



A SERVICE OF MORNING PRAYER  
THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT  
MARCH 22, 2020  
SAINT JOHN'S CATHEDRAL

VOLUNTARY

SARABAND (IN MODO ELGIACO)

*Herbert Howells*

THE OPENING SENTENCE

*The Officiant says*

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us; but if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. I JOHN 1:8, 9

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*All kneel as a moment of silence is kept.*

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.

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.

THE INVITATORY

*All stand. The Officiant says*

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

*All say together*

**Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity,  
one God: as it was in the beginning, is  
now, and will be forever. Amen.**

*The Officiant says*

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy: Come let us adore him.

*All sit.*

*The Choir sings*

Come, let us sing to the Lord; \*  
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \*  
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, \*  
and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \*  
and the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it, \*  
and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \*  
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is our God,  
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. \*  
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

**PSALM 23:1-6***Edward Bairstow**The Choir sings*

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters. He revives my soul and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake. 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. 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. 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. Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

*1 Samuel 16:1-13***THE FIRST READING**

A Reading from the First Book of the Prophet Samuel.

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.

Here ends the Reading.

**CANTICLE 14: A SONG OF PENITENCE** *Kyrie Pantokrator*

*Charles Wesley*

*The Choir sings*

O Lord and Ruler of the hosts of heaven, \*  
God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob,  
and of all their righteous offspring:

You made the heavens and the earth, \*  
with all their vast array.

All things quake with fear at your presence; \*  
they tremble because of your power.

But your merciful promise is beyond all measure; \*  
it surpasses all that our minds can fathom.

O Lord, you are full of compassion, \*  
long-suffering, and abounding in mercy.

You hold back your hand; \*  
you do not punish as we deserve.

In your great goodness, Lord,  
you have promised forgiveness to sinners, \*  
that they may repent of their sin and be saved.

And now, O Lord, I bend the knee of my heart, \*  
and make my appeal,  
sure of your gracious goodness.

I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned, \*  
and I know my wickedness only too well.

Therefore I make this prayer to you: \*  
Forgive me, Lord, forgive me.

Do not let me perish in my sin, \*  
nor condemn me to the depths of the earth.

For you, O Lord, are the God of those who repent, \*  
and in me you will show forth your goodness.

Unworthy as I am, you will save me,  
in accordance with your great mercy, \*  
and I will praise you without ceasing all the days of my life.

For all the powers of heaven sing your praises, \*  
and yours is the glory to ages of ages. Amen.

Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God:  
as it was in the beginning, is now,  
and will be forever. Amen.

## THE SECOND READING

*John 9:1-41*

A Reading from the Gospel according to John.

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 neighbours 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.

Here ends the Reading.

#### THE SERMON

#### THE APOSTLES' CREED

*Officiant and People together, all standing*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.

Amen.

#### THE PRAYERS

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

*All say together*

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.

## SUFFRAGE A

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;

**R. And grant us your salvation.**

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

**R. Let your people sing with joy.**

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

**R. For only in you can we live in safety.**

V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;

**R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

V. Let your way be known upon earth;

**R. Your saving health among all nations.**

V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

**R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;

**R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

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.**

*All sit.*

## ANTHEM

HERE, O MY LORD

*Eleanor Daley*

Here, O my Lord I see Thee face to face, here would I touch and handle things unseen, here would I grasp with firmer hand the eternal grace, and all my weariness upon Thee lean. Here would I feed upon the bread of God, here drink with Thee, the royal wine of heaven, here would I lay aside each earthly load, and taste afresh the calm of sin forgiven. This is the hour of banquet and of song, this is the heavenly table spread for me, here let me feast, and feasting still prolong the brief bright hour of fellowship with Thee. Amen.

*The anthem ended, all stand.*

*The Officiant says*

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 beacon of hope to a suffering world. We pray for creative minds and determined spirits to meet the challenges ahead. We pray especially for Michael, our presiding bishop; Kym, our bishop; and all who minister in your name.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

For all affected by the coronavirus in Colorado and around the world; for those who serve the most vulnerable among us; for healthcare workers; for those who have lost loved ones due to coronavirus; for those consumed with fear due to COVID-19; for scientists and researchers who are seeking vaccinations and treatments for this virus; and 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 that bonds of trust may be strengthened to the benefit of the entire human family.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

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

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

For those who are sick, especially those with the coronavirus. 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 all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

For all those people and situations on our hearts, which we now offer to you, either silently or aloud.

*A moment of silence*

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

*The Officiant concludes the prayers*

Keep us, loving God, under the shadow of your mercy. Sustain and support the fearful, 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.**

*Prayer from Gloucester Cathedral*

## THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

### *Officiant and People*

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

## THE FINAL RESPONSE

### *The Officiant says*

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

### *The Officiant concludes*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.

*2 Corinthians 13:14*

## HYMN 680

## O GOD, OUR HELP IN AGES PAST

*St. Anne*

1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,  
2 un - der the sha - dow of thy throne thy saints have dwelt se - cure;  
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or earth re - ceived her frame,  
4 A thou - sand a - ges in thy sight are like an eve - ning gone;  
5 Time, like an ev - er - roll - ing stream, bears all our years a - way;

1 our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:  
2 suf - fi - cient is thine arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.  
3 from ev - er - last - ing thou art God, to end - less years the same.  
4 short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.  
5 they fly, for - got - ten, as a dream dies at the o - pen - ing day.

6 O God, our help in ages past, be thou our guide while life shall last,  
our hope for years to come, and our eternal home.



OFFICIANT

The Reverend Canon Broderick Greer  
*Canon Precentor*

PREACHER

The Right Reverend Kym Lucas  
*Bishop of the Episcopal Church in Colorado*

LECTOR

Evans Ousley  
*Communications Coordinator*

MUSIC

Members of the Vicars Chorale  
Dr. Michael Boney  
*Director of Music and Organist*  
Joseph O'Berry  
*Associate Director of Music and Organist*

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