



## St. John's Episcopal Church March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 ~ 10AM

### Entrance Hymn     *The Word of Life (insert)*

In a byre near Bethlehem, passed by many a wandering stranger,  
The most precious Word of Life was heard gurgling in a manger,

*Refrain:*

*For the good of us all.*

*And he's here when we call him,  
bringing health, love, and laughter  
to life now an ever after,  
for the good of us all.*

By the by the Galilean lake where the people flocked for teaching,  
The most precious Word of Life fed their mouths as well as preaching

*Refrain*

Quiet was Gethsemane, camouflaging priest and soldier;  
The most precious Word of Life took the world's weight on his shoulder,

*Refrain*

On the hill of Calvary - place to end all hope of living -  
The most precious Word of Life breathed his last and died, forgiving,

*Refrain*

In a garden, just at dawn, near the grave of human violence,  
The most precious Word of Life cleared his throat and ended silence,

*Refrain*

### A Penitential Order

Officiant      Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.  
People          **His mercy endures for ever.**  
Officiant      Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
People          **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel, The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this; Love your neighbor as yourself. There are no two commandments greater than these." *Mark 12:29-31*

Despite all that God has taught us, we still act foolishly; we are still weak. In the cross of Christ, we find forgiveness and grace. We confess our sins, trusting in God's wisdom and strength rather than our own.

### Confession and Absolution

People          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.**

Officiant      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. **Amen.**

### Kyrie

#S 96 ~ Lord, Have Mercy

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

### The Collect of the Day

Officiant      The Lord be with you.  
People          **And also with you.**  
Officiant      Let us pray.

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

### The Psalm

#### Psalm 19:8-11

**Lord, you have the words of everlasting life**

The law of the Lord is perfect, Refreshing the soul;  
The decree of the Lord is trustworthy, Giving wisdom to the simple

**Lord, you have the words of everlasting life**

The precepts of the Lord are right, Rejoicing the heart;  
The command of the Lord is clear, Enlightening the eye  
**Lord, you have the words of everlasting life**

The fear of the Lord is pure, Enduring forever  
The ordinances of the Lord are true, All of them just.  
**Lord, you have the words of everlasting life**

They are more precious than gold, Than a heap of purest gold;  
Sweeter also than syrup or honey from the comb.  
**Lord, you have the words of everlasting life**

### The Old Testament

#### Exodus 20:1-17

Then God spoke all these words:

I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Gospel Acclamation: **Praise you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory!**

*God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might have eternal life.*

**Praise you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory!**

### The Gospel

#### **John 2:13-22**

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

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

Holy God, you have called us to live before you and with one another in all faithfulness. Unable to live as you intend, we inflict harm and hurt others and on ourselves as well. In all these ways we know we grieve your heart also. Hear then our prayers of intercession. Restore us to communion with you and one another that we might live in the freedom you have bestowed.

We pray for people who are victims of crime, from petty theft to murder. We pray that those harmed will find healing and will dwell in safety. Hold especially close to your heart, O God, those who have lost a loved one to violence; and help us to offer tenderness and care in their struggles and grief. We pray also for those who have committed crimes, that they may seek and find forgiveness, and begin a new life of responsibility and integrity before you and in the community.  
Lord in your mercy, **Hear our Prayer.**

We pray for healing and reconciliation where trust has been broken, hostility has flared, or misunderstanding has grown. Restore us not only to one another, but reconcile us to ourselves and to you, loving God. If restoration proves beyond hope, then grant new beginnings and possibilities for all. In every relationship, we seek your grace as we honor

others by caring for them, being truthful, and working for their welfare. Root out in us any jealousy toward what others possess, and let generosity grow in among us instead. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our Prayer.**

Gracious God, for those who are ill in mind, body, or spirit, especially Elin Babin, David Bell, Ron, Paul Brophy, Maureen Burke, Norma Cahill, Marie Conners, Barbara Cox, Don DiGiacomo, Beth (Manoogian) DuPlessie, Jim & Tim Eldridge, Joanne Felci, Paul Felci, Ruth Garrett, Peggy Gibbs, Allison Gray, Patti Greene-Botticeli, Will Hare, Carolyn Hashem, Tom Hashem, Bruce Higgins, Louis Hoelzl, Doris Kelly, Jeanne Kelly-Smith, Phyllis Laidlaw, Dennis Lancaster, Janet Lancaster, Kathy (Robinson) Leblanc, Rachel Lesch, Robert Long, Melissa McSheffery, Matt, Lori, Mary & Dante, Harriet Miraglia, Erica Moore, Gisela Moore, Jeanine Morris, Fran Muisse, Sara Murray, Margaret Parziale, Kathy Pothier, Sandy St. Clair, David St. Clair, Nancy Scarry, Terrie Sevier, Ray Shaw, Malcolm Silva, Gail Smith, Dom Tello, Nancy White, Marjorie Beach, Dave LeBaron, Walter, Baby Viviana, and Rachel.

Lord in your mercy, **Hear our Prayer.**

For those isolated from community; be they burdened by guilt or grief, depression or despair. Do not let us turn inward as a church, lest we shut out our neglect those who long for a community of welcome and companionship. Send us out in love, with open eyes, ears, and hearts. Make us true neighbors to one another and true children of your own calling.

Lord in your mercy, **Hear our Prayer.**

For the departed we pray in particular for Doris & James Smith, Margaret Hurl, Kevin Noonan, John Kelly, Sr. & Jr., and William H. Cox, Jr.; receive them to dwell in your peaceful, heavenly kingdom.

Lord in your mercy, **Hear our Prayer.**

We pray in the name of Christ who has come to set us free. Amen.

### **The Peace**

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| <i>Officiant</i> | The peace of the Lord be always with you. |
| <i>People</i>    | <b>And also with you.</b>                 |

### **Communion Anthem**

### **The Holy Communion**

### **Prayer over the Gifts**

Spring of life and Source of goodness, receive all we offer you this day, and bring us to the living water, Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord.

# The Great Thanksgiving

|           |                                       |
|-----------|---------------------------------------|
| Officiant | The Lord be with you.                 |
| People    | <b>And also with you.</b>             |
| Officiant | Lift up your hearts.                  |
| People    | <b>We lift them up unto the Lord.</b> |
| Officiant | Let us give thanks unto our Lord God. |
| People    | <b>It is meet and right to do so.</b> |

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 on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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:

Sanctus

S 129

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.

*The people stand or kneel.*

*Officiant* Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had 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.**

*Officiant* 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.*

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

### **The Lord's Prayer**

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 Officiant breaks the consecrated Bread.*

*A period of silence is kept.*

Behold the gifts prepared by the Teacher who ate with sinners: Draw near to the banquet of mercy, partake of the feast of forgiveness.

Behold the living bread come down from heaven: Those who eat of it will never die. This is the lord's table, and all are welcomed here.

### **Anthem during Communion**



### Prayer after Communion

God of our pilgrimage, we have found the living water. Refresh and sustain us as we go forth on our journey, in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

Glory to God, whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.

## The Blessing

## Recessional Hymn

## #143 ~ The Glory of these Forty Days

The glory of these forty days  
we celebrate with songs of praise;  
for Christ, through whom all things were made,  
himself has fasted and has prayed.

Alone and fasting Moses saw  
the loving God who gave the law;  
and to Elijah, fasting, came  
the steeds and chariots of flame.

So Daniel trained his mystic sight,  
delivered from the lions' might;  
and John, the Bride-groom's friend, became  
the herald of Messiah's name.

Then grant us, Lord, like them to be full  
 oft in fast and prayer with thee;  
 our spirits strengthen with thy grace,  
 and give us joy to see thy face.

O Father, Son, and Spirit blest,  
to thee be every prayer addressed,  
who art in three-fold Name adored,  
from age to age, the only Lord.

## The Dismissal

*Officiant* Eager to proclaim and share God's reconciling love, go in peace to love and Serve the Lord.

People                      Thanks be to God.

## Announcement(s)

### Agape Meal Sign-up

Reminder: For all who plan to attend our Agape meal on **Maundy Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup>**, the sign-up sheet is posted in Ashworth Hall.

### Looking ahead – Holy Week Schedule

**Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup>** – 10am

**Maundy Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup>** – Agape meal at 6pm and worship at 7pm

**Good Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup>** – Service at Noon (*no evening worship*)

**Easter Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>**

Sunrise service in our Memorial Garden (weather permitting) – 6am

Holy Eucharist at 10am

### Participants in this Service:

The Rev. John Beach, Priest-in-Charge

Stephen Sikorski, Music Director

Denise Beneteau, Worship Leader ~ Kristina Palazzo, L.E.M.

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