

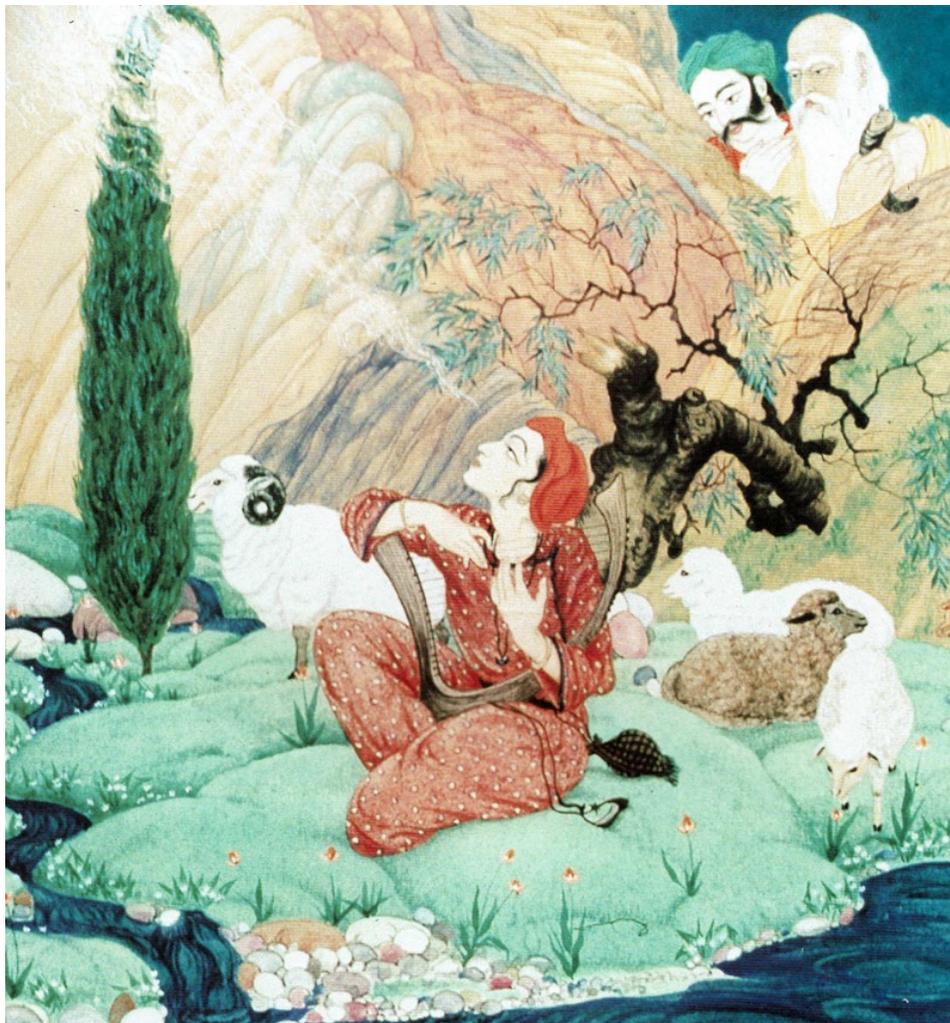
The Episcopal Parish of Saint Paul

Newton Highlands, Massachusetts

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Holy Eucharist

March 15, 2026 at 10:00am



From wherever you have come, with whatever you bring, you are welcome here.

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT (YEAR A)

Holy Eucharist with Joyful Noise

Prelude

Musicians

Gathering Rites / *BCP* p. 351

From wherever you have come, with whatever you bring, you are welcome here.

Gathering Hymn

Please rise as you are comfortable.

The Hymnal 1982, #488 – Be Thou My Vision



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O God of my heart;
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
3 Most High of hea - ven, when vic - tory is won,



all else be nought to me, save that thou art—
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, God;
may I reach hea - ven's joys, bright hea - ven's Sun!



thou my best thought, — by day or by night,
thou my great Cre - a - tor; thine own may I be;
Heart of my heart, — what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
thou in me dwell - ing, and I one with thee.
still be my vis - ion, O Ru - ler of all.

Section: Jesus Christ our Lord Title: Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart Meter: 10 10. 9 10 Words: Irish, ca. 700; versified Mary Elizabeth Byrne (1880-1931); tr. Eleanor H. Hull (1860-1935), alt. Music: *Slane*, Irish ballad melody; adapt. *The Church Hymnary*, 1927; harm. David Evans (1874-1948) Copyright: Music: By permission of Oxford University Press.

Opening Acclamation

Presider Blessed be the God of our salvation.

People **Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.**

The Decalogue / *BCP* p. 350

Please rise or kneel as you are comfortable.

Presider Hear the commandments of God to God's people:
I am the Holy One your God who brought you out of bondage.
You shall have no other gods but me.

People **Amen. God have mercy.**

Presider You shall not make for yourself any idol.

People **Amen. God have mercy.**

Presider You shall not invoke with malice the name of the Holy One
your God.

People **Amen. God have mercy.**

Presider Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

People **Amen. God have mercy.**

Presider Honor your parents.

People **Amen. God have mercy.**

Presider You shall not commit murder.

People **Amen. God have mercy.**

Presider You shall not commit adultery.

People **Amen. God have mercy.**

Presider You shall not steal.

People **Amen. God have mercy.**

Presider You shall not be a false witness.

People **Amen. God have mercy.**

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

People **Amen. God have mercy.**

Presider If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves....

Confession of Sin and Absolution

Presider and People

O God, we bring you our failure, our hunger, our disappointment, our despair, our greed, our arrogance, and our fear. We have not loved you with our whole hearts. We have not truly loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are sorry, we are humbled, and we pray that you will strengthen us with your grace. We turn to you, O God. We renounce evil, we claim love, we choose to be made whole. Forgive us and renew us now.

A period of silence will be kept.

Presider Almighty God, have mercy on you, forgive your every sin through our Savior Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

Sing three times

Enriching Our Music 1, #155

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,

Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, have mer - cy up - on us.

Section: Missa Oecumenica Title: Holy God: *Trisagion* Music: *Missa Oecumenica*, from the *Trinitas Choral Review*, arr. Richard Proulx, after Alexander Archangelsky (1846-1924) Copyright: Setting: © 1999 Oregon Catholic Press. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Collect of the Day

Presider God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

Gracious God, whose blessed Child Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that Christ and we may live in each other; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

Please be seated

The First Reading – Scriptures of Israel

1 Samuel 16:1-13

ELOHIM 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 ELOHIM said, “Take a heifer with you, and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to ELOHIM.’ 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 ELOHIM 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 ELOHIM; 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 God’s anointed is now before ELOHIM.” But ELOHIM said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for ELOHIM does not see as mortals see; they look on the

outward appearance, but ELOHIM looks on the heart.” Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has ELOHIM chosen this one.” Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has ELOHIM chosen this one.” Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “ELOHIM 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. ELOHIM 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 ELOHIM came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm

We will pray the psalm responsively by whole verse.

Psalm 23

The Holy One is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.

**You make me lie down in green pastures
and lead me beside still waters.**

You revive my soul
and guide me along right pathways for the sake of your Name.

**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.**

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.

**Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of
my life,
and I will dwell in the house of God for ever.**

This week's Psalm is from the St. Helena Psalter, used by permission.

The Second Reading – The Epistle

Ephesians 5:8-14

Once you were darkness, but now in the Savior 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 God. 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.”

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn

Please rise as you are comfortable.

O Christ the Healer, We Have Come

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

1 O Christ, the heal - er, we have come to
2 From ev - ery ail - ment flesh en - dures our
3 In con - flicts that de - stroy our health we
4 Grant that we all, made one in faith, in

pray for health, to plead for friends. How can we fail to
bod - ies clam - or to be freed; yet in our hearts we
rec - og - nize the world's dis - ease; our com - mon life de -
your com - mu - ni - ty may find the whole - ness that, en -

be re - stored when reached by love that nev - er ends?
would con - fess that whole - ness is our deep - est need.
clares our ills. Is there no cure, O Christ, for these?
rich - ing us, shall reach the whole of hu - man - kind.

WORDS: Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000) MUSIC: Robert A. Schumann (1810-1856) Words © Hope Publishing Company CANONBURY L.M.

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.
People **Glory to you, O Christ.**

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 the one 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 Jesus 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 Jesus?” 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, “Jesus put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” Some of the Pharisees said, “This Jesus is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a person who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about Jesus? It was your eyes he opened.” The man said, “Jesus 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 Jesus is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether Jesus is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did Jesus 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 God does listen to one who worships God and obeys God's 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 Jesus found him, Jesus said, "Do you believe in the Child of Humanity?" He answered, "And who is that, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in that

one.” Jesus said to him, “You have seen the one, and the one speaking with you now is that person.” The man said, “Rabbi, I believe.” And he worshiped Jesus. 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 Jesus, “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.”

Priest The Gospel of Christ.
People Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Priest-in-Charge

The Nicene Creed

The Nicene Creed is the historic statement of faith of the Church. It helps to knit the Church together across peoples and places, time and space. We pray it together as a single body, a member of the one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

1. I be - lieve in God al - might - y, Au - thor of all things that
 2. I be - lieve that Je - sus suf - fered, scourged and scorned and cru - ci -
 3. I be - lieve in God's own Spir - it, bond - ing all the saints with-

be, Mak - er of the earth and heav - ens, Keep - er of the sky and
 fied; tak - en from the cross, was bur - ied— True Life there had tru - ly
 in One church, cath - o - lic and ho - ly, where for - give - ness frees from

sea. I be - lieve in God's Child, Je - sus, now for
died. I be - lieve that on the third day Christ was
sin; in the bod - y's res - ur - rec - tion, for the

us Rab - bi and Christ, of the Spir - it and of
raised up from the grave, then as - cend - ed to God's
break - ing of death's chain gives the life that's ev - er -

Mar - y born to bring a - bun - dant life.
right hand. Christ will come to judge and save.
last - ing. This the faith that I have claimed.

Words: Sylvia G. Dunstan (1955-1993). Music: Domhnach Trionoide, Gaelic melody; harm. Richard Proulx (b. 1937).

Prayers of the People

Intercessor In peace, we pray to you, O God.

Silence

Intercessor For all people in their daily life and work;

All For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those
who are alone.

Intercessor For this community, the nation, and the world;
All **For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

Intercessor For the just and proper use of your creation;
All **For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

Intercessor For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
All **For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

Intercessor For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
All **For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

Intercessor For the worldwide Anglican Communion, for the Episcopal Church, for our presiding bishop, Sean, and our diocesan bishop, Julia. We pray for all ministers – lay and ordained – and we pray for our own Parish of St. Paul; St. Barnabas' Church, Falmouth; Christ Church, Harwich Port; Grace Church, Vineyard Haven; and for all churches in the Diocese closed or merged. Either silently or aloud, for whom and what in the church do we pray today? (*The People may offer their own petitions.*) We pray;
All **For all who serve God in God's Church.**

Intercessor Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; all those who suffer from addiction, grief, and depression; all those who live in and with fear; and all those who may need encouragement and uplift. And we pray for the special needs and concerns of this congregation; and especially for John; Bernice Cramer and her family; Gabriel and his family; Phil; Julia; Ryan; Nancy Williamson; Jim Nolan; David Murphy; David Tabors; Kristin; Deb;

Tom; Sean and Jack; and for the peoples and ministries of the Global Village Children's Project, the Centre Street Food Pantry, AA, and NewCity Church. Either silently or aloud, for whom and what else do we pray today? (*The People may offer their own petitions.*)

Intercessor Hear us, O God;
All **For your mercy is great.**

Intercessor We thank you, O God, for all the blessings of this life. Either silently or aloud, for whom and what do we give thanks today? (*The People may offer their own thanksgivings.*)

Intercessor We will exalt you, O God;
All **And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

Intercessor We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. Either silently or aloud, whom do we name and remember this day? (*The People may offer their own names.*)

Intercessor O God, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
All **Who put their trust in you.**

Prayer for the Social Order (*BCP* p. 823)

Intercessor Together let us pray.
All **Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart, and especially the hearts of the people of this land, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Silence

Presider offers a collect.

The Peace

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

(The congregation is invited to exchange signs of peace.)

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Sentence

Offertory Anthem

Choir

Brother James's Air

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want.

He makes me down to lie

In pastures green; He leadeth me

The quiet waters by.

He leadeth me, He leadeth me,

The quiet waters by.

My soul He doth restore again;

And me to walk doth make

Within the paths of righteousness,

E'en for His own Name's sake.

Within the paths of righteousness,

E'en for His own Name's sake.

*Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
Yet will I fear no ill;
For Thou art with me; and Thy rod
And staff me comfort still.
For Thou art with me; and Thy rod
And staff me comfort still.*

*My table Thou hast furnished
In presence of my foes;
My head Thou dost with oil anoint,
And my cup overflows.
My head Thou dost with oil anoint,
And my cup overflows.*

*Goodness and mercy all my life
Shall surely follow me;
And in God's house for evermore
My dwelling place shall be.
And in God's house for evermore
My dwelling place shall be.*

Text: Psalm 23

Music: James Leith Macbeth Bain (1860-1925)

Please rise as you are comfortable.

Presentation Hymn

Grant, O thou bless - ed Trin - i - ty; grant, O un -

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two staves, a treble clef on the top and a bass clef on the bottom. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the notes. The lyrics are: "Grant, O thou bless - ed Trin - i - ty; grant, O un -". The music is in a simple, hymn-like style with a steady rhythm.

chang - ing Un - i - ty; that this our fast of
 for - ty days may work our pro - fit and thy praise!

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first system covers the lyrics 'chang - ing Un - i - ty; that this our fast of' and the second system covers 'for - ty days may work our pro - fit and thy praise!'. The music is in a key with two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature (C). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a focus on the lyrics.

You are invited to rise, sit, or kneel as you feel comfortable.

The Great Thanksgiving – Eucharistic Prayer A

Presider God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up to God.**

Presider Let us give thanks to God.

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

Presider

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Savior, 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

Enriching Our Music, #56

Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly One, God of pow'r and might, —

heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Bless-ed is the one who comes in the name of our God. —

Ho-san - na in the high - est, ho-san-na in the high - est.

Setting: *Missa Oecumenica*, from the *Trinitatus Choral Review*, arr. Richard Proulx, after Alexander Archangelsky (1846-1924), © 1999 Oregon Catholic Press. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

The Presider continues – you are invited to rise, sit, or kneel as you are comfortable.
Holy and gracious God: 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 Child, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Creator of all. Jesus 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 Jesus was handed over to suffering and death, our Savior 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 Jesus 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.

Presider

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Jesus' 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 Child, 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 Child Jesus Christ: By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever.

All **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

You are invited to say whichever version of the Lord's Prayer moves you.

Presider

As our savior Christ has taught us, we now pray

**Our loving God in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kindom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kindom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Presider Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast.

Lamb ____ of God, you take ____ a - way the
sins of the world, have ____ mer - cy on us.

Lamb ____ of God, you take ____ a - way the
sins of the world, grant ____ us peace.

The musical score is written in G minor (three flats) and 4/4 time. It consists of four systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are: "Lamb ____ of God, you take ____ a - way the sins of the world, have ____ mer - cy on us." and "Lamb ____ of God, you take ____ a - way the sins of the world, grant ____ us peace." The piano accompaniment features chords and melodic lines that support the vocal melody.

Section: Missa Oecumenica Title: Fraction Anthem: Lamb of God: *Agnus Dei* Music: *Missa Oecumenica*, from the *Trinitas Choral Review*, arr. Richard Proulx, after Alexander Archangelsky (1846-1924) Copyright: Setting: © 1999 Oregon Catholic Press. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Presider

These are the Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ lived and loved, died, and rose for you, and feed on Christ in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Communion

Jesus says, "Come and see."

You are welcome at this Table, exactly as you are, because of who you are. If you feel called to the Table, please come forward to receive Communion.

Gluten-free communion bread is available. Please let the priest know when you come for communion.

If you do not wish to receive the consecrated wine, please know that receiving the consecrated bread alone constitutes a full Communion.

If you do not desire Communion, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing – please cross your arms over your chest to indicate that you desire a blessing.

Prayer of Spiritual Communion

(The following prayer of Spiritual Communion is said privately and is intended for individuals participating remotely, and for individuals who may not wish to receive Communion or a blessing.)

In union, O God, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. And since I cannot receive you today in the sacrament of bread and wine, I ask you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

Postcommunion Hymn

You are invited to stand, sit, or kneel as you are comfortable.

The Hymnal 1982, #466 – Eternal Light, Shine in My Heart

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in the key of B-flat major (two flats) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line. The first system contains three verses of lyrics. The second system continues the lyrics. The third system concludes the hymn with a final cadence. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

1 E - ter - nal light, shine in my heart; e - ter - nal
2 E - ter - nal life, raise me from death; e - ter - nal
3 un - til by your most cost - ly grace, in - vit - ed

hope, lift up my eyes; e - ter - nal power, be
bright - ness, help me see; e - ter - nal Spi - rit,
by your ho - ly word, at last I come be -

my sup - port; e - ter - nal wis - dom, make me wise.
give me breath; e - ter - nal Sa - vior come to me:
fore your face to know you, my e - ter - nal God.

Section: Jesus Christ our Lord Title: Eternal light, shine in my heart Meter: LM Words: Christopher Idle (b. 1938), from a prayer of Alcuin (735?-804) Music: *Jacob*, Jane Manton Marshall (b. 1924) Copyright: Words: © 1982 by Jubilate Hymns (admin. by Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL. 60188). All rights reserved. Used by permission. Music: © 1984 G.I.A. Publications, Inc.

Postcommunion Prayer

You are invited to stand as you are comfortable.

People and Presider

Eternal God,

you have graciously accepted us as living members

of our Savior Jesus Christ,

whose love is the source of all life and the desire of our lives,

and you have fed us with spiritual food

in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.

Send us now into the world in peace,

in the promise of Christ's love, which defeats evil and death,

and grant us strength and courage,

in face of fear and doubt,

through the power of the Holy Spirit,

to be the church, a community of flawed and forgiving disciples,

to love and serve you,

to seek justice and to live in peace,

with gladness and singleness of heart;

through Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Postcommunion Prayer is an adaptation from the Holy Eucharist: Rite Two (Expansive Edition) and the Statement of Faith from the Iona Abbey Worship Book (2001).

Lenten Prayer over the People for the Fourth Sunday in Lent

(The Book of Occasional Services 2018)

In the season of Lent, in place of a seasonal blessing, a solemn Prayer over the People is used. The Deacon or, in the absence of a deacon, the Presider bids the prayer by saying, "Bow down before your God." The people may either kneel, or stand and bow their heads.

Presider

Look down in mercy, O God, on your people who come before you;

and grant that those whom you have nourished by your Word and

Sacraments may bring forth fruit worthy of repentance; through Christ

our Savior. **Amen.**

Processional Hymn

The Hymnal 1982, #490 – I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are as follows:

1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
2 I want to see the bright-ness of God.
3 I'm look-ing for the com-ing of Christ.

I want to fol-low Je-sus.
I want to look at Je-sus.
I want to be with Je-sus.

God set the stars to give light to the world. The
Clear sun of right-eous-ness, shine on my path, and
When we have run with pa-tience the race, we

star of my life is Je-sus.
show me the way to the Au-thor.
shall know the joy of Je-sus.

Refrain

In Christ there is no dark - ness at all. The

night and the day are both a - like. The

Lamb is the light of the ci - ty of God. *rit.*

a tempo

Shine in my heart, Christ Je - sus.

Section: Jesus Christ our Lord Title: I want to walk as a child of the light Meter: Irr. with Refrain Words: Kathleen Thomerson (b. 1934) Music: Houston, Kathleen Thomerson (b. 1934) Copyright: Words: Copyright © 1970, 1975, Celebration, Aliquippa, PA 15001. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission.

Announcements

Dismissal

You are invited to stand as you are comfortable.

Presider Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**



TODAY'S LITURGY

Participants

The Rev. Dr. Meghan T. Sweeney – Priest-In-Charge

David Montgomery – Lector of First Reading and Leader of Psalm

Chris Gruener – Lector of Second Reading

Carter Lustig – Acolyte

Margaret Hummel – Lay Eucharistic Minister and Intercessor

Brenda Carter – Pianist

Mary Lou Pierron and Jack Blay – Altar Guild

Eliza Blay – Usher

Kim Koger and Lee Hatfield – Counters

Adam Taylor – Tech

Front Cover Art

Wesley, Frank, 1923-2002. Twenty-Third Psalm, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=59161> [retrieved February 18, 2026]. Original source: Estate of Frank Wesley, http://www.frankwesleyart.com/main_page.htm

PRAYERS

In Our Diocesan Cycle Of Prayer:

For the Episcopal Church; for Sean Rowe, our Presiding Bishop, and Julia Whitworth, our Diocesan Bishop; all ministers – lay and ordained – and we pray for our own Parish of St Paul; St. Barnabas' Church, Falmouth; Christ Church, Harwich Port; Grace Church, Vineyard Haven; and for all churches in the Diocese closed or merged.

Parish Prayer List – Prayers are Requested for:

John; Bernice Cramer and her family; Gabriel and his family; Phil; Julia; Ryan; Nancy Williamson; Jim Nolan; David Murphy; David Tabors; Kristin; Deb; Tom; Sean and Jack; and for the Global Village Children's Project, the Centre Street Food Pantry, AA, and NewCity Church.

SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Happy Birthday, Joan Brandmahl (March 15)!

ANNOUNCEMENTS



EPISCOPAL CITY MISSION

Meet Our Speakers for Lessons of Liberation 2026

Registration Now Open

[Register now for Lessons of Liberation 2026: Freedom Is a Constant Struggle](#)—a multi-week learning series rooted in the book *Freedom Is a Constant Struggle* by Angela Davis and guided by conversation with grassroots organizers, faith-rooted leaders, and movement educators connected to Episcopal City Mission.

Gather with us every Monday from **March 2–April 6** for facilitated discussion of selected chapters and dialogue with multiple guest speakers, including:

- Rev. Dr. Nikia Smith, [Abolitionist Sanctuary](#)
- Virginia Cuello, [The Black Response Cambridge](#)
- Khalil Howe, [Youth Justice & Power Union](#)
- Sashi James, [Families for Justice as Healing](#)
- Dr. James McCarty, [Tom Porter Center for Religion and Conflict Transformation](#)

Together, we will explore freedom not as a fixed destination, but as an ongoing collective struggle shaped by resistance, care, imagination, and solidarity. Each session connects Davis' analysis of racism, incarceration, policing, economic inequality, and state violence to local, community-based responses and abolitionist practice.

This series is accessible to people of all spiritual and social identities. While faith-rooted reflection will be present, the focus is on practical learning, shared analysis, and movement wisdom from those directly engaged in organizing and repair.

 Participants will need to purchase their own copy of the book and read assigned chapters in advance of each session. Before session one you should read chapter 1 and chapter 2.

Sign up here:



Church Letters Regarding Iran and the Middle East

In her sermon on March 1, Rev. Meghan read letters regarding the current conflict in Iran and the Middle East from the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church, the Most Rev. Sean Rowe, and Archbishop of the Episcopal/Anglican Diocese of Jerusalem, the Most Rev. Dr. Hosam Naoum. To access these letters, use the QR code or click through in the weekly e-news.



Morning Prayer on Sunday, March 22

Rev. Meghan will be traveling from March 22 - March 25 for a work conference. Margaret Hummel, assisted by David Montgomery, will lead Morning Prayer. Thank you, Margaret and David!

Holy Week and Easter Liturgies

POSP joins again with some of our sibling parishes in Newton:

April 2: Maundy Thursday - Holy Eucharist with Foot Washing at St. John's, Newtonville at 7pm

April 3: Good Friday - Voices from the Foot of the Cross at POSP at 7pm

April 4: Holy Saturday - The Great Vigil of Easter at Trinity Church, Newton Centre at 7:30pm

April 5: Easter Day - The Feast of the Resurrection at POSP at 10am

Easter Flower and Easter Memorials

Donations for Easter Flower Memorials are most welcome (please make your check payable to POSP and indicate "Easter Flowers" on the memo line). If you would like to offer flowers in memory of individuals, please submit names using this QR code or by clicking the link in the weekly e-news. **Please submit donations and names by Sunday, March 29.**



Office Closed March 8-21

Parish administrator Lise will be away the weeks of March 8 and 15. She will resume her usual hours on Tuesday, March 24.

Episcopal 101 -- Mondays in Lent on Zoom -- Starting February 23

Our friends at Grace Church, Newton Corner and St. Mary's Church, Newton Lower Falls are offering an "Episcopal 101" course on Mondays in Lent. POSP parishioners are welcome and invited to participate. See below for blurb and to register:

Are you new(er) to The Episcopal Church and want to learn more about its history and traditions? Are you a curious Episcopalian with lingering questions? Have you been considering baptism or confirmation but never knew how to take the next step? Then you're in luck! **At 7:00pm on Monday nights in Lent, starting on Monday, February 23, log on to Zoom for Episcopal 101!** We'll have discussions, videos, mini-lectures, prayer, and more. Let us know you're interested in participating or receiving more information by signing up using the QR code:



Contacts and Questions: Rev. Ann Bonner-Stewart (ann@st-marys-episcopal.org) & Rev. Tammy Hobbs Miracky (pastor@gracenewton.org)

2026 Lenten Meditations with a TikTok Star!

Episcopal Relief and Development is offering Lenten meditations this year written by Sister Monica Clare, an Episcopal nun, author, and unlikely TikTok star! Sr. Monica Clare's meditations offer an invitation to rediscover—or deepen—holy habits of prayer, worship, and engagement with Scripture. These "holy habits" provide a path to a life that is given shape, meaning, and direction by being rooted in a deeper relationship with God. Use the QR code to learn more and to subscribe:



Morning Prayer on Thursdays at Grace Church, Newton Corner

Grace Church, Newton Corner offers Morning Prayer on Thursday mornings at 8am in the chapel. POSP parishioners are invited to attend.

Prayer List

If you would like to add a name to the prayer list, please email Lise in the parish office or use this QR code.



Altar Flowers

If you would like to contribute altar flowers for a thanksgiving or memorial, please be in contact with Lise in the parish office.

Pastoral Care

If you desire pastoral care for a particular need, please be in contact with Rev. Meghan. It could be as simple as a private prayer request emailed to her, or an in-person conversation about something of concern.

Can Redemption Volunteers

Volunteers sought to assist with can redemption for the Plenty ministry. Please connect with Christopher Gruener or speak with Rev. Meghan if you can assist.

Receive the Parish Newsletter!

The newsletter is sent about once per week (occasionally more often if there is a pressing notice, for example, of snow cancellation, etc.). **The newsletter contains reflections from parishioners and *lots* of information and announcements about our diocese, the greater church, and other goings-on in and around town and in the world, that are not printed in this bulletin.**

Scan to access
this week's newsletter



Scan to sign up to
receive the newsletter



Episcopal Leadership

The Rt. Rev. Julia E. Whitworth – Bishop Diocesan, The Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts (diomass.org)

The Most Rev. Sean Rowe – Presiding Bishop, The Episcopal Church (episcopalchurch.org)

Staff and Office Hours at the Parish of St. Paul

Priest-in-Charge: The Rev. Dr. Meghan T. Sweeney – meghan@parishofstpaul.org. Office Hours: In-Person, usually on Wednesday, 9am -1pm and by appointment (please email Rev. Meghan directly if you would like to make an appointment).

Parish Administrator: Lise Brody – office@parishofstpaul.org. Office Hours (may vary): Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9am-1pm

Vestry at the Parish of St. Paul

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please feel free to be in touch with your vestry. The next Vestry Meeting is on March 18.

Priest-in-Charge: The Rev. Dr. Meghan T. Sweeney

Co-Warden: Kathryn Anderson, kmanderson.english@gmail.com

Co-Warden: David Montgomery, dmontgomery@montlegal.com

Treasurer: Richard Pearce, rpearce144@gmail.com

Clerk: Bernice Cramer, bernicecramer@gmail.com

Natalie Brelsford, nataliesellis17@gmail.com

Chris Gruener, crossroadscounseling101@gmail.com

Lee Hatfield, leebateshatfield@verizon.net

Kim Koger, mkskoger5@gmail.com

Elected Parish Leaders at St. Paul's

Delegates to the Charles River Deanery: Eliza Blay, Kim Koger, David Montgomery, and Mary Lou Pierron

Delegates to the Diocesan Convention: Jack Blay and Tricia Tyler; alternate Kim Koger

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