

# The First Sunday in Lent

St. George's Episcopal Church

March 9, 2025

*The Great Litany is an ancient way of prayer, and the first part of the liturgy that English-speaking Christians heard translated into their own language, in 1544. For centuries, the Great Litany was part of weekly worship, but has come to be especially connected with the first Sunday in Lent. It has been precious to our tradition because of the beautiful way in which it names our vulnerability and need, and appeals to the identity of God as deliverer. We participate in that continuity of prayer this morning.*

*Text in **bold** is said by all.*

## The Great Litany

Holy God, Creator of heaven and earth,  
**Have mercy on us.**

Holy and Mighty, Redeemer of the world,  
**Have mercy on us.**

Holy Immortal One, Sanctifier of the faithful,  
**Have mercy on us.**

Holy, blessed and glorious Trinity, One God,  
**Have mercy on us.**

From all evil and mischief; from pride, vanity and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred and malice; and from all evil intent,  
**Savior deliver us.**

From sloth, worldliness and love of money; from hardness of heart and contempt for your word and your laws,  
**Savior deliver us.**

From famine and disaster; from violence, murder, and dying unprepared,  
**Savior deliver us.**

In all times of sorrow; in all times of joy; in the hour of our death and at the day of judgment,  
**Savior deliver us.**

By the mystery of your holy incarnation; by your birth, childhood and obedience; by your baptism, fasting and temptation,  
**Savior deliver us.**

By your ministry in word and work; by your mighty acts of power; by the preaching of your reign,  
**Savior deliver us.**

By your agony and trial; by your cross and passion; by your precious death and burial,  
**Savior deliver us.**

By your mighty resurrection; by your glorious ascension; and by your sending of the Holy Spirit,  
**Savior deliver us.**

Hear our prayers, O Christ our God.  
**Hear us, O Christ.**

Govern and direct your holy Church; fill it with love and truth; and grant it that unity which is your will.  
**Hear us, O Christ.**

Guide the leaders of the nations into the ways of peace and justice.  
**Hear us, O Christ.**

Give us the will to use the resources of the earth to your glory and for the good of all.  
**Hear us, O Christ.**

Bless and keep all your people.  
**Hear us, O Christ.**

Comfort and liberate the lonely, the bereaved and the oppressed.  
**Hear us, O Christ.**

Keep in safety all who are in peril.  
**Hear us, O Christ.**

Heal the sick in body, mind or spirit and provide for the homeless, the hungry and the destitute.

**Hear us, O Christ.**

Shower your compassion on prisoners, hostages and refugees, and all who are in trouble.

**Hear us, O Christ.**

Hear us as we remember those who have died and grant us with them a share in your eternal glory.

**Hear us, O Christ.**

Give us true repentance; forgive us our sins of negligence and ignorance and our deliberate sins; and grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit to amend our lives according to your word.

**Holy God,**

**Holy and Mighty,**

**Holy Immortal One,**

**Have mercy on us.**

## The Collect of the Day

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

# The First Reading

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us." When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, you shall make this response before the LORD your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me." You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## Response

Psalm 91: 1-2, 9-16

They who dwell in the shelter of the Most High \*  
abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

**They shall say to God, "You are my refuge and my stronghold, \*  
my God in whom I put my trust."**

Because you have made God your refuge \*  
and the Most High your habitation,  
**There shall no evil happen to you, \***  
**neither shall any plague come near your dwelling.**  
For God shall give the angels charge over you, \*  
to keep you in all your ways.  
**They shall bear you in their hands, \***  
**lest you dash your foot against a stone.**  
You shall tread upon the lion and adder; \*  
you shall trample the young lion and the serpent under your feet.  
**Because you are bound to me in love,**  
**therefore will I deliver you; \***  
**I will protect you, because you know my Name.**  
You shall call upon me, and I will answer you; \*  
I am with you in trouble; I will rescue you and bring you honor.  
**With long life will I satisfy you \***  
**and show you my salvation.**

## The Second Reading

Romans 10:8b-13

"The word is near you,  
on your lips and in your heart"

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

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

# The Gospel

Luke 4:1-13

*Please stand.*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.  
**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

After his baptism, Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'"

Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." Jesus answered him, "It is written,

'Worship the Lord your God,  
and serve only him.'"

Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you,  
to protect you,'

and

'On their hands they will bear you up,  
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

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

## The Sermon

# The Nicene Creed

*Please stand.*

**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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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 Peace

The Peace of Christ be always with you.  
And also with you.

*Please greet your neighbors with the Peace of Christ.*

## Welcome & Offertory



*All your gifts support the ministry happening through St. George's!  
You can give online by scanning the QR code, or following this link:  
<https://stgeorgesyh.breezechms.com/give/online>*

# The Great Thanksgiving

*Please stand.*

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing

**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.**

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 Presider 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, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, 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, 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 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:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

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 all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever.

**AMEN.**

## The Lord's Prayer

As our Savior Christ has taught 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

*The Presider breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.*

O Lamb of God, that takes away the sins of the world,  
**have mercy upon us.**

O Lamb of God, that takes away the sins of the world,  
**have mercy upon us.**

O Lamb of God, that takes away the sins of the world,  
**grant us your peace.**

Hymn

Hymnal 707

# The Post Communion Prayer

*Please stand.*

Let us pray.

**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.**

# Prayer Over the People

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.**

Hymn

Hymnal 688

# Dismissal

*The people are dismissed and respond*

**Thanks be to God.**

# Parish Prayer List

**Parishioners:** Barbara Kautz, Suzanne Thompson, John Howe, Dick Santoro, Heidi, Sally Cocco, Susan Yorston, Chris Reveliotty, Larry Dow, the Kittel family

**Friends and Family:** Cathy & Nancy; the Horrigan Family; Joseph Kittel and Kittel family; Todor Stefanov; Tasha Santoro; Brian Kautz; Beverly Hart; the family of Michael Major; Mark Osborn; the Brouker family, Dan Leroux, Tina Sagris, Steve Bennett

**In the Armed Forces:** Ben Stevanov, Ben Smith, Andrew Smith, Garon Woods

**Rest in Peace:** Bob Goehrig, Frank DeSarro, Mike Cocco, Peter Blanchard, Lynn Dennis, Joseph Kittel, Charlie Smith

*If you would like to add someone to the Parish prayer list, or offer updates, contact Fr. Ryan or the Parish office.*

## Announcements

### **Bible Study Groups**

Every Monday afternoon at 1:00 at the church, we'll spend time with the Scripture passages we'll hear the following Sunday. Our next meeting will be on March 10th. Bring a Bible and we'll explore together!

The readings for next week are:

Genesis 15:1-12,17-18

Philippians 3:17-4:1

Luke 13:31-35

**Next Wednesday, March 12th**, we'll continue our monthly gatherings at **SOME Brewing on Rt. 1 in York**. We'll meet at 5:30, with some time for fellowship, then turn to conversation about the threads and themes we'll encounter during the season of Lent.

### **Reading Together this Lent:**

***Wild Hope: Stories for Lent from the Vanishing***

#### **Beginning Wednesday 3/12**

This Lent, join us in reading *Wild Hope*, a day-by-day series of reflections by Gail Boss and illustrations by David Klein.

From the publisher:

*Spend Lent with twenty-five...endangered animals. Vivid descriptions of the miracle of each creature and the peril it faces will fill readers with wonder and grief at what these animals suffer on a planet shaped by human choices. Their true and difficult stories will wake readers to a greater compassion—which is what Lent, meaning “springtime,” has always been for. These stories also wake in us a wild hope that from all this death and ruin something new could rise. The promise of Lent is that something new will rise. In fact, as these stories attest, our hope, though wild, is not impossible and is already loose in the world.”*

Join us online Wednesday mornings at 9:00 via this link:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/586095515>

# This Week

|                  |   |                 |  |
|------------------|---|-----------------|--|
| <b>Monday</b>    | Fr. Ryan's drop-in hours / 8-11:00am<br>Bible Study / 1:00 pm<br>Compline / 8:30pm <i>online</i>  | <b>Thursday</b> | Rug Hookers / 10:00am<br>Healing Service / 10:00am<br>Compline / 8:30pm, <i>online</i> |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | Compline / 8:30pm <i>online</i>   | <b>Friday</b>   | Office Closed<br>Compline / 8:30pm <i>online</i>                                       |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | Book Group / 9:00am <i>online</i><br>Knitting Circle / 5:30 - 7:00pm<br>Bible Study at SOME / 5:30pm<br>Compline / 8:30pm <i>online</i> | <b>Saturday</b> | AA / 12:00pm   |

## Serving in Worship Today

|                  |                                    |
|------------------|------------------------------------|
| Ushers:          | Jeff Hart & Jan McManus            |
| Readers:         | Barbara Early<br>Nancy Davison     |
| Intercessor:     | Paul Mazgelis                      |
| Chalice Bearers: | Davis Roberts                      |
| Altar Guild:     | Marianne Lindquist & Gail Marshall |



### **St. George's Parish Vestry**

Kate Ford - Sr. Warden  
Barbara Ryther - Jr. Warden  
Maureen Pinkerman - Treasurer  
Janie Sweeney  
Linda Laskey  
Bridgit Holzer  
Jeff Hart  
Davis Roberts  
Pauline Cashman

### **Parish Administrator**

Joyce Parent  
office@stgeorgesyorkharbor.org

### **Deacon**

The Rev. Aaron Perkins  
aperkins@stgeorgesyorkharbor.org

### **Minister of Music**

Dr. Ivan Stefanov  
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### **Rector**

The Rev. Ryan Mails  
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