THE FOURTH SUNDAY
IN LENT
MARCH 22, 2020
10:00 A.M.

Holy Eucharist – Rite II
The Liturgy of the Word

St. Ambrose Episcopal Church
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WELCOME: We gather to worship God virtually as revealed to us through our Lord Jesus Christ during the “Shelter in Place” directive. This is an experiment and we are trying to create worship with a small worship team and live streaming the worship service so we can participate from our homes. Please feel free to sing the hymns along with the worship team.

During the Shelter in Place time, our worship will not include Holy Communion. However, by worshipping together we are one in the Spirit.
Prelude
A Penitential Order: Rite Two
Opening Hymn: “Gather Us In”  Green Hymnal, Hymn 744, verses 1-4

1. Here in this place new light is streaming,
2. We are the young—our lives are a mystery,
3. Here we will take the wine and the water,
4. Not in the dark of buildings confining,

Now is the darkness vanished away,
We are the old—who yearn for your face,
Here we will take the bread of new birth,
Not in some heaven, light-years away,

But see in this space our fears and our dreams,
We have been sung through out all of his try,
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
Here in this place the new light is shining,

Brought here to you in the light of this
Called to be light to the whole human
Now is the Kingdom,
now is the

day.

Gather us in—the lost and forsaken,
Gather us in—the rich and the haughty,
Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
Gather us in and hold us for ever,

Gather us in—the blind and the lame;
Gather us in—the proud and the strong;
Give us to eat the bread that is you;
Gather us in and make us your own;
Call to us now, and we shall a-wak-en,
Give us a heart so meek and so low-ly,
Nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash-ion
Gath-er us in— all peo-ple to-geth-er,

We shall a-rise at the sound of our name.
Give us the cour-age to en-ter the song.
Lives that are ho-ly and hearts that are true.
Fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Tune: Gather Us In, Irregular, Marty Haugen, b. 1950
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The people standing, the Celebrant says in Lent and on other penitential occas-tions.

Celebrant     Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.
People       His mercy endures for ever.

The Decalogue may be said, the people kneeling.

The Decalogue: Contemporary
Hear the commandments of God to his people: I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.
You shall have no other gods but me.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not make for yourself any idol.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

Honor your father and your mother.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit murder.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit adultery.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not steal.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not be a false witness.
Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.
Amen. Lord have mercy.
The Celebrant may read the following sentences
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

The Deacon or Celebrant then says
Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People
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.

The Bishop when present, or the Priest, stands and says
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.

When this Order is used at the beginning of the Liturgy, the service continues with the Kyrie eleison.

Kyrie Eleison

Frank Saunders

Lord have mercy upon us, Lord have mercy upon us, Lord have mercy upon us.

Lord have mercy upon us.

Christ have mercy upon us, Christ have mercy upon us, Christ have mercy upon us.

Christ have mercy upon us.

Lord have mercy upon us, Lord have mercy upon us.

Lord have mercy upon us.
The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says to the people
Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect.

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.

A Prayer for Living in These Times
Holy Jesus, You have walked the earth as we do, and you understand what we experience: the fear, the pain, the exhaustion, the loneliness, the guilt, the sorrow, the anger. You promise to be with us through thick and thin. Be with us now, and with all humanity, as we struggle with the impact of the COVID-19 virus. Draw us closer to You, that in Your companionship, our wisdom and compassion may grow. Bind us to one another, and strengthen us, that we may give and receive help from each other, and know our connectedness to all of humankind. This we ask in your name. Amen.

The Lessons

The people sit.

The First Lesson 1 Samuel 16:1-13

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.

After the reading, the Reader says

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

People: Thanks be to God.
Psalm 23

Dominus regit me

1 The Lord is my shepherd; *
   I shall not be in want.
2 He makes me lie down in green pastures *
   and leads me beside still waters.
3 He revives my soul *
   and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
4 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.
5 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.
6 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.

The Second Lesson Ephesians 5:8-14

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light— for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

   “Sleeper, awake!
   Rise from the dead,
   and Christ will shine on you.”

After the reading, the Reader says

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: Thanks be to God.
Sequence Hymn: I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light
Blue Hymnal, 490, verses 1-3

1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
2 I want to see the brightness of God.
3 I'm looking for the coming of Christ.

I want to follow Jesus.
I want to look at Jesus.
I want to be with Jesus.

God set the stars to give light to the world. The Clear sun of righteousness, shine on my path, and When we have run with patience the race, we

star of my life is Jesus.
show me the way to the Father.
shall know the joy of Jesus.

Refrain

In him there is no darkness at all. The
Then all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

**The Gospel: The Holy Gospel according to John (9:1-41)**

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

Narrator: 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."

Narrator: When he had said this, Jesus spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, saying to him,

Jesus: "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent).
Narrator: Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask,

Neighbors: “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?”

Narrator: Some were saying,

Neighbor 1: “It is he.”

Narrator: Others were saying,

Neighbor 2: “No, but it is someone like him.”

Narrator: He kept saying,

Blind Man: “I am the man.”

Narrator: But they kept asking him,

Neighbors: “Then how were your eyes opened?”

Narrator: He answered,

Blind Man: “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.”

Narrator: They said to him,

Neighbors: “Where is he?”

Narrator: He said,

Blind Man: “I do not know.”

Narrator: 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,

Blind Man: “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.”

Narrator: Some of the Pharisees said,

Pharisees: “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.”

Narrator: But others said,

Others: “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?”

Narrator: And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man,

Pharisees: “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.”

Narrator: He said,

Blind Man: “He is a prophet.”

Narrator: 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,

Pharisees: “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?”

Narrator: 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.”

Narrator: 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.”

Narrator: So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him,

Pharisees: “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” He answered,

Blind Man: “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.”

Narrator: They said to him,

Pharisees: “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” He answered them,

Blind Man: “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?”

Narrator: Then they reviled him, saying,

Pharisees: “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.”

Narrator: The man answered,
Blind Man: “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.”

Narrator: They answered him,

Pharisees: “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?”

Narrator: And they drove him out. Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said,

Jesus: “Do you believe in the Son of Man?”

Narrator: He answered,

Blind Man: “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.”

Narrator: Jesus said to him,

Jesus: “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.”

Narrator: He said,

Blind Man: “Lord, I believe.”

Narrator: And he worshiped him. Jesus said,

Jesus: “I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.”

Narrator: Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him,

Pharisees: “Surely we are not blind, are we?”

Narrator: Jesus said to them,

Jesus: “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ

After the Gospel, the Reader says:

The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ

The Sermon Rev. David Ota

There will be some silence for reflection following 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 Form IV

Deacon or other leader
Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.
Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.
Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.
Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.
Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.
Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.
We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

We especially remember William Miller, uncle of David McIntyre.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you, bring the nations into your fold, pour out your Spirit upon all flesh, and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Celebrant

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

People and Celebrant

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 Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People: And also with you.

Birthday Prayers for Kenneth and Karen Nagar, Pearl Walker, Delores Watan, Lyra Tanner, James Stephens, Grace Rawley, Sofia Censoprano, and Lily Cate Moriarty.

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray you on your servants Kenneth, Karen, Pearl, Delores, Lyra, James, Grace, Sofia, and Lily as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness, all the days of their lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
Anniversary Prayers for CD and Siew Lee-Rowsell and for Shawn and Phoebe Venkat

O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send your blessing upon CD and Siew, and Shawn and Phoebe, and grant them your grace, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their lives together may be a witness to your love and forgiveness, and that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Announcements

Blessing
Life is short and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who walk the way with us. So let us be swift to love. Make haste to be kind. And the blessing of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit be among you always. Amen.

Closing Hymn: “O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”
Blue Hymnal, Hymn 493, verses 1-6

O for a thousand tongues to sing my dear Redeemer’s praise,
My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim
Jesus! the Name that charms our fears and bids our sorrows cease;
He speaks; and, listening to his voice, new life the dead receive,
Hear him, ye deaf; ye voice-less ones, your loosened tongues employ;

The glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!
And spread through all the earth abroad the honors of thy Name.
’Tis music in the sinner’s ears, ’tis life and health and peace.
The mourning broken hearts rejoice, the humble poor believe.
Ye blind, behold, your Savior comes; and leap, ye lame, for joy!

Glory to God and praise and love
be now and ever given
by saints below and saints above,
the Church in earth and heaven.

Words: Charles Wesley, (1707-1788)
Music: Azmon, Carl Gotthelf Glaser, (1784-1829; adapt. And arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872)
Dismissal

Leader: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

The Mission of St. Ambrose Church of Foster City

Is to proclaim the Good News of God in Jesus Christ as we care for each other and our larger community. We worship in the Episcopal and Anglican tradition, extending an open and inclusive invitation to all people, welcoming children unto our church family and serving those in need.

BLESSING

Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who walk the way with us. So be swift to love. Make haste to be kind. And the blessing of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit be among you always. Amen.

Worship Leaders

The Rev. David Ota, Celebrant and Preacher
The Rev. Karen Swanson, Assisting
David McIntyre, Flautist for prelude, Lector and Intercessor
Cathy Rincon, Lector
Hamilton Fong, Leader in singing the chants and hymns
Lydia McIntyre, Technician and Flautist for the postlude
Frank Saunders, Pianist taped the music for the service

Thank you to David and Lydia McIntyre for putting together the equipment and being the technical support for our initial Live Streaming Worship on You Tube and for offering the talents to play the flute for a prelude and postlude.

Thank you to the Rev. Karen Swanson for writing a “Prayer for Living in These Times” and for assisting the Rector in creating the worship bulletin.

Thank you to Frank Saunders for recording and taping music to accompany our singing.

Thank you to Hamilton Fong for leading the worship team in singing.

Thank you to David McIntyre, Cathy Rincon and the Rev. Karen Swanson for reading the scripture for the day and for leading the Prayers of the People.

Glory to God who working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.
Glory to God in Christ Jesus who through the Church proclaims the gospel through the Holy Spirit.
Amen.