



## Morning Prayer and Holy Eucharist at the Church of St. Paul, Cambria

• The Fourth Sunday of Lent • March 30, 2025 •

### Opening Hymn- 145

Bless the Lord who forgives our sins.

**His mercy endures forever.**

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.**

### Penitential Rite

O God, the author and source of all light, you gaze into the depths of our inmost hearts. Never permit the powers of darkness to hold your people captive, but open our eyes by the grace of your Spirit, that we may be able to look on your Son and see the One you sent to illumine the world, so that, seeing, we may believe and worship Jesus the Lord. Help draw the scales from our eyes, as confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**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 Lord is full of compassion and mercy:

**Come let us adore him.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

### **Venite: Psalm 95:1-7**

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 32

- 1 Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, \* and whose sin is put away!
- 2 Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt, \* and in whose spirit there is no guile!
- 3 While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, \* because of my groaning all day long.
- 4 For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; \* my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.
- 5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you, \* and did not conceal my guilt.
- 6 I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." \* Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.
- 7 Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; \* when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.
- 8 You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; \* your surround me with shouts of deliverance.
- 9 "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; \* I will guide you with my eye.
- 10 Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; \* who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."
- 11 Great are the tribulations of the wicked; \* but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.
- 12 Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD; \* shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

*The Celebrant says to the people*

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.**

**The first reading** is from Book of Joshua (5:9-12)  
The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day. While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.  
**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

### **Canticle 13: A Song of Praise**

Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers: \* you are worthy of praise; glory to you.  
Glory to you for the radiance of your holy Name; \* we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.  
Glory to you in the splendor of your temple; \* on the throne of your majesty, glory to you.  
Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim; \* we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.  
Glory to you, beholding the depths; \* in the high vault of heaven, glory to you.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \* as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen

**The Second Reading** is from the Second Letter to the Corinthians (5:16-21)  
From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.  
The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Canticle B: A Song of Pilgrimage *Priusquam errarem Ecclesiasticus 51:13-16, 20b-22***

Before I ventured forth, even while I was very young, \* I sought wisdom openly in my prayer.  
In the forecourts of the temple I asked for her, \* and I will seek her to the end.

From first blossom to early fruit, \* she has been the delight of my heart.  
My foot has kept firmly to the true path, \* diligently from my youth have I pursued her.  
I inclined my ear a little and received her; \* I found for myself much wisdom and became adept in her.  
To the one who gives me wisdom will I give glory, \* for I have resolved to live according to her way.  
From the beginning I gained courage from her, \* therefore I will not be forsaken.  
In my inmost being I have been stirred to seek her, \* therefore have I gained a good possession.  
As my reward the Almighty has given me the gift of language, \* and with it will I offer praise to God.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (15:1-3, 11b-32)

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

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." So Jesus told them this parable. "There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands."' So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe--the best one--and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate. "Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard

music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

### **The Sermon**

The Rev. Cn. Mark Hall

Music

*Here follows **the affirmation of faith, (from NZ BCP)***

**You, O God, are supreme and holy.**

**You create our world and give us life.**

**Your purpose overarches everything we do. You have always been with us.**

**You are God.**

**You, O God, are infinitely generous, Good beyond all measure.**

**You came to us before we came to you. You have revealed and proved your love for us in Jesus Christ, who lived and died and rose again.**

**You are with us now.**

**You are God.**

**You, O God, are Holy Spirit.**

**You empower us to be your gospel in the world. You reconcile and heal; you overcome death.**

**You are our God. We worship you.**

### **The Prayers of the People**

In this holy season, let us turn to God in prayer, saying: Lord, have mercy.

For those to be baptized and all the holy people of God (silence), that we may embrace the folly of the cross and become ministers of reconciliation in a broken world, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For this nation and all the nations of the world (silence), that we may generously share the

produce of the land, both in plenty and in want, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the alienated and rejected of this world (silence), that all may come to know God's welcome to sit down at table, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For this community (silence), that we may learn from God to seek the lost and to rejoice when they are found, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For our own needs and those of others (silence), that God may be our hope and consolation, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For all those who serve our nation in the military, both at home and abroad, doing tasks both ordinary and dangerous, that they serve with honor and for the cause of peace and justice, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

*(Here other intercessions may be offered.)*

God of mercy and compassion, bring us back to you when we stray, and give us again the joy of proclaiming among the nations your saving deeds. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **Offertory sentence**

But do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. *Hebrews 13:15, 16*

### **Offertory Hymn- 141**

*Prayer over the gifts:*

God of mercy and compassion, your Word calls us home to faith and love. Accept all we offer you this day, in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

### **The Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord 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 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. You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

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:

**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.**

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love . . .  
Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, . .

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.**

While we were still sinners, Christ died for us, that, with confidence in God's love for us, we might dare to pray:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

#### **The Breaking of the Bread-**

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

**Therefore let us keep the feast.**

Behold our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life through the gospel. Blessed are those who are called to the banquet of the Lamb.

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Creator of heaven and earth, we thank you for these holy mysteries, which bring us now a share in the life to come. Let us pray:

**Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

Knowing that all of our community cannot share the Eucharist in person, we affirm that the true mystical communion of Christ and His Church is a bond of spirit and heart, grounded in faith. Therefore, we commit ourselves to the reality that Christ is with us wherever we are. **Amen.**

May Christ who calls you to take up your cross, give you strength to bear your own and one another's burdens, and the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

#### **The Peace**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.\_

**And also with you.**

#### **Announcements**

#### **Anniversary/Thanksgiving Prayer**

We give you thanks, O God, for your many blessings: for our days of celebration, for the love that surrounds us, for your healing presence in our lives. Keep us in your care, we pray, and help us to live as truly thankful people. **Amen.**

#### **Closing hymn 657**

Striving to share God's love with others, and eager to do God's will, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### **Lent**

During Lent, we invite you to take some time to pray and meditate at the cross.