are on the 2nd Sunday of each month.)
- **David K. Moyer's Clothing** will take place here at Grace on March 15th at 4 pm, afterwards David will be known to us as Brother William Sebastian..
 - **Fr. J's Foundation for Faith** will be on Sunday, March 16 following coffee & conversation. (It will be on the third Sunday of every month when Father J is present.)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Today's Service

Worship Leader: David K. Moyer
Organist & Music Director: John Adamson
Greeters: David Lyons & Kathy Young
Altar Guild: Brother Matthew Luke
Gospel Reading: David K. Moyer

Old Testament: Lori Molloy
Psalm: Lisa Figueroa
New Testament: Kelly Cannon
Meditation: Joan Roy
Intercessor: Brother Matthew Luke

Music:

Morning has broken, #8 from *The Hymnal 1982* — Words: Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965), alt. By permission of David Higham Associates Limited, London. Music: *Bunessan*, Gaelic melody; harm. Alec Wyton (b. 1921). Harmonization Copyright © by The Church Pension Fund.

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Please consider including a charitable gift for Grace Church in your Will or Estate Plan. Those who came before us helped to ensure our future with their gifts. You can do the same by including Grace in your Will. For more information, contact David Lyons at dlyons@ptd.net.



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John Adamson, *Music Director* • Brother Matthew Luke, *Senior Warden*