

**First Sunday in Lent**  
**Great Litany (BCP), Rite II Eucharistic Prayer A**  
**Saturday, February 21, 2026 5:15 p.m.**

**The Great Litany (Enriching Our Worship p.46-49)**

Holy God, Creator of heaven and earth,

***Have mercy upon us.***

Holy and Mighty, Redeemer of the world,

***Have mercy upon us.***

Holy Immortal One, Sanctifier of the faithful,

***Have mercy upon us.***

Holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, one God,

***Have mercy upon us.***

From all evil and mischief; from pride, vanity and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred and malice; and from evil intent,

***Savior deliver us.***

From sloth, worldliness and love of money; from hardness of heart and contempt for your word and your laws,

***Savior deliver us.***

From sins of body and mind; from deceits of the world, flesh and the devil,

***Savior deliver us.***

From famine and disaster; from violence, murder, and dying unprepared,

***Savior, deliver us.***

In all times of sorrow; in all times of joy; in the hour of our death and at the day of judgment,

***Savior deliver us.***

By the majesty of your holy incarnation; by your birth, childhood and obedience; by your baptism, fasting and temptation,

***Savior deliver us.***

By your ministry in word and work; by your mighty acts of power; by the preaching of your reign,

***Savior deliver us.***

By your agony and trial; by your cross and passion; by your precious death and burial,

***Savior deliver us.***

By your mighty resurrection; by your glorious ascension; and by your sending of the Holy Spirit,

***Savior deliver us.***

Hear our prayers, O Christ our God.

***Hear us, O Christ.***

Govern and direct your holy Church; fill it with love and truth; and grant it that unity which is your will.

***Hear us, O Christ.***

Give us boldness to preach the gospel in all the world, and to make disciples of all the nations.

***Hear us, O Christ.***

Enlighten your bishops, priests and deacons with knowledge and understanding, that by their teaching and their lives they may proclaim your word.

***Hear us, O Christ.***

Give your people grace to witness to your word and bring forth the fruit of your Spirit.

***Hear us, O Christ.***

Bring into the way of truth all who have erred and are deceived.

***Hear us, O Christ.***

Strengthen those who stand; comfort and help the fainthearted; raise up the fallen; and finally beat down Satan under our feet.

***Hear us, O Christ.***

Guide the leaders of the nations into the ways of peace and justice.

***Hear us, O Christ.***

Give your strength and wisdom to Donald, the President of the United States, Josh, the Governor of this Commonwealth, and the Mayors of this valley that in all things they may do your will, for your glory and the common good.

***Hear us, O Christ.***

Give to the Congress of the United States, the members of the President's Cabinet, those who serve in our state legislature, and all others in authority the grace to walk in the ways of truth.

***Hear us, O Christ.***

Bless the justices of the Supreme Court and all those who administer the law, that they may act with integrity and do justice for all your people.

***Hear us, O Christ.***

Give us the will to use the resources of the earth to your glory and for the good of all.

***Hear us, O Christ.***

Bless and keep all your people,

***Hear us, O Christ.***

Comfort and liberate the lonely, the bereaved and the oppressed.

***Hear us, O Christ.***

Keep in safety those who travel and all who are in peril.

***Hera us, O Christ.***

Heal the sick in body, mind or spirit, especially Brenda, Hildegard, Brandon, Zach, Dawn, Bobby, Janice, Denise, Jason, Kelly, Kaitlyn, Bruce, Kristina, Debbie, Berry, Seth Jeff, and the Orr family. and provide for the homeless, the hungry and the destitute.

***Hear us, O Christ.***

Guard and protect all children who are in danger.

***Hear us, O Christ.***

Show your compassion on prisoners, hostages and refugees, and all who are in trouble.

***Hear us, O Christ.***

Forgive our enemies, persecutors and slanderers, and turn their hearts.

***Hear us, O Christ.***

Hear us as we remember those who have died, especially Deborah, Clifford, Garrett, Frank, and Edward.

and grant us with them a share in your eternal glory.

**Hear us, O Christ.**

Give us true repentance; forgive us our sins of negligence and ignorance and our deliberate sins; and grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit to amend our lives according to your word.

### **Trisagion**

Holy God,

Holy and Mighty,

Holy Immortal One,

**Have mercy on us.**

### **The Collect of the Day (BCP p. 218)**

*Celebrant*        The Lord be with you.

*People*         **And also with you.**

*Celebrant*        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. *Amen.*

## **The Lessons**

### **First Reading:**

A Reading from the Book of Genesis (2:15-17, 3:1-7).

<sup>15</sup>The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. <sup>16</sup>And the LORD God commanded the man, “You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; <sup>17</sup>but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.”

<sup>3:1</sup>Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God say, ‘You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?’” <sup>2</sup>The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; <sup>3</sup>but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.’” <sup>4</sup>But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not die; <sup>5</sup>for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” <sup>6</sup>So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. <sup>7</sup>Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 32

- 1 Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, \*  
and whose sin is put away!
- 2 **Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt, \*  
and in whose spirit there is no guile!**
- 3 While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, \*  
because of my groaning all day long.
- 4 **For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; \*  
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**
- 5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you, \*  
and did not conceal my guilt.
- 6 **I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD.” \*  
Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.**
- 7 Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; \*  
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.
- 8 **You are my hiding-place;  
you preserve me from trouble; \*  
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.**
- 9 “I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; \*  
I will guide you with my eye.
- 10 **Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; \*  
who must be fitted with bit and bridle,  
or else they will not stay near you.”**
- 11 Great are the tribulations of the wicked; \*  
but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.
- 12 **Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD; \*  
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.**

## Second Reading:

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Romans (5:12-19).

<sup>12</sup>Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned—<sup>13</sup>sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. <sup>14</sup>Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

<sup>15</sup>But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man,

Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. <sup>16</sup>And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. <sup>17</sup>If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

<sup>18</sup>Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. <sup>19</sup>For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### **Gospel:**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (4:1-11).

*(Glory to you, Lord Christ).*

<sup>1</sup>[After Jesus was baptized, he] was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. <sup>2</sup>He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. <sup>3</sup>The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." <sup>4</sup>But he answered, "It is written,

'One does not live by bread alone,  
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.' "

<sup>5</sup>Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, <sup>6</sup>saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you,'  
and 'On their hands they will bear you up,  
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.' "

<sup>7</sup>Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.' "

<sup>8</sup>Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; <sup>9</sup>and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." <sup>10</sup>Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

'Worship the Lord your God,  
and serve only him.' "

<sup>11</sup>Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

### **The Sermon**

*Rev Canon Melinda M. Artman*

### **The Nicene Creed (BCP p. 358)**

**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.

### **Confession of Sin (BCP p. 360)**

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**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.**

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.*

**The Peace (BCP p. 360)**

*Celebrant*        The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People*            **And also with you.**

**The Holy Communion**

**The Great Thanksgiving**

**Sursum Corda (BCP p. 361)**

*Celebrant*        The Lord be with you.

*People*            **And also with you.**

*Celebrant*        Lift up your hearts.

*People*            **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant*        Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People*            **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

**Proper Preface (BCP p. 361)**

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 was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

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 (BCP p. 362)**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and God of might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Words of Institution (BCP p. 362)**

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.**

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.*

### **The Lord's Prayer (BCP p. 364)**

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

**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.**

## **The Breaking of the Bread**

### **Fraction Anthem (BCP p. 364)**

**Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer of the world: give us your peace.**

### **Invitation (BCP p. 364)**

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

### **Distribution (BCP p. 365)**

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [*Amen.*]

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. [*Amen.*]

### **Post-Communion Prayer (BCP p. 365)**

Let us pray.

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,  
you have graciously accepted us as living members  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and you have fed us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.  
Send us now into the world in peace,  
and grant us strength and courage  
to love and serve you  
with gladness and singleness of heart;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **Solemn Prayer** (*Book of Occasional Services*).

*In Lent, in place of a seasonal blessing, a solemn Prayer over the people is used, as follows.  
The celebrant says:*

Bow down before the Lord.

*The people kneel and the celebrant continues:*

Grant, most merciful God, to your faithful people pardon and peace, that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve you with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

**Dismissal (BCP p. 366)**

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

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