Holy Eucharist
Rite II – Contemporary

10:00 a.m.
Sunday March 22nd, 2020
The Fourth Sunday in Lent

Broadcast via FaceBook Live
St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church, Delmar, NY
The people stand

The Processional Hymn
“I want to walk as child of the light”

Hymnal 1982 #490

I want to walk as a child of the light.
I want to follow Jesus.
God sent the stars to give light to the world.
The star of my life is Jesus.

Refrain: In Him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus

I want to see the brightness of God
I want to look at Jesus
Clear sun of righteousness, shine on my path
And show me the way to the Father

Refrain: In Him there is no darkness at all
The night and the day are both alike
The Lamb is the light of the city of God
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus

I’m looking for the coming of Christ
I want to be with Jesus
When we have run with patience the race
we shall know the joy of Jesus

Refrain: In Him there is no darkness at all
The night and the day are both alike
The Lamb is the light of the city of God
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus

The Penitential Order: Rite II

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.
People His mercy endures for ever.
Celebrant Let us together recall the Commandments our Lord
God has given us through His servant Moses.

The people kneel

The Decalogue: Contemporary

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.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not make for yourself any false idol.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.
Amen. Lord have mercy.
Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Honor your father and your mother.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit murder.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit adultery.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not steal.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not be a false witness.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant
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.”

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

BCP, p.352

Minister and People
Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned you 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.

Celebrant
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.

Celebrant Lord, have mercy.
People Christ, have mercy.
Celebrant Lord, have mercy.
The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

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.

Liturgy of the Word

The people are seated

The First Lesson

1 Samuel 16:1-13

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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

In unison

The Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 23 BCP, p.612

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 Second Lesson

Ephesians 5:8-14

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   The Word of the Lord.
People  Thanks be to God.

The people stand for the Gospel Procession and Proclamation

The Holy Gospel

John 9:1-41

Deacon  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.”

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

The people sit

The Sermon Deacon Justine Guernsey

The people stand

The Nicene Creed BCP, p.358

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.

The people kneel

The Prayers of the People

O God, our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. In this challenging and uncertain time of global pandemic and public health crisis, we come before you offering our prayers on behalf of those in need, the Church and the world.

For the Church, that it may not grow weary of proclaiming the gospel of Christ and serve as a beacon of hope to a suffering world. We pray for Michael, the Presiding Bishop; William, our Bishop; Scott, our Rector; and Harvey and Justine, our Deacons and all who minister in your name.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

For all affected by the coronavirus around the world. For the leaders of the nations that they may work together for the common good as the outbreak spreads. May barriers that divide be brought down so that bonds of trust may be strengthened to benefit the entire human family.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Grant public health and government officials in our nation the strength and will to act swiftly and decisively, with wisdom and compassion in service to all. We pray especially for Donald, President of the United States; the Congress; Andrew, our governor; and our local elected officials.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they have access to medical care and regain their strength and health; grant them your healing grace. Give strength to all who are caring for loved ones.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

For healthcare workers, who with hearts of service, stand on the front lines of providing care. Grant them courage and protection as they put the needs of public safety before their own.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Bless scientists and researchers around the world as they combat the virus, that their work may yield knowledge to develop a vaccine, treatments, and improved measures to reduce its spread.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

For the safety and well-being of all who travel and those who remain quarantined.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Remove the presence of fear and anxiety from our hearts, that confident in your providence we may be generous in sharing our resources.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Grant that our church and other communities of faith may reflect your love, as they minister to the most vulnerable among us; fill them with your Holy Spirit as they work to be your healing hands to all in need.
Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.
For those who have already lost loved ones to the virus and those who may yet suffer such loss that they may know the consolation of your love.
Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.
For all who have died in the hope of the Resurrection, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, will all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal. We pray especially for the Rev. Richard Janke, Elizabeth Rowe, and Kathleen Yule.
Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Celebrant: Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy. Sustain and support the anxious, be with those who care for the sick, and lift up all who are brought low; that we may find comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Parish Prayer for Mission: Heavenly Father, we ask you to help us fulfill our mission, to worship you in a loving community, to support people on their Christian Journey, and to empower disciples for service, so that we can bring Jesus to each other and to the world. Amen.

The people stand
The Peace

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.
People And also with you.

Announcements/Birthday & Anniversary Blessings

The Holy Communion

Offering Sentences/Presentation of Gifts

Offertory Hymn “Amazing Grace”

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace first taught my heart to fear
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!
The Lord has promised good to me,
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.

Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come;
'tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we first begun.
The Doxology: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

All standing the Celebrant begins

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.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

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

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.

All 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.

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

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 Breaking of the Bread
The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People Therefore let us keep the feast.
Celebrant O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
People have mercy upon us.
Celebrant O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
People have mercy upon us.
Celebrant O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
People grant us thy peace.

Prayer of Humble Access  BCP, p.364

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.

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 him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.
A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impeded them from actually receiving Holy Communion.

The presider invites the following prayer to be said by all:

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen. (St. Alphonsus de Liguori, 1696-1787)

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

The people kneel

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

May the peace of God which surpasses all human 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, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. Amen.

Recessional Hymn “O for a thousand tongues to sing”

Hymnal 1982 #493

O for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of his grace!

My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread thro' all the earth abroad
the honors of your name.

Jesus! the name that charms our fears,
that bids our sorrows cease,
'tis music in the sinner's ears,
'tis life and health and peace.

The Dismissal

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.
WORSHIP RESOURCES FOR USE DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Dear friends in Christ,

I know this is a challenging time for all of us. I believe that the best path forward is by keeping our focus on God and staying connected to each other to the best of our ability. We are currently developing several different ways for that to happen. Key resources for you will be our church website: ststephensdelmar.org and the church's Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/St-Stephens-Episcopal-Church-Delmar-New-York-107734205935682/

Now would be a good time to familiarize yourself with those, if you have not already. You will notice an increase in communications from us; please do continue to open and read emails as they will contain important information.

First and foremost, we will be offering a livestreamed service of Holy Eucharist at 10am on Sunday mornings. That service can be found by going to the churches Facebook page. Our plan is for the service to be a Holy Eucharist: Rite Two, with sermon and music. I will be joined each week by a very small number of people to facilitate the service while observing appropriate social distancing of at least 6 feet. A bulletin will be made available on our website with a link emailed using our email service. If you or others can't access the bulletin by email, we are happy to mail a copy to you. Please let Gail know by calling 518-439-3265 or emailing ststephensdelmar@gmail.com

Secondly, Deacons Harvey and Justine are coordinating an effort to keep us connected via phone calls. If you or someone you know are interested in receiving phone calls for information or as a form of fellowship and connection, please let the Deacons know either directly or by notifying the office. Deacon Harvey can be reached at: 518-229-4669 or archdeaconharvey@gmail.com. Deacon Justine can be reached at: 518-573-0253 or jmg1014@aol.com.

Next, we know that some folks, especially the elderly or immuno-compromised, may be finding it hard to get out to the store or other essential places. If you need assistance in this fashion our Deacons are helping coordinate that as well. Likewise, if you are interested in volunteering to help with this assistance ministry please let Harvey or Justine know.

Finally, we are working on other ways to use available technology for other services and fellowship opportunities. The first of these will be a service of Stations of the Cross offered through ZOOM (a web-conferencing service) at 7pm this Friday. To join in the Stations of the Cross experience, install the free Zoom video-conferencing application on your web-camera equipped desktop, laptop, tablet or mobile device. To download Zoom client, navigate to https://zoom.us in your browser to download and install Zoom, or download the Zoom app from the App Store or Google Play for your tablet or mobile device. You can then access our Stations of the Cross by clicking here, using https://zoom.us/j/196090595 or by using the client and entering meeting# 196090595

May God bless and protect you

Fr. Scott Garno, Rector

Giving During the COVID-19 PANDEMIC

We appreciate many of you are concerned as to how to honor your pledged offering to St. Stephen’s at this time.

Pledge checks may be mailed to the church office and we also offer the option on our website to give safely online via Tithe.ly.

For alternate methods of giving, please call the church office for information.

We thank you for your concern and pray for a speedy resolution to this current crisis.