

ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

in the heart of the Historic Stockade District

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

LENT 4A - 15 MARCH 2026

SUNG MASS - RITE I, 10AM

The Reverend Thomas J. Pettigrew, *Rector*
The Reverend Abigail Bee, *Parish Deacon*
Dr. Brian J. Taylor, AAGO, *Director of Music*

MASS SETTING

First Communion Service

John Merbecke (1515-1585)

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Siliciano

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

THE PREPARATION OF SACRED MINISTERS IN THE LADY CHAPEL

The Sacred Ministers, Servers & Choir offer Preparatory Prayers prior to the Entrance Procession

THE OPENING HYMN, HYMN 493

O for a thousand tongues to sing

Azmon

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

(people kneel)

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE INTROIT

Sung by the Cantor & Choir

Rejoice ye with Jerusalem; and be ye glad for her, all ye that delight in her: exult and sing for joy with her, all ye that in sadness mourn for her; that ye may suck, and satisfied with the breasts of her consolations. Ps. I was glad when they said unto me: We will go into the house of the Lord. Glory be.

THE SUMMARY OF THE LAW

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.

THE KYRIE ELEISON, HYMNAL S-90

Sung by all

(people kneel)

Lord, have mercy upon us. (3x)

Christ, have mercy upon us. (3x)

Lord, have mercy upon us. (3x)

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Lent 4

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And with thy spirit.

V. Let us pray.

GRACIOUS FATHER, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which giveth life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

ALMIGHTY AND EVERLASTING GOD, who hatest nothing that thou hast made and dost forgive the sins of all those who are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A READING from the First Book of 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.

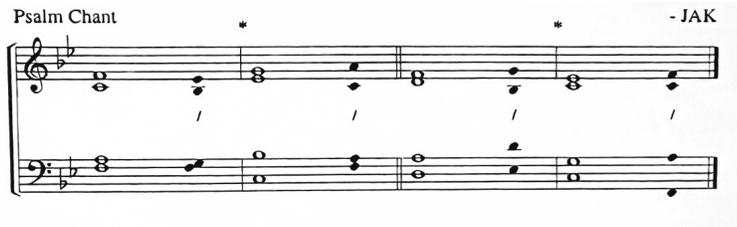
The Word of the Lord

R. Thanks be to God

THE GRADUAL

Sung by all

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 EPISTLE

Ephesians 5.8-14

A READING from the Letter of Paul to the 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."

The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God

THE TRACT

Sung by cantor and choir

Send out thy light and thy truth that they may lead me: and bring me to thy holy hill and to thy dwelling; That I may go unto the altar of God; to the God of my joy and gladness: and upon the harp will I give thee thanks O God my God. Why art thou so full of heaviness O my soul? And why art thou so disquited within me? Put thy trust in God: For I will yet given thanks to him; who is the help of my countenance and my God.

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO SAINT JOHN

R. 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."

V. The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise be to thee, O Christ.**THE SERMON**

The Rector

THE NICENE CREED*(people stand)*

I BELIEVE IN ONE GOD, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible; And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to Judge both the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life, who proceedeth from the Father (and the Son); who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spake by the Prophets. And I believe one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church; I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead ✠ and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

(people kneel)

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 once 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 brake 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." ✠

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, 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, ourselves, 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. **Amen.**

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Sung by All

Our Fa - ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed
be thy Name, thy king - dom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our
dai - ly bread. And for - give us our tres - pas - ses,
as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us. And lead
us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us
from e - vil. For thine is the king - dom, and the power,
and the glo - ry, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

THE FRACTION

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **R. And with thy spirit.**

THE AGNUS DEI, HYMNAL S-157 *Sung by All* *(people kneel)*

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.

THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS *Said by All* *(people kneel)*

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 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.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

All baptized Christians may receive communion. If you wish to not receive, you are invited to come forward and cross your arms, indicating that you wish to receive a blessing. Gluten-free hosts are available.

THE COMMUNION SENTENCE *Sung by the Cantor & Choir*

And they shall need no candle; neither light of the sun: for the Lord God giveth them light; and they shall reign for ever and ever.

COMMUNION ANTHEM Like as the hart *Vincent Novello (1781-1861)*

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER *Said by All* *(people kneel)*

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 hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

THE BLESSING *people kneel)*

The peace of God, which passeth 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 Ghost, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE RETIRING PROCESSION HYMN 429 I'll praise my maker while I've breath *Old 113th*

CLOSING VOLUNTARY Prelude and Fugue in C minor (BWV 549) *J. S. Bach*

MINISTERS OF TODAY'S LITURGY

Celebrant & Preacher:	The Reverend Thomas J. Pettigrew
Deacon:	The Reverend Abigail Bee
Master of Ceremonies:	Christopher Henry
Organist:	Dr. Brian J. Taylor
Cantor:	Tarik Wareh
Crucifer:	Anne Kennison
Acolytes:	Eric Bassant, Daniel Miess
Greeters:	Anne Duff, Jim Wingate
Lector:	Diane Reed
Counters:	Alyssa DePaula, Jeff Wengrovius
Altar Guild:	Sandee Hughes, Anne Kennison
Sacristans:	David & Anne Kennison

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR:

The Sick and those in need: Jamie, Pat, Gabriella Rose, Katie, Chase, Pedro, Isabella, Dan Bornt, Dinorah Jimenez, Nancy, Karen Perretta, Sharon A. Wemtle, Lorna, Mike T., Richard, Abigail, Suzanne, Ann, Josh, Den, Sherrie, Ann-Marie, Lynn Paska, Larry, Robbie, Aubrey, Tamara, Mtr. Lisa Schoonmaker, Anne, Fred, Anna, James, Suzie, Dennis, Warren Crow, Ruth, Simon, Shannon, Robert, Diane, Chelsea, and Casey.

The prayer list will be reset every 3 months. Did we miss an important date for our birthday and faithful departed intentions? If you would like a name included on the prayer list or on the annual rota of intentions, send an email to rector@stgeorgesschenectady.org

The Departed: Althea Roessle, John Finch, Henry Spada (15), David Brough (19), J. Weir McHugh (21)

Birthdays: Kathleen Todt Ronesi (16)

Baptismal Anniversaries:

Wedding Anniversaries:

The flowers on the Altar today are given to the greater glory of Almighty God and in memory of Corbitt D. Beach, Sr.

SERVICES THIS WEEK

Sunday, March 15 — 8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer

9:00 a.m.— Church School — Library

9:15 a.m. — Rosary — Lady Chapel

10:00 a.m. — Solemn High Mass— Lent 4 – Cranmer House

Coffee Hour follows in the Great Hall.

Book Club follows in the Library

3:00 p.m. Choral Evensong — First Reformed Church, Schenectady

The Evensong service replaces 5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer

Monday, March 16, Tuesday, March 17, Wednesday, March 18

8:30 a.m. — Morning Prayer & Low Mass — Lady Chapel

Bible Study follows in Cranmer House on Tuesday.

5:30 p.m. — Evening Prayer — Lady Chapel

Thursday, March 19 — 8:30 a.m. — Morning Prayer — Lady Chapel

5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer — Lady Chapel

6:00 p.m. — The Holy Eucharist, Rite I with Healing — St. Joseph — Lady Chapel

Friday, March 20 — 8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer — Lady Chapel

12:00 p.m. — Low Mass — Lady Chapel

5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer — Cranmer House

6:00 p.m. — Soup Supper & Stations of the Cross — Cranmer House

Saturday, March 21 — 8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer & Low Mass — Lady Chapel

5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer — Lady Chapel

Sunday, March 22 — 8:30 a.m. — Morning Prayer — Lady Chapel

10:00 a.m. — Solemn High Mass — Lent 5 — Cranmer House

5:30 p.m. — Evening Prayer — Lady Chapel

WELCOME VISITORS! We'd like to extend a warm welcome to our visitors today. Whether you live in our area and decided to worship with us today or if you are visiting from out of town, we offer you a warm Georgian welcome! There are visitor cards in most of the pews and we ask that you fill one out and give it to the Greeters at the door or simply drop it in the offering plate. We'd love to see you again. Our website, www.stgeorgesschenectady.com.

Parish Life and Beyond

ENHANCED COFFEE HOUR TODAY — Our coffee hour today in the Great Hall will have an enhanced menu of Irish food in honor of St. Patrick, Missionary Bishop of Ireland, whose feast day is this coming Tuesday, March 17th. This coffee hour is being hosted by Kevin Decker and Jean Greenspan.

EASTER FLOWERS — Memorial contributions for Easter Flowers are now being received. You may place a check in the offering plate or mail it to the church office. Also please email the church office if you wish to make your contribution in honor or memory of someone. These will be listed in the Easter bulletins. secretary@stgeorgesschenectady.org

ALL ON THE SAME PAGE BOOK CLUB — All are invited after Mass to a discussion of the book *The Snow Child* by Eowyn Ivey. This memorable Pulitzer-nominated novel will give you chills and keep you guessing. A middle-aged couple, barely surviving a frigid Alaskan winter, catch glimpses of a child roaming alone in the forest. Are they losing their minds or witnessing a miracle: Both things may be true! The group meets in the Library.

LENTEN EVENSONG — This afternoon the St. Cecilia Choir will offer Choral Evensong for Lent at First Reformed Church, 8 N Church St., Schenectady, beginning at 3:00 p.m. The music will included the *Evening Service in A minor* by John Blow and two anthems, *Set me as a seal* by local musician and friend of St. George's Church, Mr. Aidan Daft, and *O how amiable* by our Organist.

PRAYER LIST — If you have a name that you would like added to the prayer list please email the church office at office@StGeorgesSchenectady.org and we will insure that this person will be remembered in the prayers.

PARISH MINISTRY SCHEDULES POSTED ONLINE — The most recent schedule of greeters, lectors, counters, and altar guild is published online. If you are interested in serving as a lector, greeter, counter, or acolyte, please speak to Fr. Pettigrew or email him at rector@StGeorgesSchenectady.org for more information.

SHAPE NOTE SINGING: All are welcome to experience the joy of singing together the beautiful a cappella harmonies and stirring songs of the Sacred Harp, a tune book and hymnal published in Georgia in 1844 and used in community singing throughout the world. We sing in the Great Hall on Saturday afternoons from 1-3:30pm. For schedule updates or more information, please contact Tarik Wareh or visit www.albanysacredharp.org

ONLINE GIVING — If you would prefer to make a donation or your regular offering electronically, please use the QR code provided. You will also find a link to PayPal on our parish website, www.StGeorgesSchenectady.com. St. George's is currently considering other means for online and electronic giving. We would like to hear your feedback about having this as an additional option for giving to St. George's Church. Please send your thoughts to Rector@StGeorgesSchenectady.org

