

**Liturgy for April 6, 2025: Fifth Sunday in Lent**

**Opening Hymn: 142 Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days**

1 Lord, who throughout these forty days for us didst fast and pray, teach us with thee to mourn our sins, and close by thee to stay.	2 As thou with Satan didst contend and didst the victory win, O give us strength in thee to fight, in thee to conquer sin,
3 As thou didst hunger bear and thirst, so teach us, gracious Lord, to die to self, and chiefly live by thy most holy word	4 And through these days of penitence, and through thy Passiontide, yea, evermore, in life and death, Jesus! with us abide.

Priest: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins  
People *His mercy endures forever*

**Collect for Purity (Book of Common Prayer, pg. 355)**

**Kyrie (Sung) Hymnal, S92**

Lord have mercy upon us, Christ have mercy upon us, Lord have mercy upon us

**Collect of the Day:**

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**A Reading from Isaiah 43:16-21** Read by Marcia Weaver

Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old.

I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. The wild animals will honour me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord

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

**Psalm 126 In convertendo** Read responsively by Marcia Weaver

When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, \*  
then were we like those who dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter, \*  
and our tongue with shouts of joy.

Then they said among the nations, \*  
"The LORD has done great things for them."

The LORD has done great things for us, \*  
and we are glad indeed.

Restore our fortunes, O LORD, \*  
like the watercourses of the Negev.

Those who sowed with tears \*  
will reap with songs of joy.

Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, \*  
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

**A Reading from Paul's Epistle to the Philippians 3:4b-14**      Read by Sabina Gaston

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord

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

**Sequence Hymn 141 Wilt Thou Forgive That Sin** (*Verses 1-2, Gospel, Verses 3-4*)

<sup>1</sup> Wilt thou forgive that sin, where I begun,  
which is my sin, though it were done before?  
Wilt thou forgive those sins through which I run,  
and do run still, though still I do deplore?  
When thou hast done, thou hast not done,  
for I have more.

<sup>2</sup> Wilt thou forgive that sin, by which I won  
others to sin, and made my sin their door?  
Wilt thou forgive that sin which I did shun  
a year or two, but wallowed in a score?  
When thou hast done, thou hast not done,  
for I have more.

<sup>3</sup> I have a sin of fear that when I've spun  
my last thread, I shall perish on the shore;  
swear by thyself, that at my death thy Son  
shall shine as he shines now, and heretofore.  
And having done that, thou hast done,  
I fear no more.

**The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 12:1-8**

**People:** *Glory to you, Lord Christ (Remain standing)*

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.

But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into

it.) Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

**Priest:** The Gospel of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ

**People:** *Praise to You, Lord Christ*

**Homily:** The Rev. Dr. Varghese Mathew

**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

**Prayers of the People:** led by Sabina Gaston

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

For all people in their daily life and work;

*For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone*

For this community, the nation, and the world;

*For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.*

For the just and proper use of your creation;

*For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.*

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

*For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.*

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

*For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.*

For all bishops, priests and other ministers;

*For all who serve God in his Church*

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially.....

*Silence*

Hear us, Lord;

*For your mercy is great.*

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life—those we name in our hearts, and also for those celebrating birthdays, including.....

*Silence*

We will exalt you, O God our King;

*And praise your Name for ever and ever.*

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom, especially.....

*Silence*

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

*Who put their trust in you*

**The Priest adds a Concluding Prayer**

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen

**Confession & Absolution:** 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.

**Absolution**

**Peace**

**Announcements**

**Special Prayers for Birthdays or Wedding Anniversaries**

**Offertory Anthem: *Drop, Drop Slow Tears* Roland E. Martin**

**Doxology** (*please stand*) **“Old Hundredth”**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him all people here below.  
Praise him above ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*(Tithes and offerings are presented)*

**THE HOLY COMMUNION**

**The Great Thanksgiving (BCP p. 361 (Eucharistic Prayer A))**

Priest The Lord be with you  
*People And also with you*  
Priest Lift up your hearts  
*People We lift them up to the Lord*  
Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God  
*People It is right to give him thanks and praise*

**Priest continues with Eucharistic Prayer A**

**Sanctus** (*sung*) *Hymnal S 131*

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Power and Might: Heaven and earth are full of your Glory.  
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

**Priest continues with Eucharistic Prayer A**

**Memorial Acclamation** (*Sung*) *Hymnal S 135*

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

**Amen** (*sung*) *Hymnal S 147*

**Priest continues with Eucharistic Prayer A**

**The Lords' Prayer**

**The Breaking of the Bread**

Priest: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: *Therefore let us keep the feast.*

**Agnus Dei (Sung) Hymnal S 157**

Oh Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Oh Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Oh Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace

**Communion Hymn 149 Eternal Lord of Love**

<sup>1</sup> Eternal Lord of love, behold your Church  
walking once more the pilgrim way of Lent,  
led by your cloud by day, by night your fire,  
moved by your love and  
toward your presence bent:  
far off yet here the goal of all desire.

<sup>2</sup> So daily dying to the way of self,  
so daily living to your way of love,  
we walk the road, Lord Jesus, that you trod,  
knowing ourselves baptized into your death:  
so we are dead and live with you in God

<sup>3</sup> If dead in you, so in you we arise,  
you the first-born of all the faithful dead;  
and as though stony ground  
the green shoots break,  
glorious in spring time dress  
of leaf and flower,  
so in the Father's glory shall we wake.

**Post-Communion Prayer (Kneel)**

Book of Common Prayer p. 365

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

**Dismissal**

**People:** Thanks be to God