



Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 15, 2026 | 10:00am

St. John's Episcopal Church, Honeoye Falls

PRELUDE

WELCOME & CENTERING

OPENING HYMN

The Glory of these Forty Days

H 143

*The glory of these forty days
we celebrate with songs of praise,
for Christ, by whom all things were made,
himself has fasted and has prayed.*

*Alone and fasting Moses saw
the loving God who gave the law.
And to Elijah, fasting, came
the steed and chariots of flame.*

*So Daniel trained his mystic sight,
delivered from the lion's might.
And John, the Savior's friend, became
the herald of Messiah's name.*

*Then grant, O God, that we may, too,
return in fast and prayer to you.
Our spirits strengthen with your grace,
and give us joy to see your face.*

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: ***His mercy endures forever.***

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

TRISAGION

4
Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might-y, Ho - ly Im - mor-tal One have

11
mer - cy up - on us. Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly Im -

18
mor-tal One have mer - cy up - on us. Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,

25
Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One have mer - cy up - on us.

THE COLLECT

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.*

FIRST READING

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.

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

PSALM 23

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.*

SECOND READING

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.”

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

THE GOSPEL HYMN

Blessed Jesus, at Thy Word

H 450

*Blessed Jesus, at your word
we are gathered all to hear you.
Let our hearts and souls be stirred
now to seek and love and fear you.
By your gospel pure and holy,
teach us, Lord, to love you solely.*

*All our knowledge, sense, and sight
lie in deepest darkness shrouded,
till your Spirit breaks our night
with your beams of truth unclouded.
You alone to God can win us;
you must work all good within us.*

*Glorious Lord, yourself impart;
Light of Light, from God proceeding,
open lips and ears and heart;
help us by your Spirit's leading.
Hear the cry your church now raises;
Lord, accept our prayers and praises.*

THE GOSPEL

John 9:1-41

Celebrant: 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.”

The Gospel of the Lord. *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

SERMON

REV. JIM TRIMBLE

THE NICENE CREED

BCP 358

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, FORM VI

BCP 392

The Leader and People pray responsively.

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. *(silence)*

For all people in their daily life and work;

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

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Sean, the Presiding Bishop; Kara, our Bishop; Lorraine and Catherine, our Postulants for Holy Orders; and Jim, our Rector; and for all bishops and other ministers; ***For all who serve God in his Church.***

In our diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for St. Mark's & St. John's Church, Rochester; and Sustainable Development Ministries. We lift up clergy, including Bob Culp. We also pray for reconciliation of conflicts, or enemies and the Anglican Church of Kenya.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially John, Gloria, Alice, Chelsea, Greg, Rob, John, Zeke, Robert, Patrick, Michael, Jan, Christopher, Mark, Taran, Kate, Sharon, Lew, Nora, Lizzie, Joel, Jean, Emile, Cannie, Anne, Sandy, Jim, Brenda, Lorraine, the Siebold family, Cindy, Christine, Audet, Kevin, and Jim and those whom you wish to name, either silently aloud. *(silence)* Hear us, Lord; ***For your mercy is great.***

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. *(silence)*

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, especially Julie, Robin, Patricia, Lauren, Glora, Earl, Lynn, Vicki, and Margaret, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. *(silence)* Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them; ***Who put their trust in you.***

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

BCP 360

THE PEACE

BCP 360

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS AND DOXOLOGY

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER A

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.....

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:

4
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
 11
 might, - Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in - the
 19
 high - est, ho - san - na in - the high - est. Bless - ed is He, bless - ed is
 28
 He, who comes in the name of the Lord - ho - san - na in - the high -
 36
 est, ho - san - na in - the high - est. *rit.*

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, ...Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." ***Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.***

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....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

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; ***therefore let us keep the feast.*** 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.

COMMUNION HYMN

The Lord is my Shepherd LEVAS 104

*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.*

*My soul he doth restore again;
and me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness,
ev'n for his own name's sake.*

*Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
yet will I fear none ill:
For thou art with me; and thy rod
and staff me comfort still.*

*My table thou hast furnishèd
In presence of my foes;
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 forever more
My dwelling place shall be.*

GOING OUT INTO THE WORLD

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 365

THE BLESSING

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing H 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.*

*He breaks the power of cancelled sin,
he sets the prisoner free;
his blood can make the foulest clean;
his blood availed for me.*

*To God all glory, praise, and love
be now and ever given
by saints below and saints above,
the Church in earth and heaven.*

THE DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. *Thanks be to God.*

POSTLUDE