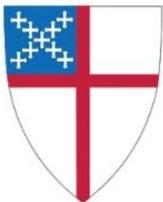


First Sunday in Lent
Morning Prayer, Rite II
February 21, 2021



The Episcopal Parish of Alton

St. Paul's Church 10 E 3rd St.  Trinity Chapel 1901 State. St.

Alton, IL 62002 ~ 618-465-9149 ~ www.episcopalalton.org

Thank you for joining us for our Online Services. During these times of social distancing in order to limit the spread of Covid-19, we wish you and your family peace.

Morning Prayer, Rite II

THE EPISCOPAL PARISH OF ALTON

Sunday, February 21, 2021

Prelude: Hymn # 423

(solo: R. Anderson)

Immortal, invisible, God only wise

Hymnal 1982

All stand

Page 76, BCP

Opening Sentence: Rend your hearts and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and repents of evil. *Joel 2:13*

Confession of Sin

Page 79-80

The Officiant says to the people

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Officiant and People together

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 Officiant alone stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.
Amen.

The Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant: Lord, open our lips.

People: *And our mouth will declare your praise.*

Officiant and People

Glory to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Officiant: The Lord is full of compassion and mercy: Come let us adore him.

Venite *Psalms 95:1-7*

Come, let us sing to the Lord; *

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *

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, *

and the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it, *

and his hands have molded the dry land.

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. *

Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

Psalms 63:1-8, 98 *Said responsively by half verse*

Pages 671, 727

O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; *

my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,

as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.

Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, *

that I might behold your power and your glory.

For your loving-kindness is better than life itself; *

my lips shall give you praise.

So will I bless you as long as I live * ***and lift up my hands in your Name.***

My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness, *
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,

When I remember you upon my bed, *
and meditate on you in the night watches.

For you have been my helper, *
and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.

My soul clings to you; *
your right hand holds me fast.

Sing to the LORD a new song, *
for he has done marvelous things.

With his right hand and his holy arm *
has he won for himself the victory.

The LORD has made known his victory; *
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, *
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; *
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

Sing to the LORD with the harp, *
with the harp and the voice of song.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
shout with joy before the King, the LORD.

Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *
the lands and those who dwell therein.

Let the rivers clap their hands, *
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, when he comes to judge the earth.

In righteousness shall he judge the world *
and the peoples with equity.

The Lessons

Officiant Please sit for the scripture readings

A Reading from the book of Deuteronomy

8:1-10

This entire commandment that I command you today you must diligently observe, so that you may live and increase, and go in and occupy the land that the Lord promised on oath to your ancestors. Remember the long way that the Lord your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, in order to humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commandments. He humbled you by letting you hunger, then by feeding you with manna, with which neither you nor your ancestors were acquainted, in order to make you understand that one does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord. The clothes on your back did not wear out and your feet did not swell these forty years. Know then in your heart that as a parent disciplines a child so the Lord your God disciplines you. Therefore keep the commandments of the Lord your God, by walking in his ways and by fearing him. For the Lord your God is bringing you into a good land, a land with flowing streams, with springs and underground waters welling up in valleys and hills, a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, a land where you may eat bread without scarcity, where you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron and from whose hills you may mine copper. You shall eat your fill and bless the Lord your God for the good land that he has given you.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

14 A Song of Penience

O Lord and Ruler of the hosts of heaven, *

God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and of all their righteous offspring:

You made the heavens and the earth, *

with all their vast array.

All things quake with fear at your presence; *

they tremble because of your power.

But your merciful promise is beyond all measure; *

it surpasses all that our minds can fathom.

O Lord, you are full of compassion, *

long-suffering, and abounding in mercy.

You hold back your hand; *

you do not punish as we deserve.

In your great goodness, Lord, you have promised forgiveness to sinners, *

that they may repent of their sin and be saved.

And now, O Lord, I bend the knee of my heart, *

and make my appeal, sure of your gracious goodness.

I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned, *

and I know my wickedness only too well.

Therefore I make this prayer to you: *

Forgive me, Lord, forgive me.

Do not let me perish in my sin, *

nor condemn me to the depths of the earth.

For you, O Lord, are the God of those who repent, *

and in me you will show forth your goodness.

Unworthy as I am, you will save me, in accordance with your great mercy, *

and I will praise you without ceasing all the days of my life.

For all the powers of heaven sing your praises, *

and yours is the glory to ages of ages. Amen.

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: **

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen

A Reading from the Gospel According to Mark

2:18-22

Now John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting; and people came and said to him, 'Why do John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but your disciples do not fast?' Jesus said to them, 'The wedding-guests cannot fast while the bridegroom is with them, can they? As long as they have the bridegroom with them, they cannot fast. The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast on that day.'

'No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old cloak; otherwise, the patch pulls away from it, the new from the old, and a worse tear is made. And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; otherwise, the wine will burst the skins, and the wine is lost, and so are the skins; but one puts new wine into fresh wineskins.'

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

The Apostles' Creed

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Officiant Let us stand and say together the Apostles' Creed:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

The Prayers

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Officiant The Lord be with you.

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

Officiant Let us 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, for ever and ever. Amen.***

Suffrage B

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- V. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;
- R. Govern and uphold them, now and always.
- V. Day by day we bless you;
- R. We praise your name for ever.
- V. Lord, keep us from all sin today;
- R. Have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy.
- V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;
- R. For we put our trust in you.
- V. In you, Lord, is our hope;
- R. And we shall never hope in vain.

Officiant 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.*

Officiant Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, 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 by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of our purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Officiant Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Intercessions

Please remember these people in your prayers:

Cody, Richie, Daniel, Ariana, Victoria, Cindy, Connie, Andrew, Cheryl, Kay, Daniel, Michael, Tina, Marie, Pam, Brad, Tiffany, John, Patrick, Myrnelle, Dana, Richard, Barb, Frank, Rod, Jane, Sarah, Boyd, John, Charles, and all those affected by the viral pandemic.

Prayers for the family of Jerry Criteser on the anniversary of his death. May he always be remembered.

Give to the departed, eternal rest, especially Virginia. May her family be consoled and wrapped in prayer.

We give thanks for the birth of Ronan Tobias Wagner, born to Victoria and Ryan Wagner on 2/17/21.

Silence

Officiant We Say the General Thanksgiving together

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Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

Officiant Let us bless the Lord!

People Thanks be to God!

Blessing

Officiant Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. *Amen. Ephesians 3:20,21*

Postlude

(solo: R. Anderson)

Postlude on 'St. Thomas'

arr. J. Wilson

Serving Today

Officiant & Preacher:	The Rev. Timothy McNutt
Organist:	Gay Anderson, Organist-Choirmaster
Acolyte:	Diane Martin
Lector & Intercessor:	Diane Martin
Soloist	Roy Anderson

If you have information for the March Angelus, please send it to the office email by the no later than Wednesday. *Thank you!*



Curbside distribution of Holy Communion will be postponed while Mother Cindy+ is out due to back surgery. If you would like to receive communion at home, please let Diane, Patti Wright, or the Parish Office know, and we will happily bring it to your doorstep!

Our Lenten Program

Please join us beginning Wednesday February 24th from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM for our Lenten program The Gifts of God for the People of God, followed by the Office of Compline (about 10 min).

A few books are still available from the Bookstore at \$11.50 (price includes tax) and from Amazon. Kindle is available as well. It will also help to have your book of Common Prayer during the sessions. However, no books are necessary – everyone can participate. You may contact Diane to order a book or sign-up for the program at 618-552-2676.

An email specific to the details of the Zoom Meeting will be sent on Tuesday evenings. If you would like to be added to the email list, please contact the office. 618-465-1949, or epialton@episcopalalton.org.