

Saint John's Anglican Church, Ancaster

Order of Service

Sunday Reflections and Prayers of the People

Sunday, March 14, 2021

Fourth Sunday of Lent

The Gathering of the Community

Celebrant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with you all.

People **And also with you.**

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant Let us pray. *Silence is kept.*

Celebrant Gracious Father,
All **whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came 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. Amen.**

A Reading from the Book of Numbers

Celebrant From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, 'Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.' Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, 'We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us.' So Moses prayed for the people. And the LORD said to Moses, 'Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.' So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and

whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live. *Numbers 21: 4-9*

Celebrant
All

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospeller
People

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospeller

And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

‘For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.’

‘Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgement, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.’

John 3: 14-21

Gospeller
People

The Gospel of Christ.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Homily/
Reflection

The Reverend Canon Richard Dentinger

Hymn # 176
Verses 1, 3, 5

By the Holy Spirit Sent

Tune: Lew Trenchard

Prayers of the People

Celebrant Let us pray. *Silence is kept.*

God provides comfort in all our troubles and sufferings.

Celebrant As we gather together in the presence of our parent God, let us pray.

Celebrant Loving Father, we pray for all who are persecuted for their faith, and for whom following you brings danger. We pray for those who are new to faith and those who no longer walk with you. We thank you for the example of those whose faith shines out in their lives.

Celebrant We are all your children:
All **help us grow in love.**

Celebrant Loving Father, we pray for those who are forced to leave their homes, their families or their countries. We pray for those who, through war and famine, must watch their children die. We pray for your peace and comfort.

Celebrant We are all your children:
All **help us grow in love.**

Celebrant Loving Father, we pray for all the mothering that goes on in this community and for those who crave tenderness and are weary of the struggle to be strong.

Celebrant We are all your children:
All **help us grow in love.**

Celebrant Loving Father, we pray for all new parents and their babies, and all giving birth today. We pray for all who are vulnerable, that they may be protected from harm.

Celebrant We are all your children:
All **help us grow in love.**

Celebrant Loving Father, there are those here whose mothers have died, and are still remembered with great affection. We pray for those mothers and grandmothers now, rejoicing in all they gave, and commending them to your protection for ever.

Celebrant We are all your children:
All **help us grow in love.**

Celebrant Loving Father, we give you thanks for the comfort you provide in
all our troubles, and for the richness of all our relationships.

Celebrant Merciful Father,
All **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus
Christ. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to
say,
All **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,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

A Blessing for Lent

Celebrant Look with compassion, O Lord, upon this your people; that,
rightly observing this holy season of Lent, they may learn to
know you more fully, and to serve you with a more perfect will;
and the blessings of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the
Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.
All **Amen.**

Dismissal

Leader Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**