



# The Third Sunday in Lent

Church of the Holy Comforter – Vienna, Virginia  
The Holy Eucharist Rite II  
March 23, 2025 at 10:00 A.M.

*The liturgy follows the Book of Common Prayer, beginning at page 350.*

**OPENING VOLUNTARY:** Priere from Suite Gothique



Leon Boëllmann

## THE ENTRANCE

**AT THE PROCESSION, THE DECALOGUE**

*Book of Common Prayer, p. 350*

*Sung responsively by all, standing.*

<i>Celebrant, Deacon, or Cantor</i>	<i>People</i>
	
(Each commandment monotoned)	A - men. Lord, have mer - cy.

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

*Presider* Blessed be the God of our salvation:

*People* **Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.**

## THE SUMMARY OF THE LAW

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."

## THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *[All kneel.]*

**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.**

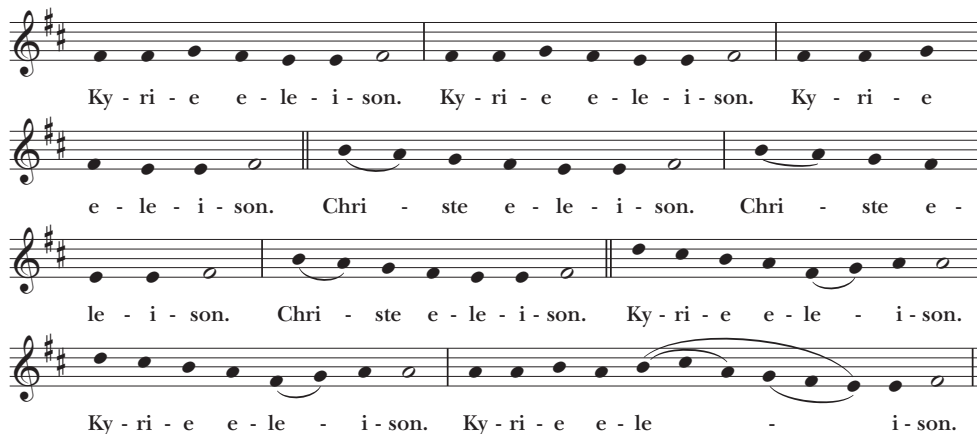
*The Presider stands and says*

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 people stand for the Kyrie.]*

**KYRIE ELEISON, HYMNAL, S 86**

David Hurd

*Sung by all, standing.*



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e  
e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e -  
le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.  
Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in 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 lives and reigns with you and the Holy

Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **THE WORD OF GOD**

**THE FIRST LESSON** [*The people are seated.*]

Exodus 3:1-15

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. Then the LORD said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain." But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you': This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations."

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 63:1-8** *Deus, Deus meus*

Tone II.1

*Sung by the choir.*

- 1 O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; \*  
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,  
as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.
- 2 Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, \*  
that I might behold your power and your glory.
- 3 For your loving-kindness is better than life itself; \*  
my lips shall give you praise.
- 4 So will I bless you as long as I live \*  
and lift up my hands in your Name.
- 5 My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness, \*  
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,
- 6 When I remember you upon my bed, \*  
and meditate on you in the night watches.
- 7 For you have been my helper, \*  
and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.
- 8 My soul clings to you; \*  
your right hand holds me fast.

**THE SECOND LESSON**

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness. Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by

serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**AT THE SEQUENCE, HYMN 648** "When Israel was in Egypt's land"

*Go Down, Moses*

*Sung by all, standing. During the singing of the Sequence Hymn, children through second grade may follow the Dove Cross to Children's Chapel.*

**THE HOLY GOSPEL**

Luke 13:1-9

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

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did." Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**THE SERMON** The Rev. Jackie Thomson

*A brief period of silence is observed for reflection on the sermon. The people stand for the Creed.*

**THE NICENE CREED** [*Said by all.*]

**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** [*All remain standing.*]

*Form V, Book of Common Prayer, p. 389*

*The leader of the Prayers will begin with prayers for the church and the world. Throughout you are invited to add your own petitions either silently or aloud.*

*Intercessor* ...we pray to you, O Lord.

*People* **Lord, have mercy.**

*The Intercessor concludes*

Rejoicing in the fellowship 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.**

**THE PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.** [*The people greet one another with a sign of God's peace and are then seated.*]

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

### THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

*The people remain seated while an offering is received to support Holy Comforter's work of sharing God's love with the world. As the offering is brought forward to the altar, all stand.*

AT THE OFFERTORY, ANTHEM: "Behold, the Tabernacle of God"

William H. Harris

Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and the Spirit of God dwelleth within you:  
for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are:  
for the love of whom ye do this day celebrate the joys of the temple with a season of festivity. Praise the Lord.

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Prayer A, Book of Common Prayer, p. 361*

*Celebrant*      *People*

The Lord be with you.    And al - so with you.

*Celebrant*      *People*

Lift up your hearts.    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.

*The Presider proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. [*The Presider continues.*]

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:

SANCTUS, HYMNAL, S 124

David Hurd

*Sung by all.*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, hea - ven and  
earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The Presider continues and gives thanks to God for the reconciling work of Christ and prays over the bread and wine.*

### MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

*Presider*    Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*People*      **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

*The Presider 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.

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.



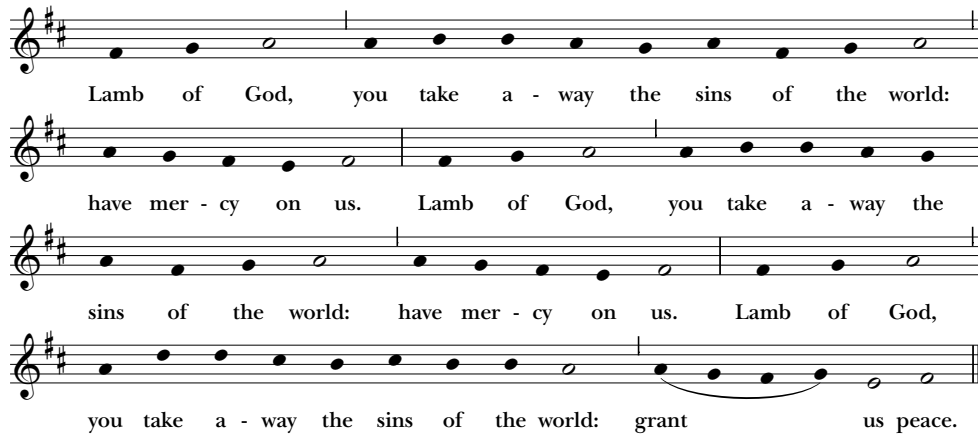
### THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Presider* And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,  
*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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

### THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD, HYMNAL, S 161

David Hurd

*Sung by all.*



### INVITATION [The People are seated.]

*As Jesus welcomed all to his table, so do we at Holy Communion. The bread and the wine are the central symbols of God's presence and we invite you to share in the Eucharist in whatever way feels comfortable to you, regardless of age or tradition. We also offer gluten-free bread and unfermented grape juice as alternatives—just let the priest know. If you prefer to receive a blessing, cross your arms in front of your chest. The Holy Eucharist is an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace, a mutual indwelling of Christ in us and us in him. Come to the table and be joined into Christ's ministry of love and reconciliation.*

### COMMUNION MUSIC [Sung by all.]

HYMN 754 [green hymnal] "When from bondage we are summoned"

Haywood's Home

HYMN 574 "Before thy throne, O God, we kneel"

St. Petersburg

### THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER [Said by all.]

**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 SOLEMN PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

*In Lent, in place of a seasonal blessing, a solemn Prayer over the People is used. The Presider says*

Bow down before the Lord. [All kneel.]

*The Presider continues with the prayer; the people respond*

**Amen.**

### AT THE CLOSING, HYMN 685 "Rock of ages, cleft for me"

Toplady

*Sung by all, standing.*

### DISMISSAL [The people respond,]

**Thanks be to God.**

### CLOSING VOLUNTARY: Prelude in C Minor

Johann Sebastian Bach