



CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT
IN THE CITY OF BIRMINGHAM

ELEVEN O'CLOCK
MARCH 19, 2023
The Fourth Sunday in Lent
Holy Communion

VOLUNTARY

Psalm Prelude, Set 1, No. 3

Herbert Howells

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 comfort me. -Psalm 23:4

THE PEOPLE STAND.

HYMN IN PROCESSION NO. 458

Love Unknown

THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 323

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.

People: His mercy endureth forever.

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

THE SUMMARY OF THE LAW

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

KYRIE

John Merbecke



Lord, have mer-cy up-on us. Christ, have mer-cy up-on us. Lord, have mer-cy up-on us.

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THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

THE PEOPLE KNEEL.

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

THE PEOPLE SIT.

A READING FROM THE EPISTLE OF ST. PAUL TO THE EPHESIANS.

For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), ¹⁰and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. ¹³But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, ¹⁴for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you." (5:8-14)

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 23

Anglican Chant: Charles Hylton Stewart

SUNG BY THE CHOIR.

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd:
therefore can I lack nothing.
- 2 He shall feed me in a green pasture:
and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort.
- 3 He shall convert my soul:
and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness for his Name's sake.
- 4 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 comfort me.
- 5 Thou shalt prepare a table before me against them that trouble me:
thou hast anointed my head with oil and my cup shall be full.
- 6 But thy loving kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
ACCORDING TO ST. JOHN.

People: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

As he passed by, Jesus saw a man blind from birth. ²And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." ⁶Having said these things, he spit on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man's eyes with the mud ⁷and said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. ⁸The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" ⁹Some said, "It is he." Others said, "No, but he is like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." ¹⁰So they said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" ¹¹He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed and received my sight." ¹²They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." ¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" And there was a division among them. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet." ¹⁸The 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 ¹⁹and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" ²⁰His parents answered, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. ²¹But how he now sees we do not know,

nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.”²²(His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Jesus to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue.)²³Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”²⁴So for the second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, “Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner.”²⁵He answered, “Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.”²⁶They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?”²⁷He 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?”²⁸And they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses.”²⁹We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.”³⁰The man answered, “Why, this is an amazing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes.”³¹We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him.³²Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind.³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.”³⁴They answered him, “You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?” And they cast him out.³⁵Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?”³⁶He answered, “And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?”³⁷Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.”³⁸He said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him.³⁹Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.”⁴⁰Some of the Pharisees near him heard these things, and said to him, “Are we also blind?”⁴¹Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, ‘We see,’ your guilt remains.” (9:1-41)

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

THE SERMON

The Rev. Wes Sharp

THE PEOPLE STAND.

THE NICENE CREED

PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 327

**I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
and of all things visible and invisible;**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation
came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary,
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory,
to judge both the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life,
who proceedeth from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified;
who spake by the Prophets.**

**And I believe one holy catholic and Apostolic Church;
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins;
and I look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

THE PEOPLE KNEEL.

CONFESSION OF SIN

PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 331

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Almighty God,

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

maker of all things, judge of all men:

We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness,

which we from time to time most grievously have committed,

by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty,

provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.

We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;

the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable.

Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;

for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,

forgive us all that is past;

and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life,

to the honor and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE COMFORTABLE WORDS

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him:

Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you.

-Matthew 11:28

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

-John 3:16

This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

-1 Timothy 1:15

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the perfect offering for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world.

-1 John 2:1-2

THE PEACE

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And with thy spirit.**

THE PEOPLE SIT.

THE WELCOME

AT THE OFFERTORY, ANTHEM

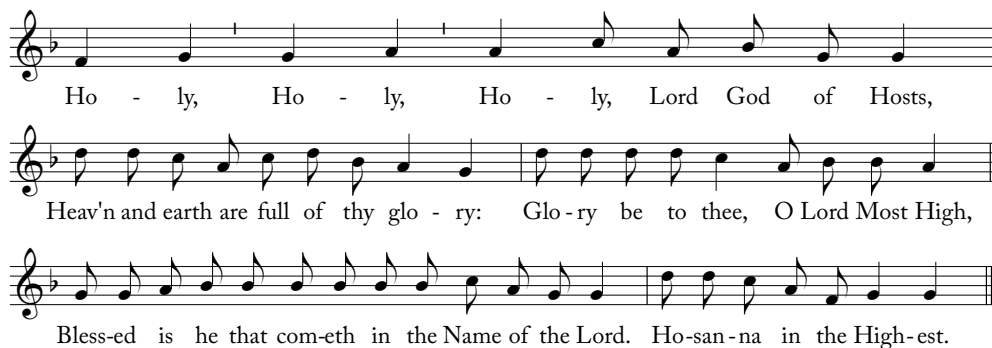
Herbert Howells

My eyes for beauty pine,
My soul for Goddës grace;
No other care nor hope is mine,
To heaven I turn my face.

One splendour thence is shed
From all the stars above:
'Tis named when God's name is said,
'Tis Love, 'tis heavenly Love.

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

John Merbecke



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Lord God of Hosts,
Heav'n and earth are full of thy glo - ry: Glo - ry be to thee, O Lord Most High,
Bless-ed is he that com-eth in the Name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the High-est.

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THE PEOPLE KNEEL OR SIT, AS THE CELEBRANT CONTINUES WITH THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER.

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

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

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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 PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

PRAYER BOOK, PAGE 337

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

THE PEOPLE SIT.

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

All baptized believers in the Lord Jesus Christ are warmly invited to receive Communion either at the rail or at one of the stations. You may receive both the bread and the wine. If you prefer not to receive the wine, simply cross your arms across your chest after receiving the bread. If you wish to receive the wine, you may do so by dipping the bread in the small intinction vessel inside the cup. The chalice bearer will help direct you. (If you have not been baptized, but would like to be, please see one of the ministers following the service.)

MOTET

William Byrd

Ave verum Corpus, natum de Maria Virgine:
Vere passum, immolatum in cruce pro homine:
Cujus latus perforatum, unda fluxit sanguine:
Esto nobis praegustatum in mortis examine.
O dulcis, O pie, O Jesu Fili Mariae, miserere mei. Amen.

*Hail, true Body, born of the Virgin Mary:
Who has truly suffered, was sacrificed on the cross for mortals:
whose side was pierced, whence flowed water and blood:
Be for us a foretaste in the trial of death.
O sweet, O pious, O Jesu Son of Mary, have mercy on me. Amen.
-14th Century, attributed to Pope Innocent VI*

William Byrd's (1540-1623) setting of *Ave verum corpus* comes from the first book of his *Gradualia*, and is a simple four-part setting of a 14th century Latin text. In this motet, Byrd sets to music a sinner humbly asking for mercy.

HYMN NO. 339

Schmücke dich

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

THE PEOPLE KNEEL.

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

THE BLESSING

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

THE PEOPLE STAND.

HYMN IN PROCESSION NO. 665

Michael

THE DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

IF YOU DESIRE, KNEEL FOR A MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER.

VOLUNTARY

Fugue in B minor, BWV 544

Johann Sebastian Bach

THE GREENERY IS GIVEN
TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN MEMORY OF

Virginia McMillan Bromberg
by Frank H. Bromberg, III

Edna Bate Pearce
Bessie Fortenberry Boudreaux and Minann Pearce Boudreaux
by Craig and Scott Boudreaux

Lorol Bowron Rucker
Norris Rediker
Tinsley White Rucker, IV
Mary Smith Slaughter
Mayfield E. Slaughter
by Mr. and Mrs. William M. Slaughter

Buford L. "Bill" Wilson
by Mrs. Buford Wilson

ADULT EDUCATION

Adult Classes take place from 10:15 to 10:50 a.m. and will be available online at Audio.AdventBirmingham.org.

The Dean's Class (Refectory) – *The Gospel, the Gospels, and the Gospel According to Matthew: The Law and the Gospel and the Gospel According to Matthew* – Jono Linebaugh

Inquirers' Class (Diocesan Conference Room) – *Baptism* – Jay Gardner

What God Does with Our Doubt (Living Room) – *“Are You the One?” (Matthew 11:1-10)* – Leslie Housman

Faith and Family (Assembly Hall) – *Protecting Your Child from Abuse and Harm* – Ginger Menendez and Jill Marsh

NEXT SUNDAY • MARCH 26, 2023

Holy Communion at 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m. *in the Nave*, 9:00 a.m. *in the Refectory*, and 5:00 p.m.

Morning Prayer at 11:00 a.m.

*Come to me,
all who labor and are heavy laden,
and I will give you rest.*

Matthew 11.28

The Church of the Advent was founded with the City of Birmingham in 1872.

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT (EPISCOPAL)
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