



Fasting

"It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" Matthew 4:4

March 10, 2020

9:30 a.m.

Morning Prayer

✠ OPENING ✠

PRELUDE: Chorale Prelude on *Slane*

Steven Wenté

OPENING VERSICLES



☐ O Lord, open my lips, ☑ and my mouth shall de - clare your praise.




☑ Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men

✠ PSALMODY ✠

VENITE



☐ Give glory to God, our light and our life. ☑ Oh, come, let us wor - ship him.



☑ Oh, come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the rock of our sal -



va - tion. ☐ Let us come be - fore his pres - ence with thanks - giv - ing



and raise a loud shout to him with psalms. ¶ For the Lord is a great God



and a great king above all gods. ¶ In his hand are the caverns of the earth;



the heights of the hills are also his. ¶ The sea is his, for he made it;



and his hands have molded the dry land. ¶ Oh, come, let us bow



down and bend the knee, and kneel before the Lord, our maker. ¶ For he



is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.



¶ Glo-ry to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir-it;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A-men



¶ Give glory to God, our light and our life. ¶ Oh, come, let us worship him.

PSALM 35:1–14

- L** Fight those who fight | me, O Lord;*
attack those who are at- | tacking me.
- C** **Take up | shield and armor***
and rise | up to help me.
- L** Draw the sword and bar the way against those | who pursue me;*
say to my soul, “I am | your salvation.”
- C** **Let those who seek after my life be | shamed and humbled;***
let those who plot my ruin fall back and | be dismayed.
- L** Let them be like chaff be- | fore the wind,*
and let the angel of the Lord drive | them away.
- C** **Let their way be | dark and slippery,***
and let the angel of the | Lord pursue them.
- L** For they have secretly spread a net for me with- | out a cause;*
without a cause they have dug a pit to take | me alive.
- C** **Let ruin come upon them | unawares;***
let them be caught in the net they hid;
let them fall into the | pit they dug.
- L** Then I will be joyful | in the Lord;*
I will glory | in his victory.
- C** **My very bones will say, “Lord, | who is like you?***
You deliver the poor from those who are too strong for them,
the poor and needy from | those who rob them.”
- L** Malicious witnesses rise | up against me;*
they charge me with matters I know noth- | ing about.
- C** **They pay me evil in ex- | change for good;***
my soul is full | of despair.
- L** But when they were sick I | dressed in sackcloth*
and humbled my- | self by fasting.
- C** **I prayed with my whole heart, as one would for a friend | or a brother;***
I behaved like one who mourns for his mother,
bowed | down and grieving.

Silence for meditation is observed, then:

PSALM PRAYER

☐ Lord God, you rose to the aid of your beloved Son
against those who unjustly sought his life.
Look on your Church as we journey to you,
and rescue the poor from their oppressors,
that they may tell of your righteousness and your praise;
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

☑ **Amen.**

We stand and sing.

HYMN: When We Are Tested

ACS #922



1 When we are test - ed and wres - tle a - lone,
2 When in the des - ert we cry for re - lief,
3 When we are tempt - ed to bar - ter our souls,
4 When we have strug - gled and searched through the night,



fam - ished for bread when the world of - fers stone,
plead - ing for paths marked by cer - tain be - lief,
trad - ing the truth for the pow'r to con - trol,
sort - ing and sift - ing the wrong from the right,



nour - ish us, God, by your word and your way,
lift us to love you be - yond sign and test,
teach us to wor - ship and praise on - ly you,
Sav - ior, sur - round us with cir - cles of care,



food that sus - tains us by night and by day.
trust - ing your pres - ence, our on - ly true rest.
seek - ing your will in the work that we do.
an - gels of heal - ing, of hope, and of prayer.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947
Music: SLANE, Irish traditional
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✠ WORD ✠

READING: Ezra 8:15–23

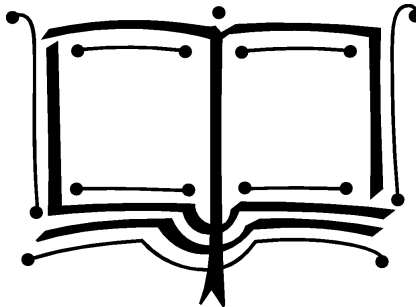
¹⁵I gathered them by the river that runs to Ahava, and there we camped three days. As I reviewed the people and the priests, I found there none of the descendants of Levi. ¹⁶Then I sent for Eliezer, Ariel, Shemaiah, Elnathan, Jarib, Elnathan, Nathan, Zechariah, and Meshullam, who were leaders, and for Joiarib and Elnathan, who were wise, ¹⁷and sent them to Iddo, the leader at the place called Casiphia, telling them what to say to Iddo and his colleagues the temple servants at Casiphia, namely, to send us ministers for the house of our God. ¹⁸Since the gracious hand of our God was upon us, they brought us a man of discretion, of the descendants of Mahli son of Levi son of Israel, namely Sherebiah, with his sons and kin, eighteen; ¹⁹also Hashabiah and with him Jeshaiiah of the descendants of Merari, with his kin and their sons, twenty; ²⁰besides two hundred twenty of the temple servants, whom David and his officials had set apart to attend the Levites. These were all mentioned by name.

²¹Then I proclaimed a fast there, at the river Ahava, that we might deny ourselves before our God, to seek from him a safe journey for ourselves, our children, and all our possessions. ²²For I was ashamed to ask the king for a band of soldiers and cavalry to protect us against the enemy on our way, since we had told the king that the hand of our God is gracious to all who seek him, but his power and his wrath are against all who forsake him. ²³So we fasted and petitioned our God for this, and he listened to our entreaty.

- 📖 The Word of the Lord.
- 🙏 Thanks be to God.

HOMILY

Pastor Dave Lyle



Silence is observed, then:

L In many and various ways God spoke to his people of old by the prophets.

C But now in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son.

GOSPEL CANTICLE



C Bless - ed be the Lord, the God of Is - ra - el; he has



come to his peo - ple and set them free. He has raised up for us a



might - y Sav - ior, born of the house of his ser - vant Da - vid.



Through his ho - ly proph - ets he prom - ised of old that he would



save us from our en - e - mies, from the hands of all who hate us.



He prom - ised to show mer - cy to our fa - thers and to re -



mem - ber his ho - ly cov - e - nant. This was the oath he swore to our



fa - ther A - bra - ham: to set us free from the hands of our

en - e - mies, free to wor-ship him with - out fear,

ho - ly and righ-teous in his sight all the days of our life.

□ You, my child, shall be called the proph - et of the Most High,

for you will go be - fore the Lord to pre - pare his way,

to give his peo - ple knowl-edge of sal - va - tion by the for - give-ness

of their sins. In the ten - der com - pas - sion of our God,

the dawn from on high shall break up - on us,

to shine on those who dwell in dark-ness and the shad - ow of death,

and to guide our feet in - to the way of peace.



☩ Glo-ry to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir - it;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev - er. A - men

✠ PRAYERS ✠

PRAYERS

CONCLUDING PRAYER

℣ O Lord, almighty and everlasting God,
you have brought us in safety to this new day;
preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin,
nor be overcome in adversity; and in all we do,
direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

☩ Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

℣ Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

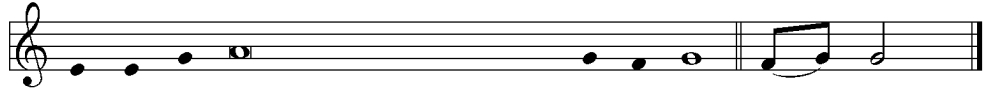
☩ **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

BENEDICAMUS DOMINO & BENEDICTION



☐ Let us bless the Lord. ☑ Thanks be to God.



☐ The Lord al-mighty bless us, and direct our days and our deeds in his peace. ☑ A - men

HYMN: O Lord, throughout These Forty Days

(green) LBW #99

1 O Lord, through-out these for-ty days you prayed and kept the fast;
 2 You strove with Sa - tan, and you won; your faith - ful - ness en - dured;
 3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet you prayed and fixed your mind a - bove;
 4 Be with us through this sea-son, Lord, and all our earth-ly days,

in - spire re - pen - tance for our sin, and free us from our past.
 lend us your nerve, your skill and trust in God's e - ter - nal word.
 so teach us to de - ny our-selves that we may know God's love.
 that when the fi - nal Eas - ter dawns, we join in heav-en's praise.

Text: based on Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838–1898; para. Gilbert E. Doan, b. 1930
 Music: CAITHNESS, *Psalter*, Edinburgh, 1635

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The ministers depart in silence.

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. David R. Lyle, leader
The Rev. Michael D. Costello, cantor
Eunice Eifert, videographer
Al Swanson, sound board operator

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Habits of Grace, Lent 2021



Confession

If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:9

Tree of Knowledge



Repentance

Peter remembered what Jesus had said: "Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly. Matthew 26:75

Rooster



Prayer

I call upon you, O Lord; come quickly to me; give ear to my voice when I call to you. Psalm 141:1-5

Cross and crown



Fasting

"It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" Matthew 4:4

Four gospels



Almsgiving

They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share. 1 Timothy 6:18

Six-pointed star, symbol of the gifts of God's creation



Acts of mercy

Little children let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. 1 John 3:18

Ship, symbol of the Church

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We are glad that you are worshipping with us!

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- I would like one of the pastors to contact me
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