

FOURTH SUNDAY IN
LENT

March 22, 2020

THE EPISCOPAL
CHURCH OF THE ADVENT
MEDFIELD, MA

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT
March 22, 2020
9.30am
THE HOLY EUCHARIST RITE I

Prelude "Siciliana" — Handel/Wolff

Hymn No. 708 *Savior, like a shepherd lead us*
(Eric will play the first verse)

The Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.

People : His mercy endureth for ever.

Summary of the Law

Celebrant: Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith:

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul,
and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the
second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two
commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

Celebrant: Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Silence may be kept.

All: Most merciful God, we confess that we sinned against thee
in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by
what we have left undone.

**We have not loved thee with our whole heart; we have not
loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and
forgive us; that we may delight in thy will, and walk in thy ways
to the glory of thy name. Amen.**

Celebrant: The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission
of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace
and consolation of his Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

The Kyrie

Celebrant: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Celebrant: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People : **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

The Collect

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People: **Amen.**

The First Reading

1 Samuel 16:1-13

Eucharistic Minister: A Reading from First Samuel.

The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the LORD." But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Eucharistic Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23

1 The LORD is my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.

3 He revives my soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil; *
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running over.

6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

The Second Reading

Ephesians 5:8-14

Eucharistic Minister: A Reading from the Book of Ephesians.

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!
Rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

Eucharistic Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Sequence Hymn No. 671 *Amazing grace! how sweet the sound*

The Gospel

John 9:1-41

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John.

People: **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It

was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Marc Eames

The Nicene Creed

People: 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.**

The Prayers of the People
People pray responsively, referencing italic.

Father, we pray for thy holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

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

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
*That they may be faithful ministers of thy 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 thy 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; We pray especially for those who have asked for our prayers: Obi Aduba, Karen Amour, Debi Arbucias, Stan Baker, Tricia Boles, Noma Darrow, Irene Rhoads, Lawrie Rhoads, Alex Simpson, Mary Ann Simpson, Chris Tahan, and Hillary.
That they may be delivered from their distress.

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

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

The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People: **And with thy spirit.**

The Announcements

The Offertory

The Offertory Anthem “*Fur Elise*” — Beethoven

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving-Eucharistic Prayer I

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.
People: **It is meet and right so to do.**

Celebrant: It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

The Celebrant will pray the proper preface.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

The Sanctus

Celebrant and People

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.**

Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

**Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Celebrant: All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself one offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls, and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.

People: Amen.

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

The Lord's Prayer

**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 Fraction

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

The Prayer of Humble Access

All: **We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.**

The Agnus Dei

Celebrant and People

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

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

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

Communion

The Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant: Let us pray.

People: Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship and do all such good works as thou has prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to who, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

The Blessing

The Dismissal

The Recessional Hymn No. 490 *I want to walk as a child of the light*

Postlude

“Sarabande”

— Handel/Wolff

Celebrant:
Minister of Music:
Eucharistic Minister:

The Rev. Marc Eames
Eric Bouwman-Wozencraft
Jill Moon



The Medfield Food Cupboard

The Food Cupboard needs for March

Beef Stew, Chili, Cereal, Individual Snacks (Granola Bars, Cheese & Cracker Packs, etc.), Instant Oatmeal (Boxes, Individual Packets), Juice (Boxes, Large Containers), Kid-friendly cereal.

Your donations are always greatly appreciated. *Thank you!*

Please don't forget to check expiration dates.

Please note: Our volunteers happily deliver the generous food items collected, *but cannot deliver decorative items and other non-food items.* Thank you for your understanding.

The Tabernacle Light

The tabernacle light, presence light, or sanctuary lamp, holds a candle and is attached to the wall or ceiling near the place where sacrament is reserved. Our tabernacle light was a gift to the parish by Ellen Cole in honor of her late husband David. It was memorialized in a special Eucharist in 2014.

The candle that it holds is kept continually burning anytime sacrament is reserved in the tabernacle as a sign of Christ's presence. A single candle burns all week long and is replaced every Sunday morning. It is a long tradition of the church to have such candles burn as a memorial for a loved one similar to the way that flowers are offered. If you desire to dedicate that week's light to a loved one or in thanksgiving for a special occasion, please contact Parish Administrator Millie Downing by Wednesday of that week. We also have a sign up sheet in the parish hall on the bulletin board just to the right of the kitchen. We have a suggested donation of 20 dollars.





The Power and Joy of Flowers

You may have noticed in the Sunday bulletin that the altar flowers are often given in honor of someone. Have you wondered how you too can dedicate flowers during the year – *not just at Christmas or Easter?*

The altar flowers can be given as a memorial to a loved one, in thanksgiving, or in celebration of a special event in your life.

There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board to the right of the kitchen window listing every Sunday throughout the year. Simply print your name and the name of the person(s) being remembered (or the occasion), on the date you wish to have the flowers dedicated. You may also contact the church office with your request via email at: millie@adventmedfield.org with this information.

A suggested contribution of \$40 is requested the week prior to the date selected to cover the cost of the flowers. (The Flower Guild budget is very limited; this is a wonderful way to give thanks and to beautify the church to the glory of God.)

You may also request particular colors or flowers which have special significance and the Flower Guild will do its best to accommodate your request.

The altar flowers are arranged on Saturday mornings in preparation of the Sunday display. The only time when no flowers are used is during Lent, although if you have an occasion of special significance you wish to honor with flowers, an arrangement can be made for the Narthex. On Monday mornings the altar flowers are re-arranged into smaller individual vases and delivered to shut-ins or others in the parish family as an expression of thanks, to welcome a new family or the newly baptized.

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The Rev. Marc G. Eames, Rector
Eric Bouwman-Wozencraft, Minister of Music
Rosemarie Nichols, Nursery Care Provider
Millie Downing, Parish Administrator

Chris Remington, Warden
Ellison Patten, Warden
Theresa Melzar, Co-Treasurer
Chad Colombo, Co-Treasurer
Helen Merlin, Clerk

Vestry
Peter O'Neil
Roger Travis

The Church of the Advent is part of the Neponset River Deanery of the Diocese of Massachusetts. The rector is the Dean of our section of the diocese. The Rev. Jon Brockman of Grace Church in Norwood is the clergy co-convener. Please learn more about the work of the Deanery by checking out our website at <https://neponsetriver.wordpress.com>.

We Welcome Visitors and Newcomers

If you are interested in finding out more about The Church of the Advent or being added to the mailing list, please fill out the *Welcome Card* in the pews and drop it in the collection plate, give it to an usher, or you may call the church office at 508.359.6303. Thank you.

Church of the Advent

