



## Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 19, 2023

### TRINITY CHURCH IN NORTHERN BERGEN COUNTY

*Seeking to serve God by reflecting the Light of Christ that shines within us  
to each other and the greater community.*

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## THE HOLY EUCHARIST

RINGING OF BELL

*Angelus*

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

*All Stand*

**OPENING HYMN**

*Deck thyself, my soul with gladness*

Hymnal 339

*Celebrant:* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;

*People:* ***His mercy endures forever.***

## KYRIE

Lord have mercy

***Lord have mercy.***

Christ have mercy

***Christ have mercy.***

Lord have mercy

***Lord have mercy.***

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* ***And also with you.***

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

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.***

## FIRST READING

1 Samuel 16:1-13

A Reading from the First book of Samuel

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.*

- 1 The LORD is my shepherd; \*  
**I shall not be in want.**
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures \*  
**and leads me beside still waters.**
- 3 He revives my soul \*  
**and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.**
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I shall fear no evil; \*  
**for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**
- 5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; \*  
**you have anointed my head with oil,  
and my cup is running over.**
- 6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, \*  
**and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.**

## SECOND READING

Ephesians 5:8-14

A reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Ephesus

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!  
Rise from the dead,

and Christ will shine on you.”

**Reader:** Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

**SEQUENCE HYMN**

*O for a thousand tongues to sing*

Hymnal 493

**HOLY GOSPEL**

John 9:1-41

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

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

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.”

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.”

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."

**Celebrant:** The Gospel of the Lord.  
**People:** *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

*All Sit*

**HOMILY**

Fr. Raul

## 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.**

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (FORM V)

In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord, have mercy.”

For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the day of your coming, we pray to you, O Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, for Carlye our own Bishop, for all bishops and other ministers, and for all the holy people of God, we pray to you, O Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease, and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those in positions of public trust, especially Joseph, President of the United States, that they may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this congregation, that we may be delivered from hardness of heart, and show forth your glory in all that we do, we pray to you, O Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For all who have commended themselves to our prayers, especially, Nicole, Martie, Michael, Pat, Jim, Lorraine, Laura, Bridget, Ed, Denis, Joanne, Russ, Adam, Sherry, Margie, Blaise, Lynette, Rick, Chuck, and Debby; for our families, friends and neighbors, that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health, we pray to you, O Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For all who serve in the military, including Adam, Nick, Jason, Elizabeth, Quintin, Matt, and canines, we pray to you, O Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For all who have died in the communion of your Church and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

*Celebrant concludes:*

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **CONFESSION OF SIN**

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

*All kneel, as are able*

**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**

*Celebrant:* Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through 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.**

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

## OFFERTORY SENTENCE

**OFFERTORY HYMN**      *Awake, O sleeper, rise from death*      Hymnal 547

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**      Prayer A

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

**People:** *And also with you.*

*Celebrant:* Lift up your hearts.

**People:** *We lift them up to the Lord.*

*Celebrant:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People:** *It is right to give God thanks and praise.*

*The Celebrant continues*

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 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:

***Celebrant and People:***

***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.***

*All kneel as the Celebrant continues*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we have 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:

***Christ has died.***

***Christ is risen.***

***Christ will come again.***

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

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

**People & Celebrant:** *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

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. Then is said,*

*Celebrant:* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

**People:** *Therefore let us keep the feast.*

*The Celebrant says the following invitation*

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.

## COMMUNION MUSIC

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

*The people may kneel*

Let us pray.

**Celebrant & People:** *Almighty and everliving God,  
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the  
most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus  
Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we  
are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of  
your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do  
the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as  
faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to  
the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.*

## THE LENTEN PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

### THE DISMISSAL

**Celebrant:** Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

**People:** *Thanks be to God!*

### CLOSING HYMN

*Thine arm, O Lord, in days of old*

Hymnal 567

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## This week at Trinity Church

Wednesdays:

*Stations and Benediction at 6:30pm*

### Announcements

#### Allendale Good Friday Walk: Volunteers Needed!!!

After a few years of hiatus due to COVID, the Allendale Community of Churches will be coming together once again to pray a town-wide Good Friday Devotional Walk on Good Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, at 12pm. We are seeking volunteers to **read** and to **carry the cross** on behalf of Trinity Church. **Please sign up in the narthex** or email Fr. Raul at [frraulausa@gmail.com](mailto:frraulausa@gmail.com)!

#### Compassionate Outreach

**St. Paul's Men's Shelter**- The 2023 schedule for providing meals for the St. Paul's Men's Shelter is posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Please prayerfully consider signing up to help with this important part of our outreach ministry, on the 3rd Thursday of each month. You can also call and leave a message or email Lana with your requested date, or contact Donna Speizer.

**CFA** In our efforts of continuing to support Center for Food Action (CFA), the Outreach Committee has decided to host different themes each month during the year. The theme for March is **Paper Products--toilet paper, tissues, paper towel, napkins, paper plates**. As always, all donations are appreciated.

#### Community Thrift Shop

The shop continues to be open for shopping on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 10:00 am to 4:00pm.

\* Donations are now accepted on Mondays ONLY from 9:00am to 12:00 noon! Only two white kitchen bags or two boxes each time, marked with #66.

\* Do not leave any donations outside the door as it will be thrown in the garbage!

Any questions, please contact Janet Zacco. Thank you.

#### Easter Flowers

We are receiving **Memorial/Thanksgiving Flower Offerings** for **Easter Sunday**. Please fill out an envelope found on the table in the narthex with desired memorials/thanksgivings to be included in the Easter bulletin and enclose a check for \$35 by **Sunday April 2**. We encourage everyone to become a part of this glorious Trinity tradition! You can also email [info@trinitynbc.org](mailto:info@trinitynbc.org) with your memorial/thanksgiving request and pay online or drop a check in the office at your convenience.