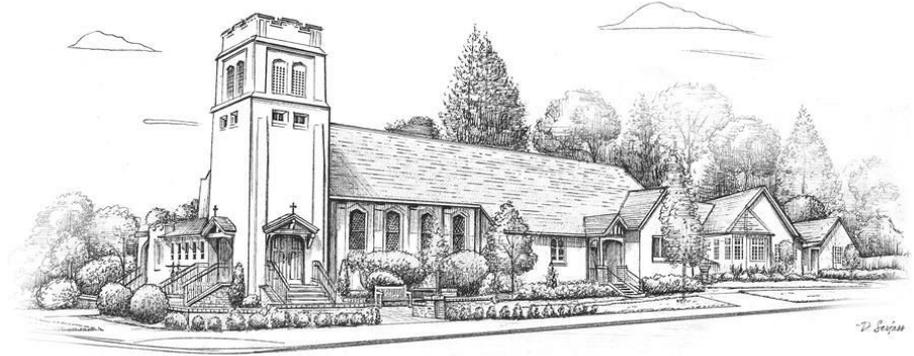


St John's Episcopal Church

Ross, CA



The Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 22, 2020, 10AM

Come hydrate your soul at St John's:

A community of connections across generations.

Connect to God through worship, service,
real life and tradition.

14 Lagunitas Road
P.O. Box 217
Ross, CA 94957

(415) 456-1102
info@stjohnsross.org
www.stjohnsross.org

These are new and uncertain times and we are learning how to be faithful to God and one another in the midst of this. Please be patient with us as we figure out the technology - and send us your comments/requests/prayers at ginger@stjohnsross.org.

You are invited to pray aloud with us, or join silently; to sing along or enjoy listening. Welcome - we are thankful for your presence!

Have a prayer request that you'd like to be shared (anonymously or with your name) on Sunday during the prayers? Would you like a blessing for a birthday, anniversary, or other occasion of thanksgiving? Click [here](#) to share this request with Rev. Ginger.

Prelude

Pastorales

Bartolomeo Franzosini (1768-1853)

Charles Wesley (1757-1834)

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Welcome

A bell will sound, signaling a few moments of prayer and silence. During Lent, the silences in our worship service are extended, offering an opportunity for deeper prayer and reflection.

Liturgy of the Word

Hymn

The King of Love My Shepherd is

Hymn 675 (St. Columba)



1 The King of love my shep-herd is, whose good-ness
2 Where streams of liv-ing wa-ter flow, my ran-somed
* 3 Per-verse and fool-ish oft I strayed, but yet in
* 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear
5 Thou spread'st a ta-ble in my sight; thy unc-tion
6 And so through all the length of days thy good-ness



1 fail-eth nev-er; I noth-ing lack if
2 soul he lead-eth, and where the ver-dant
3 love he sought me, and on his shoul-der
4 Lord, be-side me; thy rod and staff my
5 grace be-stow-eth; and oh, what trans-port
6 fail-eth nev-er; Good Shep-herd, may I



1 I am his, and he is mine for ev-er.
2 pas-tures grow, with food ce-less-ial feed-eth.
3 gent-ly laid, and home, re-joic-ing, brought me.
4 com-fort still, thy cross be-fore to guide me.
5 of de-light from thy pure chal-ice flow-eth!
6 sing thy praise with-in thy house for ev-er.

Penitential Order

People Blessed be the God of our salvation:
Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.

Presider Hear the teaching of Christ:
You shall love the Lord your God
with all your heart
and with all your soul
and with all your mind
and with all your strength.
This is the first commandment.
And the second is this:
You shall love your neighbor as yourself

God has promised forgiveness
to all who truly repent,
turn to Christ,
and are themselves forgiving.
In silence we call to mind our sins.
Silence.

Presider Let us confess our sins.

Presider and People

God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you
opposing your will in our lives.

We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. *Amen.*

Presider Through the cross of Christ,
God have mercy on you,
pardon you
and set you free.
Know that you are forgiven
and be at peace.
God strengthen you in all goodness
and keep you in life eternal. *Amen.*

Collect of the Day

Presider God be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

Gracious God, 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.*

First Reading

Ephesians 4:8-14

Please be seated for the reading.

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.”

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

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23

Please join in praying the Psalm aloud or in the silence of your heart.

The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul:
he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name’s sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil:
for thou art with me;
thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:
thou anointest my head with oil;
my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Holy Gospel

John 9:1-41

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People Glory to you, Lord 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 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."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

The Rev. Ginger Strickland

A brief period of silent prayer and reflection follows the sermon.

The Nicene Creed

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

From “Planning for Rites and Rituals.” During the silence following each prayer, you are invited to offer your own prayers.

Please click [here](#) to share prayer requests for future services.

Come, let us worship Christ, who refreshes us with springs of living water and calls us to be a people of prayer and thanksgiving, as we respond “God, have mercy.”

For the church throughout the world, that Christians might be given courage to love and serve with patience, and the vision to see the places in which God is revealed in our midst; let us pray

God, have mercy.

That the work of God may be made visible even through our weaknesses and shortcomings, bearing witness to others of the power of the Holy Spirit to overcome the heartache and despair that visits every human heart; let us pray:

God, have mercy.

That we who are prevented from receiving this eucharistic meal by time and place be fed by God, united in Christ, and renewed for service; let us pray:

God, have mercy.

For all who are charged with responding to the coronavirus epidemic, that God might give them wisdom, courage, and focus; let us pray:

God, have mercy.

For those affected by the Coronavirus pandemic; especially for those who who are unhoused, unemployed, or facing financial anxiety; for all who are sick, or suffering in any way, especially...; let us pray:

God, have mercy.

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, especially..., and for those whose faith is known to God alone; let us pray.

God, have mercy.

Knowing that Jesus opens the eyes of the blind, gives voice to the voiceless, and frees those who are imprisoned by fear, let us with confidence continue our prayers...
(you are invited to bring your own prayers before God, and we also offer those prayer requests shared with us by the congregation). For all these things we pray:

God, have mercy.

Merciful God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Peace

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

Announcements

Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem

“He Shall Feed His Flock Like A Shepherd” from *Messiah* G.F. Handel
(1726–1728)

Great Thanksgiving

The people remain standing.

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

. . . 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 may stand or kneel as the Presider continues. In the midst of the Eucharistic prayer,

the Presider says:

. . . Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Presider and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Presider continues with the prayer, and then says

. . . 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.

Presider and People AMEN.

Lord's Prayer

You are invited to raise your hands in prayer and blessing as we pray.

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

Presider 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.

Breaking of the Bread

The people stand or kneel. A period of silence is kept.

Presider

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Administration of Communion

The Church has always believed that to desire communion with Jesus in the bread and wine is to receive it on a spiritual level, even when circumstances prevent a bite of bread or sip of wine. In the silence, you are invited to meditate on the gift of Jesus' presence in and with us, offered in the bread and wine and received by faith.

Postcommunion Prayer

Please stand or kneel.

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep [today], and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. Amen.

Birthdays, Anniversaries and Occasions of Thanksgiving

All those celebrating birthdays, anniversaries and occasions of thanksgiving are invited to come forward.

Please click [here](#) to let us know about your special day and we'll pray for you by name next week.

Today, tomorrow and always we rejoice in the hands of God.

May God's powerful hands support you.

May God's guiding hands lead you.

May God's loving hands enfold you.

We rejoice in the hands of God. Amen.

Blessing

The priest offers God's blessing.

May Christ who calls you to take up your cross, give you strength to bear your own and one another's burdens, and the blessing of God, Eternal Majesty, Incarnate Word, and Holy Spirit be with you and remain with you forever. Amen.

Postcommunion Hymn

All Things Bright and Beautiful

Hymnal 405 (*Royal Oak*)



All things bright and beau - ti - ful, crea - tures great and small,



All things bright and beau - ti - ful, all crea - tures great and small,



all things wise and won - der - ful, the Lord God made them all.



2 The pur - ple - head - ed moun - tain, the riv - er run - ning by,

3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas - ant sum - mer sun,

4 He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell



he made their glow - ing col - ors, he made their ti - ny wings.

the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright - ens up the sky,

the ripe fruits in the gar - den, he made them ev - ery one.

how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well.

Dismissal

Our worship is ended and now our service begins.

Let us bless the Lord!

People

Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Pastorale

Léon Boëllmann (1862-1897)

Praying Together Online Zoom is a fun, easy-to-use way to meet online. Follow the directions found [here](#) to download the program any time before a gathering. You only have to do these steps once. If you aren't comfortable with technology, please don't be intimidated. Just email parishioner Mike Kowalczyk, and he'll be in touch to walk you through the process by phone and answer any questions that you have.

- **Tuesday Night Gathering, 6pm** Our Tuesday night gatherings will last about 30-minutes. Our content will vary from week to week - Bible Study, Evening Prayer, reflections from staff and parishioners. This week - the Psalms. Once you have downloaded zoom, click [here](#) to join.
- **Thursday Morning Prayer, 7:30am** Check out the information about how to use Zoom above. The link for this meeting is different - for Thursday morning prayer, please click [here](#).