

*St. David's Episcopal Church and School  
Ashburn, VA*

*Fourth Sunday in Lent*

MARCH 19, 2023 10:00 AM

Prelude

Processional "God of Day and God of Darkness" *Haugen*

God of day and God of darkness,  
Now we stand before the night;  
As the shadows stretch and deepen,  
Come and make our darkness bright.

All creation still is groaning  
For the dawning of your might,  
When the Sun of peace and justice  
Fills the earth with radiant light.

Still the nations curse the darkness,  
Still the rich oppress the poor;  
Still the earth is bruised and broken  
By the ones who still want more.

Come and wake us from our sleeping,  
So our hearts cannot ignore  
All your people lost and broken,  
All your children at our door.

Show us Christ in one another,  
Make us servants strong and true;  
Give us all your love of justice  
So we do what you would do.

Let us call all people holy,  
Let us pledge our lives anew,  
Make us one with all the lowly,  
Let us all be one in you.

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

**People: His mercy endures forever.**

Celebrant: Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our 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 other commandment greater than these.

Kyrie (*sung*)

**Kyrie eleison.**

**Christe eleison.**

**Kyrie eleison.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Collect of the Day

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.**

The First Reading

1 Samuel 16:1-13

The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord." But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep."

And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

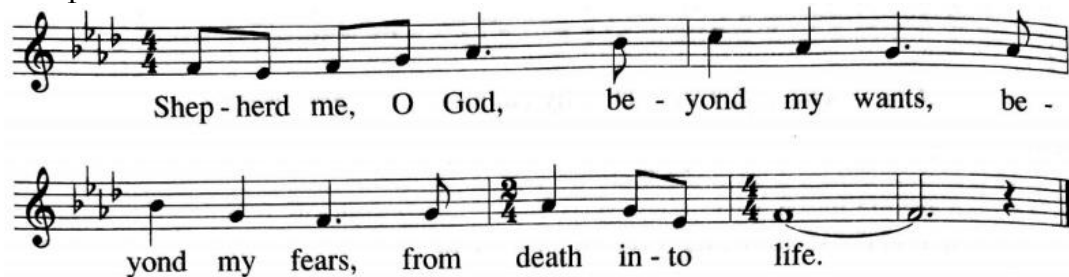
Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

"Psalm 23: Shepherd Me, O God"

Antiphon:



Reader: The Lord is my shepherd; \*

I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: \*

he leadeth me beside the still waters. *Antiphon*

Reader: He restoreth my soul: \*

he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: \*

for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. *Antiphon*

Reader: Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: \*

thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: \*

and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

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

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

*Sung by all:* **Open my eyes. Open my heart. Open my mind, O Lord.**

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

*Sung by all:* **Open my eyes. Open my heart. Open my mind, O Lord.**

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

*Sung by all:* **Open my eyes. Open my heart. Open my mind, O Lord.**

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

*Sung by all:* **Open my eyes. Open my heart. Open my mind, O Lord.**

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Concluding Sequence:

**Open my eyes, Lord**

**Help me to see your face**

**Open my eyes, Lord**

**Help me to see.**

**Open my eyes, Lord**

**Help me to see your face**

**Open my eyes, Lord**

**Help me to see.**

Children's Message

The Rev. Susan Pinkerton

Seashells      *(The congregation remains seated while the children return to their seats.)*

**This is the day, this is the day,  
that the Lord has made, that the Lord has made.  
We will rejoice, we will rejoice,  
and be glad in it, and be glad in it.  
This is the day that the Lord has made!  
We will rejoice and be glad in it!  
This is the day!  
This is the day that the Lord has made!**

Sermon

The Rev. Susan Pinkerton

The 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

*(For those participating online, please say the prayers to yourself while the congregation reads them from the pews)*

Reader: Returning to the Lord our God, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation. We pray for the whole body of Christ. That being born of the Spirit and blessed by God, your church may be a blessing to the world. Lord, in your mercy,  
**People: hear our prayer.**

Reader: We pray for creation. For water and wind in their many forms, that they nourish and renew the earth. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Reader: We pray for the world. For all countries, tribes, races, and families, that they live in harmony and cooperation. We pray for all victims of the Ukraine war and all places of conflict. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Reader: We pray for all who are in need, especially the victims of the earthquake in Turkey and Syria. For the spiritually lost, the fearful, the confused, and the ill, that the Lord will keep their going out and their coming in. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Reader: We pray for this parish. That having received all righteousness by faith, we boldly bear witness to a God who loves the whole world. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Reader: We give thanks for the faithful departed. For the example of faith by which they lived, that it sustain us until we all enter the reign of God in its fullness. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Reader: Into your hands, O God, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in your abundant mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**People: Amen.**

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**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.**

Celebrant: 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.**

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Welcome and Announcements

Offertory "Plowshare Prayer" *Spencer LaJoye*

THE HOLY COMMUNION  
The Great Thanksgiving

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.**

Celebrant: 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 forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, God of pow - er and might,  
hea - ven and earth are full are full of your glo - ry.





*The Celebrant continues with the Eucharistic Prayer:*

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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.**"

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**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.

Celebrant: All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ.

**People: 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 forever. AMEN.**

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

The Lord's Prayer  
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.

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
People: **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that  
Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*Jesus invites the whole world into relationship with him. Wherever you are on your spiritual journey,  
you are welcome to the Lord's table.*

*Gluten-free wafers are available; please make your needs known to the ushers.  
Healing prayer will be offered during communion.*

Communion

*"Open My Heart" Hernandez*

*"Hymn of Promise" Sleeth*

**In the bulb, there is a flower  
In the seed, an apple tree  
In cocoons, a hidden promise  
Butterflies will soon be free  
In the cold and snow of winter  
There's a spring that waits to be  
Unrevealed until its season  
Something God alone can see**

**There's a song in every silence  
Seeking word and melody  
There's a dawn in every darkness  
Bringing hope to you and me**

**From the past will come the future  
What it holds, a mystery  
Unrevealed until its season  
Something God alone can see**

**In our end is our beginning  
In our time, infinity  
In our doubt, there is believing  
In our life, eternity  
In our death, a resurrection  
At the last, a victory  
Unrevealed until its season  
Something God alone can see**

Post Communion Prayer

**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.**

The Blessing

Recessional

*“Goodness, Love, and Mercy” Tomlin*

**Oh Lord, You're my Shepherd  
You make me lie in fields of green  
You lead me by the still waters  
You restore righteousness to me  
Though I walk through the valley  
I will fear no evil thing  
For You are with me  
And You comfort me**

**Surely goodness, love and mercy  
Will follow wherever I go  
Surely goodness, love and mercy  
Will follow wherever I go  
Surely goodness, love and mercy  
Will follow wherever I go**

**Oh Lord, You're my Shepherd  
You make me lie in fields of green  
You lead me by the still waters**

You restore righteousness to me  
Though I walk through the valley  
I will fear no evil thing  
For You are with me, God  
And You comfort me

Surely goodness, love, and mercy  
Will follow wherever I go  
Surely goodness, love, and mercy  
Will follow wherever I go  
Surely goodness, love and mercy  
Will follow wherever I go

I'm gonna dwell in the house of the Lord forever  
I'm gonna dwell in the house of the Lord forever  
I'm gonna dwell in the house of the Lord forever  
I'm gonna dwell in the house of the Lord forever

Wherever I go  
Surely goodness, love and mercy  
Will follow wherever I go  
Surely goodness, love and mercy  
Will follow wherever I go  
Surely goodness, love and mercy  
Will follow wherever I go

Dismissal

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**People: Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Prayer List:

Pray for those who suffer in body, mind or spirit: George, Jon, Beth, Zachary, Michael, Gene, Michele and all those being prayed for by our prayer teams.

We pray for those who have died: Paul, Maria, Carlene, Norman and Allan and those who have lost a loved one through death: the Whitlock family, the Miller family, the Hargis family, the Lyford family and the Steed family.

We pray for our clergy, vestry, discernment committee, ministries, church staff, school staff, parents, and children.

Loving God, we pray for all those who continue to be affected by the pandemic.

We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.