



ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
ESSEX, NY

St. John's Episcopal Church  
Essex, NY

**Sunday Service**  
**The Third Sunday of Lent**  
**The Rev. Glen Michaels**

In-Person & Zoom Worship  
March 3, 2024 □ 10:00 A.M.

Loose Plate Offering  
**Rector's Discretionary Fund**

Zoom Link for Sunday Worship:  
<https://www.stjohnsessexny.org/worshipmeet>

Prelude – *Please use this time in silence and to pray*

Processional (*Please stand*) “Praise to the living God!”  
*4 verses*

**Hymn 372**

A Penitential Order: Rite Two

*The people standing or kneeling, the Celebrant says:*

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People*

**His mercy endures forever.**

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your 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 commandment greater than these." Mark 12:29-31

*The Deacon or Celebrant then says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister and People*

**Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

*the Priest, stands and says:*

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

Kyrie or Trisagion

**S 280**

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The First Reading from Genesis Chapter 22, verses 1-19

After all these things, God tested Abraham. So God said to him, "ABRAHAM!"

**And Abraham replied, "Here I am."**

God said, "Take your son, your only one, whom you love, Isaac [EYE-zack], and go forth to the land of Moriah [more-RYE-uh] and offer him up as a burnt offering on one of the mountains which I shall say to you."

**So Abraham rose early in the morning and saddled his donkey and took his servant-boys with him, and Isaac his son, and he split wood for the offering and rose and went to the place that God had said to him.**

On the third day Abraham raised his eyes and saw the place from afar.

**Abraham said to his servant-boys, "Stay here with the donkey and let me and my son walk ahead alone. We will worship and return to you."**

Abraham took the wood for the offering and put it on Isaac his son and he took in his hand the fire and the cleaver, and the two of them went together.

Then Isaac said to Abraham his father, "FATHER!"

**And Abraham replied, "Here I am my son."**

Isaac said, "Here are the fire and the wood but where is the sheep for the offering?"

**Abraham said, "God will see to the sheep for the offering, my son." And the two of them went together.**

And they came to the place that God had said to him, and Abraham built there an altar and laid out the wood and bound Isaac his son and placed him on the altar on top of the wood.

**And Abraham reached out his hand and took the cleaver to slaughter his son.**

But the LORD's messenger called out to Abraham from the heavens and said, "ABRAHAM, ABRA-HAM!"

**And Abraham replied, "Here I am."**

And the messenger said, "Do not reach out your hand against the lad, and do nothing to him, for now I know that you fear God and you have not held back your son, your only one, from Me."

**Then Abraham raised his eyes and saw and – look -- a ram was caught in the thicket by its horns, and Abraham went and took the ram and offered him up as a burnt offering instead of his son.**

**So Abraham called the name of that place YHWH-Yireh, [YAH-way YEAR-uh] as is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD there is sight."**

The the LORD 's messenger called out to Abraham once again from the heavens and said, "By My own Self I swear, declares the LORD, that because you have done this thing and have not held back your son,

your only one, I will greatly bless you and will greatly multiply your seed, as the stars in the heavens and as the sand on the shore of the sea, and your seed shall take hold of its enemies' gate. And all the nations of the earth will be blessed through your seed because you have listened to my voice."

**So Abraham returned to his lads, and they rose and went together to Beersheba [beer-SHE-buh], and Abraham dwelled in Beersheba.**

Hear what the Spirit is saying to us.

**ALL: THANKS BE TO GOD!**

Psalm 19 – *we will read it alternatively by 1/2 verse*

*Caeli enarrant*

1 The heavens declare the glory of God, \*  
and the firmament shows his handiwork.

2 One day tells its tale to another, \*  
and one night imparts knowledge to another.

3 Although they have no words or language, \*  
and their voices are not heard,

4 Their sound has gone out into all lands, \*  
and their message to the ends of the world.

5 In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; \*  
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;  
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

6 It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens  
and runs about to the end of it again; \*  
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.

7 The law of the Lord is perfect  
and revives the soul; \*  
the testimony of the Lord is sure  
and gives wisdom to the innocent.

8 The statutes of the Lord are just  
and rejoice the heart; \*  
the commandment of the Lord is clear  
and gives light to the eyes.

9 The fear of the Lord is clean  
and endures for ever; \*  
the judgments of the Lord are true  
and righteous altogether.

10 More to be desired are they than gold,  
more than much fine gold, \*  
sweeter far than honey,  
than honey in the comb.

11 By them also is your servant enlightened, \*  
and in keeping them there is great reward.

12 Who can tell how often he offends? \*

12 WHO CAN TELL HOW GREAT HIS OFFENSES.

cleanse me from my secret faults.

13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;  
let them not get dominion over me; \*  
then shall I be whole and sound,  
and innocent of a great offense.

14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my  
heart be acceptable in your sight, \*  
O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

The Epistle 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

Gradual Hymn (*Please stand*) “Wilt thou forgive that sin, where I  
begin”

**Hymn 140**

*\*Last verse after the Gospel Reading*

Gospel John 2:13-22

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, “Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father’s house a marketplace!” His disciples remembered that it was written, “Zeal for your house will consume me.” The Jews then said to him, “What sign can you show us for doing this?” Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” The Jews then said, “This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?” But he was speaking of the temple of his

body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

The Homily (*Please be seated*)

The Rev. Glen Michaels

The Nicene Creed (*Please stand*)

**BCP 358-359**

Prayers of the People

*Celebrant* Let us pray for ourselves and the world.

*The Leader and People pray responsively*

Loving God, enliven us for your work of love in our world. We pray for all Bishops, especially Michael our Presiding Bishop, Jeramiah our Bishop and Glen & Diane our Priests, that they may be faithful servants of your Word and sacraments. We pray also for the Anglican church of the Province of Uganda.

**That we may be salt of the earth and light to the world.**

Breathe fresh life into your people. We pray for the elected leaders in our towns, states and nation that they may be faithful to the laws of our land and judicious in their resolve to address the problems in our country.

**Give us power to reveal Christ in our daily lives.**

God of justice and mercy, we pray for all those affected by the wars in the Ukraine, Israel, Palestine, the Gaza Strip and Russia. Pour your wisdom into the leaders of those nations that they may put the good of all their people over all other considerations. Creator of all, lead us and all people into the ways of justice and peace.

**That we may respect one another in freedom and truth.**

Awaken in us a sense of wonder for the earth and all that is in it. We pray that we may respond ever more creatively to the Climate Crisis we are facing.

**Teach us to care creatively for our fragile world.**

God of truth, inspire with your wisdom those whose decisions affect the lives of others. We pray especially for Joe our President, and the leaders of NATO, the Arab nations that surround the Holy Land and all the nations of

the world.

**That all may act with integrity and courage.**

Give grace to all those whose lives are linked with ours. We pray especially for: **Carolyn, Geoffrey, Lois, Joyce, Abra, Mike, Beverly, Noa, Lillian, Chris, Rae, Olivia, Cheryl, Larry, Steven, Tom, Karen, Chris, Lynne, Eve, Anne, Ella, Louis, John, Arnold, Lee, Alicia, Charles and Dick.**

**May we serve Christ in one another, and love as Christ loves us.**

*[Here other intercessions may be offered]*

**Dear Lord, grant us your wisdom and guidance as we embark upon our search process. Help us to humbly discern and accomplish your will for St. John's. We know this will be a challenging journey for all of us, but we pray that it will strengthen our faith, and our respect and love for each other. Help us to share more deeply our faith in you as we learn to listen to each other with open hearts and minds and to hear your voice in all that we say and do. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

**All: Preserve us all, O Christ and take us home to your heart, so that all our lives may be woven together in prayer and praise, in your ever merciful name we pray. Amen.**

The Peace

Prayer for Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthday this week: Betsy Tisdale, Sylvia Tospann,

**Watch over our sisters and brothers, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes all understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Announcements *(Please be seated)*

Offertory *(Please stand)* "Creator of the earth and skies"

**Hymn**



5 verses

Doxology      *verse 3 only*

**Hymn 380**

**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.**

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING  
EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER A**

*The people remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and says:*

The Lord be with you.

**People**      **And also with you.**

*Celebrant*      Lift up your hearts.

**People**      **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant*      Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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

*Celebrant and People*

**Hymn S124**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*The people stand or kneel.*

*Then the Celebrant continues*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.*

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.**

*The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the

Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.

*Celebrant:* As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray:

**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.***

*Celebrant:* Christ, our Passover is sacrificed for us.

*People:* **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

Fraction Anthem: "Lamb of God"

**S161**

*Celebrant:* 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

*Congregation comes forward at this time to receive communion.*

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

**Post Communion Prayer**

*Celebrant and People*

**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.***

Prayer over the People:

*Bow down before the Lord:*

Grant, most merciful Lord to your faithful people pardon and peace, that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve you with a quiet mind; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Recessional "Rock of ages, cleft for me"  
*3 verses*

**Hymn 685**

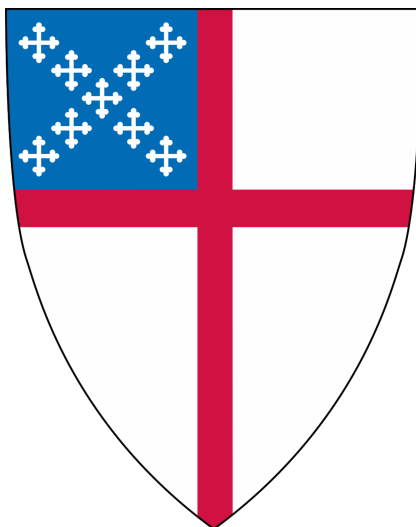
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

*Please join us for coffee in Persell Hall*

### **Ministers of the service**

Usher/Greeters: Mike Smiles & Bruce Hale  
Altar Guild: Bobbi Perez  
Lector: Lee Maxey  
Intercessor: Heather Maxey  
Crucifer: Steve Rucker  
Lay Eucharistic Minister: Dick Perez  
Acolytes: Darcey Hale & Carole Harsh  
Zoom host: Heather Maxey & Leigh Firestone  
Coffee Hour Host: O'Neill/Wever Family  
Cantor: Michael Bergman  
Organist & Music Director: Jennifer Moore  
Pianist: Rose Chandler



St. John's Episcopal Church | 4 Church Street, Essex, NY 12936



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