A PENITENTIAL ORDER: RITE II
WITH AN AGAPE BLESSING

Sunday March 14, 2021
Fourth Sunday After Lent

PRELUDE:
Lullaby
Zoom Service
God So Loved the World
YouTube Service

OPENING HYMN 686: Come, Thou Fount Of Every Blessing

1 Come, thou fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace!
Streams of mercy never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! Oh, fix me on it,
mount of God's unchanging love.

2 Here I find my greatest treasure;
hither, by thy help, I’ve come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.

3 Oh, to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee:
prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart, oh, take and seal it,
seal it for thy courts above.

OPENING SENTENCES
Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.
People His mercy endures for ever.

Celebrant continues
Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these."
Mark 12:29-31
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.

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. Amen.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

From Mount Hor the Israelites set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.” Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, “Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

The Word of the Lord  
Thanks be to God
PSALM 107:1-3, 17-22

Confitemini Domino

1 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,*
   and his mercy endures for ever.

2 Let all those whom the Lord has redeemed proclaim *
   that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe.

3 He gathered them out of the lands; *
   from the east and from the west,
   from the north and from the south.

17 Some were fools and took to rebellious ways; *
   they were afflicted because of their sins.

18 They abhorred all manner of food *
   and drew near to death's door.

19 Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, *
   and he delivered them from their distress.

20 He sent forth his word and healed them *
   and saved them from the grave.

21 Let them give thanks to the Lord for his mercy *
   and the wonders he does for his children.

22 Let them offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving *
   and tell of his acts with shouts of joy.

THE EPISTLE – Ephesians 2:1-10

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

The Word of the Lord

People Thanks be to God

SEQUENCE HYMN 706: In Your Mercy, Lord, You Called Me

Halton Holgate

1 In your mercy, Lord, you called me,
   taught my sin-filled heart and mind,
   else this world had still enthralled me,
   and to glory kept me blind.

2 Lord, I did not freely choose you
   till by grace you set me free;
   for my heart would still refuse you
   had your love not chosen me.
3 Now my heart sets none above you,
for your grace alone I thirst,
knowing well, that if I love you,
you, O Lord, have loved me first.

THE GOSPEL: John 3:14-21

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People
Glory to you, Lord Christ

Jesus said, "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

The Gospel of the Lord

People
Praise to you, Lord Christ

THE SERMON

– The Rev. Joanna Leiserson

THE NICENE CREED

Celebrant and people

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.

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying "Lord, have mercy."

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples,
let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

For our Bishop, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

For this city, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

We give thanks for the blessings of this week, for those we offer now .... For the good earth which God
has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, especially .... and
those we name at this time ...., let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for
all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, we pray especially for ... and
those we name now to remember at this time ...., let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.
That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

In the communion of St Barnabas and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

People To You, O Lord our God.

Silence.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

PRAYERS FOR THE PARISH FAMILY

For all celebrating birthdays this week...

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants, as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For those celebrating wedding anniversaries and unions...

Give them wisdom and devotion in the ordering of their common life, that each may be to the other a strength in need, a counselor in perplexity, a comfort in sorrow, and a companion in joy. Amen.

PRAYER FOR WISDOM IN TRANSITION

Celebrant and people

Almighty and ever-living God,
giver of wisdom and truth:
Look favorably upon us, the people of St. Barnabas Church,
as we search for a new rector.
We pray for the life of our parish,
that we may continue to be guided by you
and strengthened in our mission
to be a community of encouragement
where Christ’s love is experienced and shared.
We pray for members of the Search Committee,
that they listen to your Spirit with humility, patience and joy.
We pray for all priests in discernment,
that you call one to us
who will minister with us together at St. Barnabas.
Give us your grace to follow where you lead us,
and grant us your peace.
In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The people greet one another with a sign of God’s peace
THE OFFERTORY

God So Loved the World
St Barnabas Choir
Zoom Service
Bob Chilcott

Lullaby
You Tube Service
Michael Chertock, piano
Tchaikovsky / Rachmaninoff

PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS:

All things come of thee, O Lord, and of thine own have we given thee.

THE AGAPE BLESSING AND MEAL

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.

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.

Before he died for us, Jesus shared a meal with his friends – an everyday meal of bread and wine, ordinary food and drink for the ordinary people of God. This food he blessed, and commanded them to partake, his Body and his Blood of the New Covenant.

(All hold up food and drink)
Although today we are unable to consecrate bread and wine to be the Body and Blood of Christ, we present to you, Lord, our everyday food of everyday people, and ask that you bless this food, taken from your creation, that this food may nourish us, to nourish others. Bless us also, that with your guidance, we may be bearers of hope and truth to all your people.

This we ask in the name of your Son; by him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. Amen.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

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

Celebrant and people

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, forever and ever. Amen.

These are the gifts that God has given us for life. Not consecrated but nevertheless blessed; not sanctified but nevertheless holy; not transformed but nevertheless transforming. With your meal, feed on Jesus in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

POST AGAPE PRAYER

Celebrant and people

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present
in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar.
I love you above all things,
and long for you in my soul.
Since I cannot receive you
in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood,
come spiritually into my heart.
Cleanse and strengthen me
with your grace, Lord Jesus,
and let me never be separated from you.
May I live in you, and you in me,
in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN 530: Spread, O Spread, Thou Mighty Word

1 Spread, O spread, thou mighty word,
spread the kingdom of the Lord,
that to earth’s remotest bound
all may heed the joyful sound;

2 word of how the Father’s will
made the world, and keeps it, still;
how his only Son he gave,
earth from sin and death to save;

3 word of how the Savior’s love
earth’s sore burden doth remove;
how forever, in its need,
through his death the world is freed;

4 word of how the Spirit came
bringing peace in Jesus’ name;
how his never-failing love
guides us on to heaven above.
Word of life, most pure and strong,
word for which the nations long,
spread abroad, until from night
all the world awakes to light.

POSTLUDE: March
Jaime Yeoh, piano

Schumann