

THE HOLY EUCHARIST



*Fourth Sunday
of Lent*

Rite II

March 10, 2024

8:00am and 10:00am

The Rev. Jo Ann Ford, Celebrant

The Rev. Denis Ford, Preacher

Ascension Episcopal Church

Located at the corner of 18th and Grand, Pueblo, Colorado 81003

420 W 18th St, Pueblo CO 81003 (719) 543-4253

Website: www.ascensionpueblo.org

E-mail: office@ascensionpueblo.org

Prelude

"Andantino"

by Robert Schumann

Processional Hymn

"Guide me thou Great Jehovah"

Hymnal 690

Children's Chapel *(Children are blessed and then exit the Nave for Chapel)*

Penitential Order

BCP 351

Celebrant Blessed the Lord, who forgives all our sins.

People His mercy endures forever.

People kneeling.

Decalogue

BCP 350

Celebrant Hear the commandments of God to his people:
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.
You shall have no other gods but me.

People Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant You shall not make for yourself any idol.

People Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

People Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

People Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant Honor your father and your mother.

People Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant You shall not commit murder.

People Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant You shall not commit adultery.

People Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant You shall not steal.

People Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant You shall not be a false witness.

People Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

People Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant says

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 is no other commandment greater than these."

The Confession

BCP 360

Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept

Celebrant and 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.

The Absolution

BCP 360

The Celebrant, stands and says

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 (*said by all at 8am and sung by all 10am*)

Hymnal S91

Lord have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Celebrant says.

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect.

Collect of the Day

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. **Amen.**

People Sit

First Reading

Numbers 21:4-9

Reader A Reading from

From Mount Hor the Israelites 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.

After the Reading, the Reader says.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

Reader The Psalm appointed for today is

The Reader will instruct congregation to read in unison or pray responsively by verse.

- 1 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, *
and his mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Let all those whom the Lord has redeemed proclaim *
that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe.
- 3 He gathered them out of the lands; *
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.
- 17 Some were fools and took to rebellious ways; *
they were afflicted because of their sins.
- 18 They abhorred all manner of food *
and drew near to death's door.
- 19 Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, *
and he delivered them from their distress.
- 20 He sent forth his word and healed them *
and saved them from the grave.
- 21 Let them give thanks to the Lord for his mercy *
and the wonders he does for his children.
- 22 Let them offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving *
and tell of his acts with shouts of joy.

Reader and people say.

Glory be 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.

Second Reading

Ephesians 2:1-10

Reader A Reading from

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ-- by grace you have been saved-- and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God-- not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

After the Reading, the Reader says.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn

"Come thou Fount"

Hymnal 686, vv1-2

Then all standing, the Celebrant reads the Gospel, first saying

BCP 357

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to

People Glory to you, Lord Christ

The Holy Gospel

John 3:14-21

Jesus said, "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 judgment, 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."

After the Gospel, the Celebrant says.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sequence Hymn

"Come thou Fount"

Hymnal 686, v3

Homily

The Rev. Denis Ford

Nicene Creed

BCP 358

Celebrant and the People stand as they are able and say.

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 (Form IV)

BCP 388

All kneel or sit as you are able - The Leader and People pray responsively

Leader Let us pray for the Church and for the world.
Remembering today in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Episcopal Church and in the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we remember and pray for St. Elizabeth's in Brighton, St. John the Baptist in Breckenridge, St. Luke's in Ft. Collins, St. Paul's in Lamar and Covenant Cupboard in Greenwood Village
Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Leader Lord, in your mercy

People

Leader

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. Pray for our President Joe, our Governor Jared, our Mayor Heather and the leaders of Pueblo and Pueblo County.

Silence

Leader

Lord, in your mercy

People

Hear our prayer.

Leader

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Leader

Lord, in your mercy

People

Hear our prayer.

Leader

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Leader

Lord, in your mercy

People

Hear our prayer.

Leader

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; including those on the Ascension Prayer List. Give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

Leader

Lord, in your mercy

People

Hear our prayer.

Leader

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Leader

Lord, in your mercy

People

Hear our prayer.

Leader says – People may add their own petitions in silence or aloud.

Celebrant adds a concluding collect.

Collect

BCP 395 (6)

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you:" Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Peace

BCP 360

All stand. The Celebrant says

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The Celebrant and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Birthdays, Anniversaries and other Blessings

Offertory Sentence

BCP 377

The Celebrant, stands and says

Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

Offertory Hymn

"Amazing Grace"

Hymnal 671

Doxology (*said by all at 8am and sung by all 10am*)

Hymnal 380, v3

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive communion.

Gluten free wafers are available upon request.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Holy Communion (Eucharistic Prayer A)

BCP 361

As the people remain standing, the Celebrant, says

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

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every where 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:

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. Then the Celebrant continues

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:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

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.**

Celebrant says

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

The Lord's Prayer

BCP 364

Celebrant and 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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread and a period of silence is kept, and then says

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast.

Agnes Dei *(said by all at 8am and sung by all 10am)*

Hymnal S161

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Communion of the People

Communion Hymn

"I am the Bread of Life"

Hymnal 335

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Celebrant blesses the people and prays

May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of His Son Jesus Christ, our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you, and each of you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn

"Lift High the Cross"

Hymnal 473

Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"Toccata in E Minor"

by Johann Pachelbel

Many Thanks to Abigail Silverberg, Organist

LECTOR AND ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

8AM

LECTOR

ACOLYTE

LECTOR

ACOLYTE

Mar 10 Janet K Robin R/Frances P

Mar 17 Kris N Mike A/Jan P

Mar 31 Kris N Robin R/Frances P

Mar 24 Janet K Robin R/Frances P

10AM SERVICES

LECTOR

ACOLYTE

USHERS

VIDEO

Mar 10 Harry T Mike/Kai/Olivia

Mar 17 Ann L Mike/Kai

Mar 24 Gary W Mike/Kai/Olivia

Mar 31 Gary W Ann/Kai

Josie J Dave C

Mary S Robin R

John S/Stan G Dave C

John S/Stan G Brad R

ADDITIONAL INFO

Mar 24 **Passion Readers Palm Sunday 10am** Myracle W, Mary S, Gary W and Harry T

SPECIAL SERVICES – 6PM

Mar 28 Myracle W Mike

Mar 29 Harry T No acolyte

Mary S (Maundy Thursday)

Mary S (Good Friday)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Easter Lily/Spring Flower Orders - Flowers can be given in memory of or in thanksgiving for loved ones. The donor and the remembrance will be printed in the Easter flower bulletin insert. **The cost is \$15.00 per memory or thanksgiving.** Monies collected will offset the cost of these flowers. **Order forms** (yellow) for these flowers are located at the **back of the Nave on the table to the right of the entrance.** Envelopes have been provided for your form and monies. Please write **Easter Flowers** on the envelope. Place your envelope in the offering plate or you can mail or drop off at the parish office. Checks should be payable to Ascension Church. Forms with payment are **due no later than Monday, March 25th.**

The Vestry and Congregation welcome you to worship today, we are glad to have you with us. If you are new to the area, or new to The Episcopal Church, please fill out a visitor's card and make yourself known to the clergy and the ushers. If you would like more information about The Episcopal Church and Ascension in particular, please contact the church office at: (719)543-4253 or talk to one of the clergy.

UPCOMING DATES

March 24	PALM SUNDAY 8:00am and 10:00am
HOLY WEEK	3/25-3/30
March 28	MAUNDY THURSDAY Maundy Thursday liturgy, foot washing & stripping of the altar
March 29	GOOD FRIDAY Stations of the Cross Church will be open for private prayer
12noon	
1-6pm	
6:00pm	Good Friday liturgy
March 31	EASTER SUNDAY First Service of Easter Holy Eucharist and Baptism
8:00am	
10:00am	

ASCENSION PRAYER LIST

SPECIAL NEEDS –Donna Muench, Schmidt/Johnson Family, Michael B, Paul Wright, Nancy Welte, Montgomery Family and Brian Rice.

LONG-TERM CARE – Mark Begin, Beurman Family, Ken and Barb Butcher, Pat Curtsinger, Signe Esposito, Tom Hill, John Kumor, Victoria Monroe, Kevin Olsen, Jaime Phelps, Bea Stasco, Kathlyn Vail, Monte Watts, Wright Family, Lydia Baxter, Arthur Alston, Christy and Bryan Bowers, Joanye McNair, George Mellott and Roy Armstrong