



Van Gogh 1888

A MAN HAD A FIG TREE

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

23 March 2025

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II

Third Sunday in Lent

Welcome to Grace!

Opening Voluntary - *O Lord, Most Holy*

Cesar Franck
Danny Ehlert on the Clarinet

The Procession

Hymn #392
Come we that love the Lord



1 Come, we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known; join
2 Let those re - fuse to sing that nev - er knew our God; but
3 The heirs of grace have found glo - ry be - gun be - low; ce -
4 Then let our song a - bound and let our tears be dry; we're



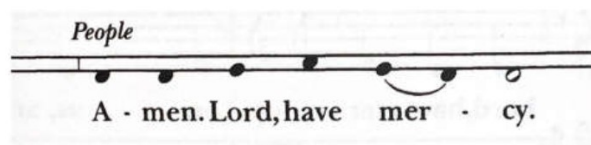
in a song with sweet ac - cord and thus sur - round the throne.
chil - dren of the heav - en - ly King may speak their joys a - broad.
les - tial fruits on earth - ly ground from faith and hope may grow.
march - ing through Em - man - uel's ground to fair - er worlds on high.



Refrain
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na! Re - joice, give thanks and sing.

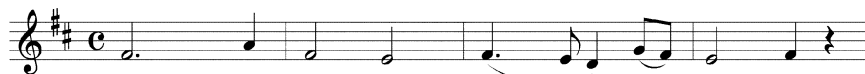
Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt. Music: *Vineyard Haven*, Richard Wayne Dirksen (b. 1921)

The Liturgy begins with the Penitential Order and Decalogue page 351



The Word of God

Kyrie S-96



Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.



Christ, have mer - cy. Christ have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

Title: The Holy Eucharist, The Prayers of the People: Form III Music: Anaphoral chant; adapt. Bruce E. Ford (b. 1947)

The Collect

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities Page 2

which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The First Lesson

Exodus 3:1-15

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the LORD said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain."

But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The LORD, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you':

This is my name forever,
and this my title for all generations."

The Psalm

Psalm 63:1-8 (*read responsively by half verse*)

Deus, Deus meus

- 1 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.**
- 2 Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, *
that I might behold your power and your glory.
- 3 For your loving-kindness is better than life itself; *
my lips shall give you praise.
- 4 So will I bless you as long as I live *
and lift up my hands in your Name.
- 5 My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness, *
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,

6 When I remember you upon my bed, *
and meditate on you in the night watches.

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

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

The Second Lesson

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

Gospel Hymn #439

What wondrous love is this

Unison



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
2 To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing, to
3 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and

won-drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this that
God and to the Lamb, I will sing. To God and to the Lamb who
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free I'll

caused the Lord of bliss to lay a - side his crown for my
is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
sing and joy - ful be, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing

soul, for my soul, to lay a - side his crown for my soul.
sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme I will sing.
on, I'll sing on, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

The Holy Gospel

Luke 13:1-9

At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them--do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

The Sermon

The Rev. John Nieman

The Nicene Creed - page 358

Prayers of the People Form IV- page 388

The Peace

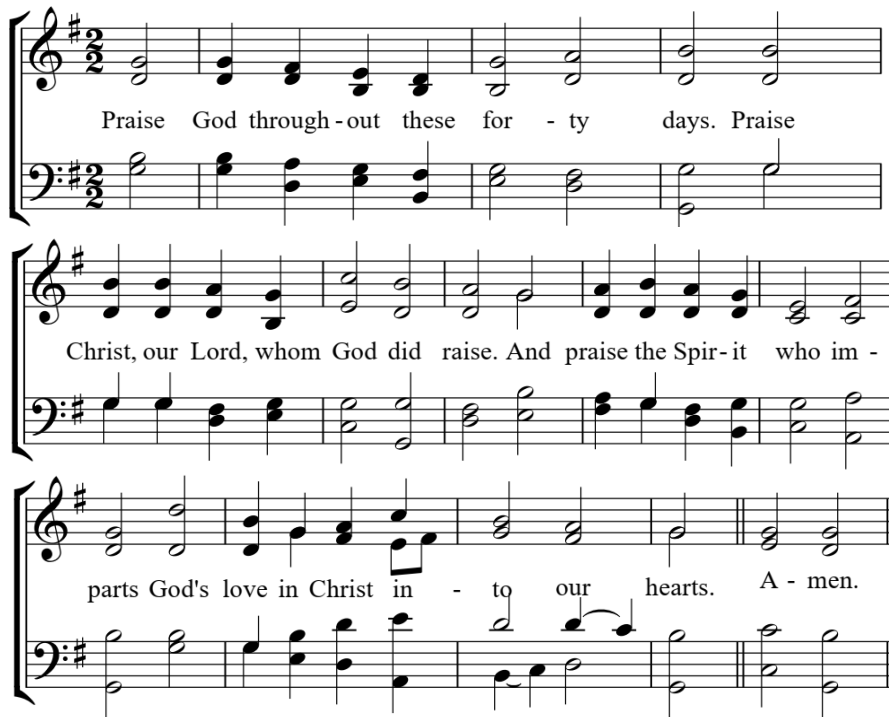
Announcements

Offertory - *God So Loved the World*

John Stainer

Hymn

A Lenten Doxology



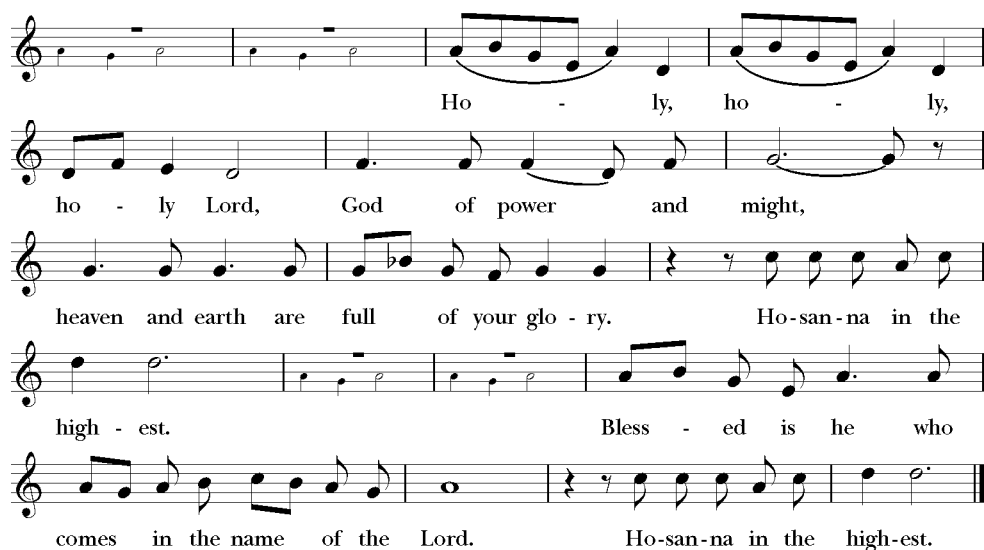
Praise God through-out these for - ty days. Praise
Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise. And praise the Spir-it who im -
parts God's love in Christ in - to our hearts. A - men.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), para. of Psalm 117. St. 3, Thomas Ken (1637-1711) Music: Old 100th, melody from Pseaumes Octante trois de David, 1551, alt. ; harm. after Louis Bourgeois (1510-1561)

The Holy Communion

Eucharistic Prayer B - page 367

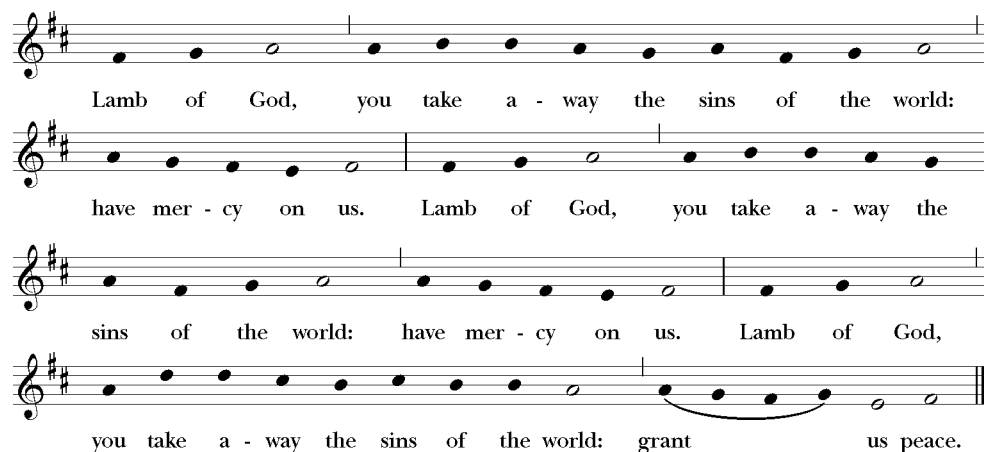
Sanctus S-128



Ho - ly, ho - ly,
ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
heaven 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.

Title: The Holy Eucharist II, Holy, holy, holy Lord: *Sanctus* Music: William Mathias (b. 1934)

Fraction Anthem S-161



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.

Title: The Holy Eucharist II, Fraction Anthem: Lamb of God: *Agnus Dei* Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950)

Communion Hymns #149

Eternal Lord of love, behold your church

Unison or harmony

1 E - ter - nal Lord of love, be - hold your Church
 2 So dai - ly dy - ing to the way of self,
 3 If dead in you, so in you we a - rise,

walk - ing once more the pil - grim way of Lent,
 so dai - ly liv - ing to your way of love,
 you the first - born of all the faith - ful dead;

led by your cloud by day, by night your fire,
 we walk the road, Lord Je - sus, that you trod,
 and as through ston - y ground the green shoots break,

moved by your love and toward your pres - ence bent:
 know - ing our - selves bap - tized in - to your death:
 glo - rious in spring - time dress of leaf and flower,

far off yet here— the goal of all de - sire.
 so we are dead and live with you in God.
 so in the Fa - ther's glo - ry shall we wake.

Words: Thomas H. Cain (b. 1931) Music: *Old 124th*, melody *Pseaumes octante trois de David*, 1551; harm. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867–1944)

Hymn #648

When Isreal was in Egypt's land

1 When Is - rael was in E - gypt's land, let my peo-ple go;
2 The Lord told Mo - ses what to do, let my peo-ple go;
3 They jour-neyed on at his com - mand, let my peo-ple go;
4 Oh, let us all from bond - age flee, let my peo-ple go;

op - pressed so hard they could not stand, let my peo-ple go.
to lead the chil-dren of Is - rael through, let my peo-ple go.
and came at length to Ca - naan's land, let my peo-ple go.
and let us all in Christ be free, let my peo-ple go.

Refrain

Go down, Mo - ses, way down in E - gypt's land;

tell old Pha - raoh to let my peo-ple go.

Words: African-American spiritual Music: *Go Down, Moses*, Afro-American spiritual; arr. Horace Clarence Boyer (b. 1935)

Post Communion Prayer - page 366
The Blessing of the People

The Procession

Hymn #685
Rock of Ages, cleft for me

1 Rock of a - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee;
2 Should my tears for ev - er flow, should my zeal no lan - guor know,
3 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, when mine eye - lids close in death,

let the wa - ter and the blood from thy wound - ed side that flowed,
all for sin could not a - tone: thou must save, and thou a - lone;
when I rise to worlds un - known and be - hold thee on thy throne,

be of sin the dou - ble cure, cleanse me from its guilt and power.
in my hand no price I bring, sim - ply to thy cross I cling.
Rock of a - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.

The musical score consists of three systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature is one flat (Bb) and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

Words: Augustus Montague Toplady (1740-1778), alt. Music: *Toplady*, Thomas Hastings (1784-1872)

The Sending Forth - page 366
Closing Voluntary - *If Thou But Trust God to Guide Thee*

J.S. Bach

Grace Notes

- We are **In Need** of adults to assist with children's church. If you are interested, please contact Sharon George at slgeorge864@gmail.com
- **Fiber Friends and Fellowship** meets every Tuesday at 11 a.m. in the Parish Hall.
- **Daughters of the King (DOK) Study Session** will be Saturday, March 29th from 10 a.m. - Noon.
- **SAVE THE DATE:** Grace Church BBQ will be Oct. 11 2025
- If you are interested in the Bishop's **Bible in a year challenge** visit <https://www.edusc.org/bible-in-a-year/>
- If you are interested in receiving **Bishop Daniel Richards weekly meditations** called *Notes Along the Way*, visit <https://www.edusc.org/notes-from-along-the-way/>.
- The **Outreach Committee** is preparing to choose an organization to support for this calendar year. Besides being the beneficiary of the BBQ proceeds, the organization should have other ways our congregation can volunteer, support, and be involved. We are asking members for suggestions. Please submit your suggestions to the Church Office, or talk with Tom or Connie Pearce or Janet Rippy.
- **Lenten Madness** has begun. For more information visit <https://www.lentmadness.org/category/len-madness-2025/>
- There will be a **CPR/AED Training at St. George's** on Saturday, April 5th from 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. The Cost is \$85 per person. If interested contact Bruce McLeland at (864) 221-4613.
- **Wednesday Night Dinner:** Wednesday, March 26th at 5:45 p.m. with Bingo to follow. If you would like to attend RSVP to Nikki (864) 225-8011 or gracechurchanderson1851@gmail.com by 1 p.m. on Monday, March 24th.
- **Grief Support** will meet Thursday, March 27th at 10 a.m.
- **It's time for Mulch Madness!** Join us Saturday, March 29th with your work boots and gloves. We will have mulch to spread in the gardens around the church and playground, as well as a special project in the community garden. Please bring shovels, wagons, and rakes as you are able. We look forward to seeing you there at 8 a.m.
- **World Mission Symposium** at Trinity Cathedral in Columbia is Saturday, March 29th from 9 a.m.—2:30 p.m.
- **Fiber Friends and Fellowship** is in need of yarn for their yarn stash. If you are interested in donating any yarn, you may leave it in Deacon Mary's Office.
- **The Grace Episcopal Choir:** The final stages of repair are underway for the C A Zimmer pipe organ. The upper, lower, and pedal keyboards are fully functional at this time as are the horizontal trumpet pipes over the door. The middle manual, called the Great division sustained the most water damage. The Great pipes have been removed and are being cleaned and returned to their original condition. The wooden cabinets under the pipes, known as the windchests are being rebuilt according to the original design plan.
- **WWW:** Our weekly discussion of *The Lemon Tree* by Sandy Toland continues every Tuesday from 6:30-8 p.m. Join us for engaging conversation and fellowship.
- **Altar Guild:** Do you want to be involved at church but in a more behind the scene manner once a month? Do you want to learn more about our ministry? Do you want to hangout with the coolest people at Grace? The Altar Guild is seeking new recruits. See Jodie Webb 864-380-1683 if you are interested in checking out what we are about and see if you are a good fit.
- **Easter Lillies:** Forms for Easter Lillie can be found in the cloister and outside the church office door. Please have these filled out and returned to Nikki by Sunday, April 13th.
- **Saturday Servants:** We are gearing up for our next round of Saturdays in May. We are seeking donations of the following: creamy peanut butter, grape jam and water. If you would like to make a contribution, please leave it on the table at the back of the Parish Hall. We thank you in advance for your help. We will be looking for volunteers to help make the lunches and deliver them as well. More information on that to follow. If you have any questions, please reach out to Tracey or George Lidlow at tjlidlow@gmail.com

Those Who Serve

Vestry-in-Charge: Debbie Hand

Second Counter: Cyndi Dougherty

Lector: Tracey Lidlow

Lector: Mary Harris Edwards

Intercessor: Brett Dixon

Chalice 2: Bryan Harris

Chalice 1:

1st Crucifer: Nathanael Burden

Server/Gospel Bearer: Davd Burden

Torch Bearers:

Ushers: Maxwell Jeffers,

Linen Guild: Joanie Roberts

Altar Guild: Cindy Baker, Lisa Arnold

Organist/Choirmaster: Steve Grant

Organist Emeritus: Bill Scott

Those with birthdays this week

Masters Campbell

Michelle King

Randy Sexton Jr.

Ella Erlenkeuser

Christopher Wilford

Beth Lollis

Kelly Potter

Hanna Erlenkeuser

