



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

• The Fifth Sunday of Lent • April 6, 2025 •

Opening Hymn- 144

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, you sent your only Son into the world not to condemn it but that we might be saved. Before you we stand in our sin and guilt, our misery and your mercy, face to face. We now ask that you pardon our every fault and forgive all our sins that in this Lenten springtime, there may burst forth in the wilderness of our hearts a song of gratitude and joy. Let us now confess our sins against you 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.

Psalm 63:1-8

O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; * my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you, as in a barren and dry land where there is no water. Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, * that I might behold your power and your glory.

For your loving-kindness is better than life itself; * my lips shall give you praise.

So will I bless you as long as I live * and lift up my hands in your Name.

My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness, * and my mouth praises you with joyful lips, When I remember you upon my bed, * and meditate on you in the night watches.

For you have been my helper, * and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.

My soul clings to you; * your right hand holds me fast.

Psalm 126

- 1 When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, * then were we like those who dream.
- 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, * and our tongue with shouts of joy.
- 3 Then they said among the nations, * "The LORD has done great things for them."
- 4 The LORD has done great things for us, * and we are glad indeed.
- 5 Restore our fortunes, O LORD, * like the watercourses of the Negev.
- 6 Those who sowed with tears * will reap with songs of joy.
- 7 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, * will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The first reading is from Book of Isaiah (43:16-21)

Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I

will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 10 The Second Song of Isaiah

Seek the Lord while he wills to be found; * call upon him when he draws near.
Let the wicked forsake their ways * and the evil ones their thoughts;
And let them turn to the Lord and he will have compassion, * and to our God, for he will richly pardon.
For my thoughts are not your thoughts, * or your ways my ways, says the Lord.
For as the heavens are higher than the earth, * so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.
For as rain and snow fall from the heavens * and return not again, but water the earth,
Bringing forth life and giving growth, * seed for sowing and bread for eating,
So is my word that goes forth from my mouth; * it will not return to me empty;
But it will accomplish that which I have purposed, * and prosper in that for which I sent it.

The Second Lesson is from the Letter to the Philippians (3:4b-14)

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining

forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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

Canticle 14 A Song of Penitence

1 O Lord and Ruler of the hosts of heaven, * God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and of all their righteous offspring:
2 You made the heavens and the earth, * with all their vast array.
3 All things quake with fear at your presence; * they tremble because of your power.
4 But your merciful promise is beyond all measure; * it surpasses all that our minds can fathom.
5 O Lord, you are full of compassion, * long-suffering, and abounding in mercy.
6 You hold back your hand; * you do not punish as we deserve.
7 In your great goodness, Lord, you have promised forgiveness to sinners, * that they may repent of their sin and be saved.
8 And now, O Lord, I bend the knee of my heart, * and make my appeal, sure of your gracious goodness.
9 I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned, * and I know my wickedness only too well.
10 Therefore I make this prayer to you: * Forgive me, Lord, forgive me.
11 Do not let me perish in my sin, * nor condemn me to the depths of the earth.
12 For you, O Lord, are the God of those who repent, * and in me you will show forth your goodness.
13 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.
14 For all the powers of heaven sing your praises, * and yours is the glory to ages of ages. Amen.

The Gospel of our Lord according to John (12:1-8). **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the

common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

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

As God's new people, formed in Christ Jesus, let us join in prayer to God who makes all things new, saying: O God our Savior, *hear our prayer.*

If moved to do so, please take turns reading one of the petitions, observing silence briefly where indicated.)

Draw your church more deeply into the reality of Christ's sufferings, so that everyone whom you have called in him may show forth the power of his resurrection. O God our Savior, **hear our prayer.**

Renew the spirit of hope in every human society and nations. Invigorate us that we may strain forward to the future you promise. O God our Savior, **hear our prayer.**

Show your mercy to those who are held back by infidelity to your plans, and free them to receive your Word of life. O God our Savior, **hear our prayer.**

Rescue from fear those who are deprived of their human needs or their human rights. Give them their share of the dignity you confer on all your children. O God our Savior, **hear our prayer.**

For the special needs of those within our parish family and for others requesting prayers: Grant to this congregation a heart open to your Word, that we may embrace your promise, heed your commands, and declare your praise.

O God our Savior, **hear our prayer.**

Protect all those who serve our nation in the military, especially those serving near areas of conflict. Protect those in war-torn nations, who are courageously trying to defend their citizens against oppression. O God our Savior, **hear our prayer.**

(Here other intercessions may be offered.)

God our Savior and Redeemer, you are constantly at work, bringing forth new things in your creation. Hear the prayers we make to you, and continue to perform ever greater wonders for the entire family of humankind, through your Son, 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- 666

Prayer over the gifts:

Eternal God, your only Son suffered death upon the cross to bring the world salvation. Accept the praise and thanksgiving 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 149

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.