



St. George's
Episcopal Church

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

LITURGY OF THE WORD, RITE II

FEBRUARY 21, 2021
10:30 AM

The Rev. Ann McLemore, *Interim Rector*

Ms. Mi-Young Kim, *Music Director*

The mission of St. George's Episcopal Church is to worship God and share our faith through word, action, and service.

WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE WITH US. In this difficult and uncertain time, our commitment to one another as the Body of Christ is more important than ever. We are blessed to be able to join together in prayer, even as we are unable to be together in person as we would wish. Our online services are all available from the [Online Worship](#) page of our website.

The SEASON OF LENT is the period of forty days (excluding Sundays) leading up to Easter. It is traditionally a time of self-examination and repentance through prayer, fasting, self-denial, and reading and meditating on scripture. Lent concludes with the Easter Vigil Service on the night before Easter Day. The forty days of Lent symbolizes the forty years in which the Israelites wandered in the wilderness in search of the Promised Land. It also recalls the time Jesus spent in the wilderness in fasting and prayer, during which he was tempted. A common practice during Lent is to participate in a Lenten discipline; this can involve giving something up or taking on a new practice, in order to deepen your faith and bring you closer to Christ. We hope you will join us as the community of St. George's journeys together into the Lenten season.

GUIDE TO ABBREVIATIONS

H – 1982 Hymnal

G – Gather Hymnal

BCP – Book of Common Prayer

WELCOME

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

OPENING HYMN

Eternal Lord of Love

H 149

1 E - ter - nal Lord of love, be - hold your Church walk - ing once
 2 So dai - ly dy - ing to the way of self, so dai - ly
 3 If dead in you, so in you we a - rise, you the first -

more the pil - grim way of Lent, led by your cloud by
 liv - ing to your way of love, we walk the road, Lord
 born of all the faith - ful dead; and as through ston - y

day, by night your fire, moved by your love and toward your pres - ence
 Je - sus, that you trod, know - ing our - selves bap - tized in - to your
 ground the green shoots break, glo - rious in spring - time dress of leaf and

bent: far off yet here - the goal of all de - sire.
 death: so we are dead and live with you in God.
 flower, so in the Fa - ther's glo - ry shall we wake.

Words: Thomas H. Cain (b. 1931).

Music: *Old 124th*, melody *Pseaumes octante trois de David*, 1551; harm. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944).

Officiant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.
 People His mercy endures forever.

- All* **Most holy and merciful Father:**
We confess to you and to one another,
and to the whole communion of saints
in heaven and on earth,
that we have sinned by our own fault
in thought, word, and deed;
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.
- Officiant* We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.
- People* **Have mercy on us, Lord.**
- Officiant* We have been deaf to your call to serve, as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.
- People* **Have mercy on us, Lord.**
- Officiant* We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience of our lives,
- People* **We confess to you, Lord.**
- Officiant* Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people,
- People* **We confess to you, Lord.**
- Officiant* Our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,
- People* **We confess to you, Lord.**
- Officiant* Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work,
- People* **We confess to you, Lord.**
- Officiant* Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,
- People* **We confess to you, Lord.**
- Officiant* Accept our repentance, Lord, for the wrongs we have done: for our blindness to human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,
- People* **Accept our repentance, Lord.**
- Officiant* For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,
- People* **Accept our repentance, Lord.**
- Officiant* For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us,
- People* **Accept our repentance, Lord.**
- Officiant* Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us;
- People* **Favorably hear us, for your mercy is great.**
- Officiant* Accomplish in us the work of your salvation,
- People* **That we may show forth your glory in the world.**
- Officiant* By the cross and passion of your Son our Lord,
- People* **Bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.**

Officiant Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desires not the death of sinners, but rather that they may turn from their wickedness and live, has given power and commandment to his ministers to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the absolution and remission of their sins. He pardons and absolves all those who truly repent, and with sincere hearts believe his holy Gospel.

Therefore we beseech him to grant us true repentance and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him which we do on this day, and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure and holy, so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

KYRIE

H S-96

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

Setting: From *Deutsche Messe*; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937).

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP 218

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

FIRST READING

GENESIS 9:8-17

Reader A reading from the book of Genesis.

God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with

you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 25:1-9

AD TE, DOMINE, LEVAVI

Please join in reading the psalm in unison.

- 1 To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in you; *
let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me.**
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; *
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.**
- 3 Show me your ways, O LORD, *
and teach me your paths.**
- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, *
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.**
- 5 Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, *
for they are from everlasting.**
- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; *
remember me according to your love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.**
- 7 Gracious and upright is the LORD; *
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.**
- 8 He guides the humble in doing right *
and teaches his way to the lowly.**
- 9 All the paths of the LORD are love and faithfulness *
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.**

SECOND READING

1 PETER 3:18-22

Reader A reading from the first letter of Peter.

Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you – not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

1 For - ty days and for - ty nights thou wast fast - ing in the wild;
 2 Should not we thy sor - row share and from world - ly joys ab - stain,
 3 Then if Sa - tan on us press, Je - sus, Sa - vior, hear our call!
 4 So shall we have peace di - vine: ho - lier glad - ness ours shall be;
 5 Keep, O keep us, Sa - vior dear, ev - er con - stant by thy side;

for - ty days and for - ty nights tempt - ed, and yet un - de - filed.
 fast - ing with un - ceas - ing prayer, strong with thee to suf - fer pain?
 Vic - tor in the wil - der - ness, grant we may not faint nor fall!
 round us, too, shall an - gels shine, such as min - is - tered to thee.
 that with thee we may ap - pear at the e - ter - nal Eas - ter - tide.

Words: George Hunt Smytten (1822-1870), alt.

Music: *Aus der Tiefe rufe ich*, melody att. Martin Herbst 91654-1681), alt.; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889).

THE HOLY GOSPEL

MARK 1:9-15

Officiant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.
 People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

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

THE SERMON

THE REV. ANN MCLEMORE

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.

Officiant 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 PEACE

Officiant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE OFFERTORY *Recognition and thanksgiving for gifts of time, talent, pledges and other donations*
Offerings can be given online at the [St. George's Donation page](#).

THE DOXOLOGY

H 380, VERSE 3

Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him all crea-tures here be - low;
 praise him a-bove ye heaven-ly host; praise Fa-ther, Son and Ho - ly Ghost.

Words: verse 3, Thomas Ken. Music: *Old 100th*, melody from *Pseaumes octante trois de David*, 1551, alt.; harm. after Louis Bourgeois (1510?-1561?).

THE BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN

Lead Us, Heavenly Father

H 559

1 Lead us, heaven-ly Fa-ther, lead us o'er the world's tem - pes - tuous sea;
 2 Sa - vior, breathe for - give-ness o'er us; all our weak-ness thou dost know;
 3 Spi - rit of our God, de - scend-ing, fill our hearts with heaven - ly joy;
 guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us, for we have no help but thee,
 thou didst tread this earth be - fore us; thou didst feel its keen - est woe;
 love with ev - ery pas - sion blend-ing plea - sure that can nev - er cloy;
 yet pos - es - sing ev - ery bless - ing, if our God our Fa - ther be.
 yet un - fear - ing, per - se - ver - ing, to thy pas - sion thou didst go.
 thus pro - vid - ed, par - doned, guid - ed, noth - ing can our peace des - troy.

Words: James Edmeston (1791-1867), alt.

Music: *Dulce carmen*, melody from *An Essay on the Church Plain Chant*, 1782;
 adapt. *Collection of Motetts or Antiphons*, ca. 1840; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889).

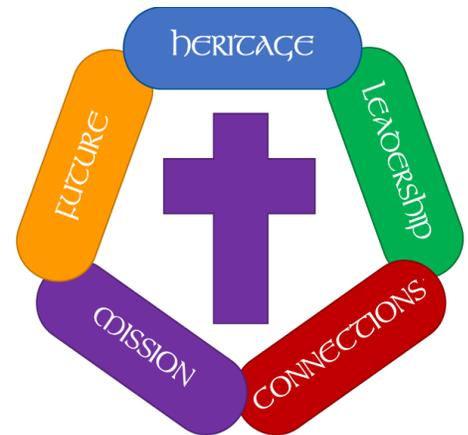
2021 LENTEN SERIES

The Five Focus Points

Wednesdays, 7:00 - 8:00 pm
February 24, and March 3, 10, 17, & 24

[Zoom Link](#)

(Meeting ID: 845 8999 3943, Passcode: Lent)



Throughout this year we will zero in on Five Focus Points – Heritage, Leadership, Mission, Connection, and Future – as part of our Transition work and calling a new Rector. Each week of the Lenten Series, facilitated by the Rev. Ann McLemore, will be dedicated to one of the five focal points, beginning with Heritage on February 24. Each week, you will be invited to have a soup dinner at home, using a “recipe of the week” sent out to the parish, or any other kind of soup you like (homemade or store-bought!). The recipes will also be part of our “Heritage” focus, as they come from the 1983 Cookbook “Simple Gifts,” compiled and published by the women of St. George’s 38 years ago.

We know everyone is zoomed out, so we hope that this will be a different take for your souls, minds, hearts, stomachs, and maybe even your sense of humor!

THE SUNDAY BANNER – February 21, 2021

- ❖ **VIRTUAL COFFEE HOUR** – Immediately after the service each Sunday, you are invited to join our [Zoom Coffee Hour](#) (passcode: Christ) to share a brief time of fellowship with other parishioners.
- ❖ **FIRESIDE CHATS** – If you have not yet had the chance to join our Interim Rector for a Fireside Chat, we hope you can make it to the last of these hour-long conversations **tomorrow, Monday, February 22nd, at 7:00 pm**. This is an opportunity to share our stories, current or past, a time to find the threads that bring the community of St. George’s together, and a chance to see and connect to one another. Please [register online](#). If you have difficulty with the registration process, contact Jennifer in the church office at stgeorgeaustin@gmail.com. We look forward to seeing you by the fireside!
- ❖ **PLANNING OUR FUTURE TOGETHER** – All St. George’s parishioners are invited to complete the Church Assessment Tool (CAT), an online instrument to help us gauge the strength, vitality, and trends of St. George’s, as part of our search for a new Rector. In the next week, you will receive an email with a link to the CAT. Beginning **next Sunday, February 28th**, please use the link to tell us about your experiences in and priorities for our church. If you need a paper copy, please contact Jennifer in the office at stgeorgeaustin@gmail.com. We can also arrange assistance in submitting your answers if you are unable. All answers are strictly anonymous; please feel free to candidly share your perceptions, opinions and experiences. Individual input is key, so we are asking that each adult (including young adults) separately complete the survey. Please look for our email, and if you have questions, please contact the office.

- ❖ **ALTAR FLOWER/CANDLE DONATIONS** – Although altar flowers are not used during the season of Lent, we will once again be using altar candles now that we’re streaming services from the church. If you would like to donate funds for the altar candles in February or March (or the months thereafter), please visit the [Online Flower/Candle Donation Calendar](#) and enter your name and, if you wish, your dedication, next to the week or month of your choice. The calendar is also open for flower donations for the Sundays after Easter. **A donation of \$35** is requested for either flowers or candles (via the [St. George’s Donation page](#) or by writing a check to St. George’s, with “Altar Flowers/Candles” in the memo line). Donations and dedications for Easter lilies will be gathered separately from the online flower calendar and will be announced soon.
- ❖ **FORWARD DAY BY DAY** – Although we can’t put them out in the church entrances right now, we are still getting the Forward Day by Day booklet of meditations. A couple of parishioners have volunteered to deliver them to anyone who would like one, while supplies last. If you’re interested in getting a copy, please email Jennifer in the church office at stgeorgeaustin@gmail.com (and specify if you would like a large-print copy).
- ❖ **CHRISTOPHER HOUSE BASKETS** – St. George’s has a long-standing ministry of delivering hospitality baskets to the families of patients at Christopher House. As with everything else, the logistics of this have changed with the pandemic, but we continue to deliver baskets, and we need more delivery people! To be a part of this ministry, sign up for one or more weeks between now and June on the [Online Christopher House Basket Calendar](#). A \$10 donation is requested per basket, and you can also add a note and other goodies (nothing perishable). You can make the donation online via the [St. George’s Donation Page](#) under Outreach, or by mailing a check to the church office, made out to “St. George’s Episcopal Church,” with “Christopher House Baskets” in the memo line. Then, contact Alice Nelson at mzlsnlsn@gmail.com to make arrangements to get a basket before your delivery week. Delivery includes no patient contact, and only brief outdoor and masked contact with a staff member.
- ❖ **CONTACTING THE INTERIM RECTOR** – Ann is working on getting to know the parishioners of St. George’s and would love to hear from you! You can reach her at stgeorgesAustinrector@gmail.com or on her cell phone at **769-257-2377**. She, like many of us, will mostly be working from home, but she would be happy to make appointments to meet with people (masked and socially distanced) at the church.
- ❖ **GIVING TO ST. GEORGE’S** – We are grateful for your financial support in these challenging times. Your gifts enable us to use modern technology to connect to each other, as well as to continue to pay our ongoing expenses. Please consider giving online at the [St. George’s Donation page](#) (also accessible from the Stewardship page of our website at www.sgchurch.org/stewardship), where you can set up regular weekly or monthly donation using a credit card or a bank account. You can also mail checks to the church office. Thank you for your generosity.
- ❖ **COVID VACCINE PRE-REGISTRATION** – The COVID vaccine is currently being made available to people in category 1A (medical first responders) and 1B (age 65 and over) through Austin Public Health. Whether or not you are in one of those categories, you can pre-register at www.austintexas.gov/aph-vaccine-reg to be notified when the vaccine is available and you are eligible and make an appointment when appropriate.

PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMON LIFE

PRAYER IN TIMES OF TRANSITION

God of love, in this interim time, we pray for our parish family, that we may be genuine in our self-reflection, tireless in our commitment, patient in our discernment, loving in our communion, open in our search, imaginative about our future, and daring in our faith. As we enter into this new era with excitement and even some anxiety, we recall your deep compassion, presence, and abounding love. We thank you for the gifts, talents, and skills with which you have blessed us. We thank you for the experiences that have brought us to this moment. Be with us as we move forward, rejoicing with you and supporting one another. All this we pray, empowered by the love of Jesus Christ. Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE HUMAN FAMILY

BCP 815

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE SICK

BCP 260

Heavenly Father, giver of life and health: Comfort and relieve your sick servants, and give your power of healing to those who minister to their needs, that those for whom our prayers are offered may be strengthened in their weakness and have confidence in your loving care; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday, February 22	7:00 pm	Fireside Chat	<i>Margaret of Cortona, Monastic, 1297</i>
Tuesday, February 23			<i>Polycarp of Smyrna, Bishop and Martyr, 156</i>
Wednesday, February 24	7:00 pm	Lenten Series	<i>Saint Matthias the Apostle</i>
Thursday, February 25			
Friday, February 26			<i>Photini, The Samaritan Woman, c.67</i>
Saturday, February 27			<i>George Herbert, Priest and Poet, 1633</i>
Sunday, February 28	10:30 am	Liturgy of the Word	<i>Anna Julia Haywood Cooper, Educator, 1964</i>

THOSE WHO SERVE

Officiant/Preacher – The Rev. Ann McLemore

Organist/Pianist – Mi-Young Kim

Media Coordinator – Brad Dieringer

Singers – Elaine Hosage, Jan Phillips

Reader/Intercessor – Mikail McIntosh-Doty

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