

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
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The Rev. Ann B. Barker, Rector
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March 29, 2020 – Fifth Sunday in Lent -- Service by Conference Call
Liturgy of the Word, Rite II, 10:00 a.m.

The information for the call in is

- Anytime between 9:50 and 10 am Dial (978) 990-5000
- When you are asked for the access code enter 162714#
- When asked give at least your first name so we know who is on the line.

During this first attempt at a conference call service, we would like everyone to be able to participate and hear one another at the congregation response parts of the service. During much of the service we will **centrally** unmute your connection to the group. In the service information below, there are multiple places which note where we will have **(phones unmuted)** or **(phones muted)**. During the (phones unmuted) sections, please exercise care and minimize background noise so it doesn't disturb everyone else. If there is going to be conversation or background noise at your location during the (phone unmuted) times, please mute **your own phone**. Cell phone users generally have a mute button; land line users often have that capability on their handsets. **Note** - If you are using a speaker phone you will probably not be able to hear others when you are talking.

Order of Worship

Opening Hymn: **"Amazing Grace" (vs. 1-3)**

(There will be one time through with just the music with and your phones muted then we will all join in to sing three verses with the phones unmuted)

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound,
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found,
Was blind but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!

The Lord has promised good to me,
His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;

People **His mercy endures for ever.**

The Celebrant and people say

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. **(phones muted)**

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 forever.

People **Amen. (phones unmuted)**

The Lessons (phones muted)

First Lesson: a reading from Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord." So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath,

prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act," says the Lord.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God. (phones unmuted)**

Reader says Psalm 130 – we will say the Psalm together

- 1 Out of the depths have I called to you, O LORD; LORD, hear my voice; *let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.**
- 2 If you, LORD, were to note what is done amiss, * O LORD, who could stand?**
- 3 For there is forgiveness with you; *therefore you shall be feared.**
- 4 I wait for the LORD; my soul waits for him; in his word is my hope.**
- 5 My soul waits for the LORD, more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning.**
- 6 O Israel, wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is mercy;**
- 7 With him there is plenteous redemption, and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.**

Second Lesson: a reading from Romans 8:6-11 (phones muted)

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law – indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of

sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God. (phones unmuted)**

Gradual Hymn: "Amazing Grace" (vs. 4 & 5) (There will be a short introduction then we will sing together)

Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we'd first begun.

Words: John Newton
Music: *New Britain* from *Virginia Harmony*, 1831

Gospel

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

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

The Holy Gospel: John 11:1-45 (phones muted)

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." After saying this, he told them, "Our friend

Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him." When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will

rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world." When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, "Where have you laid him?"

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ. (phones unmuted)**

The Sermon The Rev. Ann B. Barker *(phones muted)*

Nicene Creed (phones unmuted)

**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.**

They said to him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?" Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said his, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go." Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

**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, Form III

The Leader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for your Holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly
and humbly serve you;
That your name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
**That they may be faithful ministers of your Word
and Sacraments.**

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the
nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief
or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into
joy;
**May we also come to share in your heavenly
kingdom.**

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.
***The people may add their own petitions at this
time.***

The celebrant adds a concluding Collect. (phones muted)

Confession of Sin

The Celebrant says Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Minister and People (phones unmuted)

**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 Priest says (phones muted)

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.

People Amen. (phones unmuted)

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

After the Peace the Celebrant says (phones muted)

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

People and Celebrant (phones unmuted)

**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 Blessing (phones muted)

Recessional Hymn: "A mighty fortress is our God" *(There will be one time through with just the music with and your phones muted -then we will all join in to sing two verses with the phones unmuted)*

1 A mighty fortress is our God,
a bulwark never failing;
our helper he, amid the flood
of mortal ills prevailing:
for still our ancient foe
doth seek to work us woe;
his craft and power are great,
and, armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.

2 Did we in our own strength confide,
our striving would be losing;
were not the right man on our side,
the man of God's own choosing:
Dost ask who that may be?
Christ Jesus, it is he;
Lord Sabaoth his Name,
from age to age the same,
and he must win the battle.

Words: Martin Luther
Music: *Ein Feste Burg*, melody Martin Luther; harmony Johann Sebastian Bach

The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Announcements

Bible study continues on Wednesday, April 1st at 3 pm by phone. The topic is *Loving Justice*. Please let Ann know if you are interested in joining.

Our ***Lenten Project*** this year is providing food and funds for AFAC. AFAC is looking for low-sugar cereals, tuna, cooking oil, dried spaghetti (not canned), and condiments (salsa, ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise, and salt & pepper). Please hold on to your items until we are able to meet in the church again.

Even though we are not meeting in person it is important that you ***keep your contributions up to date.*** We have established a way through the diocese for you to contribute on line if you would rather do that than mail a check. There is a link on our home page, <http://stjohnsarlingtonva.org>, that will take you to the online instructions. If you have any questions, please contact Pete Oliver at treasurer@stjohnsarlingtonva.org or 703-626-2520.