

The Season of Lent

March 9 – April 26, 2011



*Create in me a clean
heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit
within me.*

- Psalm 51:11

St. Luke's Episcopal Church
(Anglican Communion)

About the Season

Lent comes from an old-English word “to lengthen.” It was used for Spring, the season of lengthening days. For the church, it is a 40-day liturgical season that begins on Ash Wednesday and concludes at the Great Vigil of Easter. Sundays are not included in the 40-day count because every Sunday is a joyful celebration of Jesus' resurrection. It is a season of penitence and fasting, recalling the 40 days of the flood, the 40 years of Israel's wandering in the desert, and the 40 days of Jesus' temptation in the desert, among others.

Lent is a season of preparation for the celebration of Easter, the most important feast of the Christian year. Just as we take time to prepare our homes for important celebrations – like spring cleaning, putting out our best stuff, fixing broken things, etc., we use the Lenten season to do the same with our lives in preparation of the Resurrection. Lent is sort of a “spring-cleaning of the soul.”

We simplify things in Lent so we don't get distracted from this “soul cleaning.” Thus, we've removed or covered up the more elaborate decorations in church, we give up something in our lives, and we have more opportunities for worship and reflection.

Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent. On this day, Christians focus on their mortal nature as ones created of dust and destined for dust apart from God's creating and redeeming actions. Ashes are referred to many times in the Old Testament as signs of sorrow, mourning, humility, and repentance, and on Ash Wednesday they are used to remind people of their mortality -- that "you are dust, and to dust you shall return" (Genesis 3:19). For the ritual Imposition of Ashes, ashes are mixed with a small amount of oil and applied to the forehead of each worshipper.

The Sunday of the Passion or Palm Sunday begins the last week of Lent, known as Holy Week. During this holiest time of the church year, the worship services relive the final week of our Lord's human life. Holy Week includes Maundy Thursday, when Christians observe Christ's "Last Supper" -- the institution of the Sacrament of Holy Communion -- and the mandate to serve one another in love. Good Friday commemorates the imprisonment, trial and death by crucifixion of Jesus.

Lent culminates on Saturday evening of Holy Week in the Great Vigil of Easter, when Christians gather in darkness, light new fire, and celebrate the fulfillment of the Old Testament prophecies in the resurrection of Christ.

The Holy Eucharist



GATHERING THE PEOPLE OF GOD

Entrance Hymn

See Insert

The Penitential Order

The Celebrant greets the People with these words

Blessed be the God of our salvation:

People **Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.**

The Celebrant then reads one of the following sentences to prepare the people for confession.

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.”

Mark 12:29-31

If we say that 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. *1 John 1:8,9*

Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. *Hebrews 4:14, 16*

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept.

**God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.**

The Celebrant says

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

All stand as they are able for the Kyrie ("Lord have mercy") and Collect of the Day.

Kyrie

Said at 8:30.

Priest Lord, have mercy.

***People* Lord, have mercy.**

Priest Lord, have mercy.

Priest Christ, have mercy.

***People* Christ, have mercy.**

Priest Christ, have mercy.

Priest Lord, have mercy.

***People* Lord, have mercy.**

Priest Lord, have mercy.

Sung at 10:30

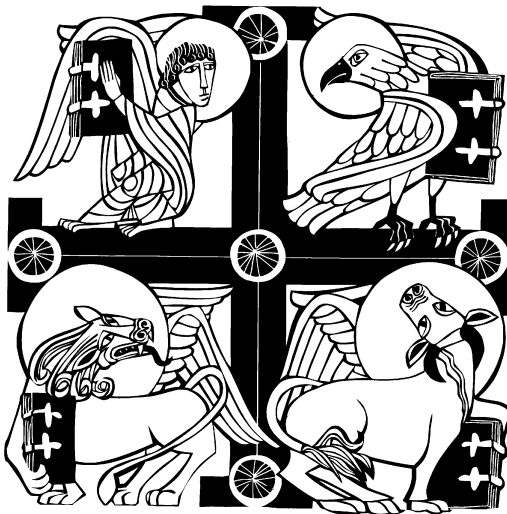
Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.
Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Music: From *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880–1968)

The Collect of the Day

Printed in the Insert

The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.



HEARING THE WORD OF GOD AND GIVING OUR RESPONSE

All are seated for the reading of the first two lessons and the psalm.

The Readings, Psalm, and hymns are listed in the Scripture Insert

First Reading

See Insert

The reading concludes as follows

The word of the Lord

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Psalm

See Insert

Second Reading

See Insert

The reading concludes as follows

The word of the Lord

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn

See Insert

The Gospel

See Insert

The Gospel is introduced with these words

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to N.

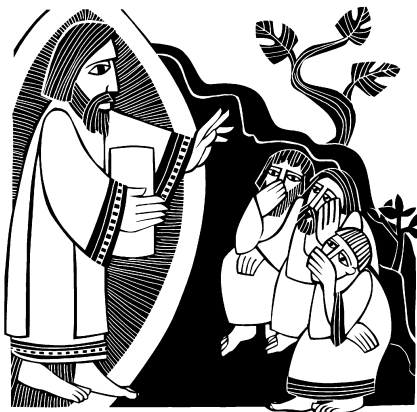
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

And concluded as follows

Reader The Gospel of the Lord

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon



The Nicene Creed

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 Prayers of the People

The leader of the Intercessions stands in the middle of the congregation. The people respond to the prayers as indicated.

These prayers are adapted from a series developed by the Episcopal Relief & Development to connect our prayer concerns with the needs of the poorest in the world.

Brothers and sisters in Christ: Before he was crucified, our Savior Jesus Christ promised to draw to himself all things whether in heaven or on earth. Let us pray, therefore, that the peace accomplished through the Cross of Christ may be realized in our own world and our own relationships. Let us pray for the Church and the world God so loves, for peace among all nations, and for the reconciliation of all people and all things in the Name of Christ:

People **Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for those who are preparing for Confirmation, Reception, or Reaffirmation, especially _____, that God will kindle in them a lively faith, a discerning mind, and a heart to know, share, and live the Gospel:

People **Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for the poor, hungry, and neglected all over the world, that their cries for daily bread may inspire works of compassion and mercy among those to whom much has been given:

People **Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for schools and centers of learning throughout the world, for those who lack access to basic education, and for the light of knowledge to blossom and shine in the lives of all God's people:

People **Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for an end to the divisions and inequalities that scar God's creation, particularly the barriers to freedom faced by God's children throughout the world because of gender, tribe, and ethnic origin; that all who have been formed in God's image might have equality in pursuit of the blessings of creation:

People **Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for the health of women, children and families around the world, especially for an end to maternal and child mortality, that in building healthy families, all God's people may be empowered to strengthen their communities and repair the breaches which divide nations and peoples:

People **Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for those who celebrate their birthdays and anniversaries, that their lives may flourish and their witness strengthen our fellowship:

People **Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for the sick and suffering, especially _____, and for an end to pandemic disease throughout the world, that God will bless the labors of all who minister to the sick, and unite the wills of nations and peoples in seeking an end to the pandemics of our age; that sickness may be turned to health, sorrow turned to joy, and mourning turned to praise of God's Holy Name.

People **Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for an end to the waste and desecration of God's creation, and for all nations and people who already enjoy the abundance of creation and the blessings of prosperity, that their hearts may be lifted up to the needs of the poor and afflicted, and partnerships between rich and poor for the reconciliation of the world may flourish and grow:

People **Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for the departed, especially _____, and those who have died as a result of poverty, hunger, disease, violence, or hardness of the human heart:

People **Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

The Celebrant concludes the Prayers with an appropriate Collect.

The Peace

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

HOLY COMMUNION – RECEIVING OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST



Offertory Anthem & Hymn

See Insert

If an Anthem is listed, all are seated while the Choir sings.

All then stand for the Offertory Hymn, during which the people's gifts of Bread and Wine for the Eucharist and offerings for the Mission of the Church will be collected and brought to the Altar.

The Great Thanksgiving

The people remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and says

People The Lord be with you.
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 our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant and People

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

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Sung at 10:30

The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and homophonic. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est." The score ends with a double bar line.

Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950)

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Then the Celebrant continues

Blessed are you, gracious God,
creator of the universe and giver of life.
You formed us in your own image
and called us to dwell in your infinite love.
You gave the world into our care
that we might be your faithful stewards
and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image
in one another and in ourselves;
we would not see your goodness in the world around us;
and so we violated your creation,
abused one another,
and rejected your love.

Yet you never ceased to care for us,
and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah
you called us into covenant with you.
You delivered us from slavery,
sustained us in the wilderness,
and raised up prophets
to renew your promise of salvation.
Then, in the fullness of time,
you sent your eternal Word,
made mortal flesh in Jesus.
Born into the human family,
and dwelling among us,
he revealed your glory.
Giving himself freely to death on the cross,
he triumphed over evil,
opening the way of freedom and life.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or 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 before he died for us,
Jesus was at table with his friends.
He took bread, gave thanks to you,
broke it, and gave it to them, and said:
“Take, eat:
This is my Body, which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine.
Again, he gave thanks to you,
gave it to them, and said:
“Drink this, all of you:
This is my Blood of the new Covenant,
which is poured out for you and for all
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

Remembering his death and resurrection,
we now present to you from your creation
this bread and this wine.

By your Holy Spirit may they be for us
the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Grant that we who share these gifts
may be filled with the Holy Spirit
and live as Christ's Body in the world.

Bring us into the everlasting heritage
of your daughters and sons,
that with the ever blessed Virgin Mary;
Blessed Luke the Evangelist, our Patron; and all your saints,
past, present, and yet to come,
we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
to you be honor, glory, and praise,
for ever and ever. *AMEN.*

The Lord's Prayer

The Celebrant continues

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

Celebrant and People

Our Father. . .

The Breaking of the Bread

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept, and then all say
The celebrant begins*

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:

And all join in

have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:

have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:

grant us peace.

This version is sung instead at 10:30

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950)

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The Holy Communion

Facing the people, the Celebrant may say the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

and may add Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All Christians of any age who are baptized with water in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are invited to come to the altar to share with us in the communion of the body and blood of Christ.

Those who do not wish to receive may come to the altar to receive a blessing. If you wish a blessing, please fold your arms across your chest to indicate you desire a blessing.

Post-Communion Hymn

See Insert

Sending forth of the Lay Eucharistic Visitors

Lay Eucharistic Visitors are communion ministers licensed by the Bishop to take Communion to the sick and shut-in of the parish. Communion is taken directly from the altar to emphasize the congregation's connection through the Sacrament with those who are absent.

When Communion is to be taken by a LEV, the elements are presented with the following words.

Celebrant In the name of this congregation I send you forth bearing these holy gifts,
that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of
Christ's Body and Blood.

People **We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.**

GOING FORTH INTO THE WORLD

The Post-Communion Prayer

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

The People join in saying this prayer

**Loving God,
we give you thanks
for restoring us in your image
and nourishing us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.
Now send us forth
a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;
that we may proclaim your love to the world
and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

The Lenten Solemn Prayers Over the People

The Celebrant begins

Bow your heads before the Lord.

Lent 1

Grant, Almighty God, that your people may recognize their weakness and put their whole trust in your strength, so that they may rejoice for ever in the protection of your loving providence; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lent 2

Keep this your family, Lord, with your never-failing mercy, that relying solely on the help of your heavenly grace, they may be upheld by your divine protection; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lent 3

Look mercifully on this your family, Almighty God, that by your great goodness they may be governed and preserved evermore; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lent 4

Look down in mercy, Lord, on your people who kneel before you; and grant that those whom you have nourished by your Word and Sacraments may bring forth fruit worthy of repentance; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lent 5

Look with compassion, O Lord, upon this your people; that, rightly observing this holy season, they may learn to know you more fully, and to serve you with a more perfect will; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

From Palm Sunday through Maundy Thursday

Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Dismissal

Then the people are dismissed with these words

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Processional Hymn


See Insert



APPENDIX: THE GREAT LITANY

The Great Litany is sung or said in procession, beginning at the rear of the Church. All Stand.

O God the Father, Creator of heaven and earth,

People

Have mer - cy up - on us.

O God the Son, Redeemer of the world . . .

Have mercy upon us.


O God the Holy Ghost, Sanctifier of the faithful, . . .

Have mercy upon us.

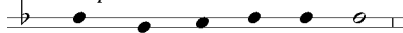
O holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, One God, . . .

Have mercy upon us.

Remember not, Lord Christ, our offenses, nor the offenses of our forebears; neither reward us according to our sins. Spare us, good Lord, spare thy people, whom thou hast redeemed with thy most precious blood, and by thy mercy preserve us for ever.

People

Spare us, good Lord.

From all evil and wickedness; from sin; from the crafts and assaults of the devil; and from everlasting damnation,

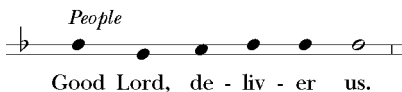
People

Good Lord, de - liv - er us.

From all blindness of heart; from pride, vainglory, and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred, and malice; and from all want of charity. . .

Good Lord, deliver us.

From all inordinate and sinful affections; and from all the deceits of the world, the flesh, and the devil, . . .

Good Lord, deliver us.



From all false doctrine, heresy, and schism; from hardness of heart, and contempt of thy Word and commandment, . . . ***Good Lord, deliver us.***

From lightning and tempest; from earthquake, fire, and flood; from plague, pestilence, and famine, . . . ***Good Lord, deliver us.***

From all oppression, conspiracy, and rebellion; from violence, battle, and murder; and from dying suddenly and unprepared, . . . ***Good Lord, deliver us.***

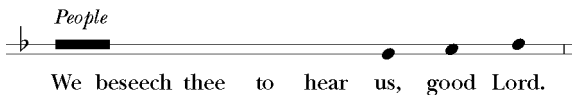
By the mystery of thy holy Incarnation; by thy holy Nativity and submission to the Law; by thy Baptism, Fasting, and Temptation, . . . ***Good Lord, deliver us.***

By thine Agony and Bloody Sweat; by thy Cross and Passion; by thy precious Death and Burial; by thy glorious Resurrection and Ascension; and by the Coming of the Holy Ghost, . . . ***Good Lord, deliver us.***

In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death, and in the day of judgment, . . . ***Good Lord, deliver us.***

The Procession moves to the altar rail.

We sinners do beseech thee to hear us, O Lord God; and that it may please thee to rule and govern thy holy Church Universal in the right way,



That it may please thee to illumine all bishops, priests, and deacons, with true knowledge and understanding of thy Word; and that both by their preaching and living, they may set it forth, and show it accordingly, . . . ***We beseech thee to hear us, Good Lord.***

That it may please thee to bless and keep all thy people, . . . ***We beseech thee to hear us, Good Lord.***

People
|-----|
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We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to send forth laborers into thy harvest, and to draw all humankind into thy kingdom, . . . ***We beseech thee to hear us, Good Lord.***

That it may please thee to give to all people increase of grace to hear and receive thy Word, and to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, . . .
We beseech thee to hear us, Good Lord.

That it may please thee to bring into the way of truth all such as have erred, and are deceived, . . .
We beseech thee to hear us, Good Lord.

That it may please thee to give us a heart to love and fear thee, and diligently to live after thy commandments, . . . ***We beseech thee to hear us, Good Lord.***

That it may please thee so to rule the hearts of thy servants, the President of the United States, and all others in authority, that they may do justice, and love mercy, and walk in the ways of truth, . . .

That it may please thee to make wars to cease in all the world; to give to all nations unity, peace, and concord; and to bestow freedom upon all peoples, . . .
We beseech thee to hear us, Good Lord.

That it may please thee to show thy pity upon all prisoners and captives, the homeless and the hungry, and all who are desolate and oppressed, . . .
We beseech thee to hear us, Good Lord.

That it may please thee to give and preserve to our use the bountiful fruits of the earth, so that in due time all may enjoy them, . . .
We beseech thee to hear us, Good Lord.

The Procession moves into the Sanctuary as the choir and acolytes take their place.

That It may please thee to inspire us, in our several callings, to do the work which thou givest us to do with singleness of heart as thy servants, and for the common good, . . .
We beseech thee to hear us, Good Lord.



Officiant Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us.

People Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us.



O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, Have mer-cy up-on us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, Have mer-cy up-on us.



O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, Grant us thy peace.



O Christ, hear us. O Christ, hear us.

The Great Litany concludes with the *Kyrie* (“Lord have mercy”) on page 5.

Leadership

Diocese of New Jersey

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Parish of St. Luke's

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The Rev. Canon Joan Fleming
The Rev. Lisa E. Caton

Church Musician

Charles E. "Chic" Walker

Sexton

Ben Caldwell, Jr.

Lay Officers

Senior Warden
Junior Warden

Claudia Wallace
Michele Leblanc

Clerk of Vestry
Treasurer

Ivette Santiago-Green
Jamie Griswold

Vestry

Through January 2012

Tad Hall
Allison Lazarus
Meg Rich

Through January 2013

Sonya Brockington
Adesola "Addie" Osanyinjobi
Lytisha "Tee" Williams

Through January 2014

Stephen Keller
John Sampson
Ivette Santiago-Green

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