



## The Fourth Sunday in Lent

26 March AD 2017

11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist

(The Rev.) Randy Lord-Wilkinson, *Rector*  
The Rev. Javier García Ocampo, *Assistant to the Rector*  
Jason Cutshall, *Seminarian*  
Jerrold Tidwell, *Minister of Music*

*Welcome to Ascension!*

*For more information about our community, fill out a welcome card, found at either end of the pews, or take one of our welcome packets from a member of the Welcome Team or the table by the Church Office door.*

*A nursery for children up through age three is available all morning in the Main Building, Room 2.*

*Please silence your audible devices.*

*Within the service, the people read the parts in **bold print**.*

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### Welcome and Announcements

Gather 434

Amazing Grace

The Lord is here.  
God's Spirit is with us.  
Let us pray.

**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.**

### 1 Samuel 16:1-13

The LORD said to Samuel, "How long are you going to grieve over Saul? I have rejected him as king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and get going. I'm sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem because I have found<sup>1</sup> my next king among his sons." "How can I do that?" Samuel asked. "When Saul hears of it he'll kill me!" "Take a heifer with you," the LORD replied, "and say, 'I have come to make a sacrifice to the LORD.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will make clear to you what you should do. You will anoint for me the person I point out to you." Samuel did what the LORD instructed. When he came to Bethlehem, the city elders came to meet him. They were shaking with fear. "Do you come in peace?" they asked. "Yes," Samuel answered. "I've come to make a sacrifice to the LORD. Now make yourselves holy, then come with me to the sacrifice." Samuel made Jesse and his sons holy and invited them to the sacrifice as well. When they arrived, Samuel looked at Eliab and thought, That must be the LORD's anointed right in front. But the LORD said to Samuel, "Have no regard for his appearance or stature, because I haven't selected him. God<sup>1</sup> doesn't look at things like humans do. Humans see only what is visible to the eyes, but the LORD sees into the heart." Next Jesse called for Abinadab, who presented himself to Samuel, but he said, "The LORD hasn't chosen this one either." So Jesse presented Shammah, but Samuel said, "No, the LORD hasn't chosen this one." Jesse presented seven of his sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD hasn't picked any of these." Then Samuel asked Jesse, "Is that all of your boys?" "There is still the youngest one," Jesse answered, "but he's out keeping the sheep." "Send for him," Samuel told Jesse, "because we can't proceed until he gets here." So Jesse sent and brought him in. He was reddish brown, had beautiful eyes, and

was good-looking. The LORD said, "That's the one. Go anoint him." So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him right there in front of his brothers. The LORD's spirit came over David from that point forward.

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

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gather 352**

**I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John [9:1-41].

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man who was blind from birth. Jesus' disciples asked, "Rabbi, who sinned so that he was born blind, this man or his parents?" Jesus answered, "Neither he nor his parents. This happened so that God's mighty works might be displayed in him. While it's daytime, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming when no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world." After he said this, he spit on the ground, made mud with the saliva, and smeared the mud on the man's eyes. Jesus said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (this word means *sent*). So the man went away and washed. When he returned, he could see. The man's neighbors and those who used to see him when he was a beggar said, "Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is," and others said, "No, it's someone who looks like him." But the man said, "Yes, it's me!" So they asked him, "How are you now able to see?" He answered, "The man they call Jesus made mud, smeared it on my eyes, and said, 'Go to the pool of Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed, and then I could see." They asked, "Where is this man?" He replied, "I don't know." Then they led the man who had been born blind to the Pharisees. Now Jesus made the mud and smeared it on the man's eyes on a Sabbath day. So Pharisees also asked him how he was able to see. The man told them, "He put mud on my eyes, I washed, and now I see." Some Pharisees said, "This man isn't from God, because he breaks the Sabbath law." Others said, "How can a sinner do miraculous signs like these?" So they were divided. Some of the Pharisees questioned the man who had been born blind again: "What do you have to say about him, since he healed your eyes?" He replied, "He's a prophet." The Jewish leaders didn't believe the man had been blind and received his sight until they called for his parents. The Jewish leaders asked them, "Is this your son? Are you saying he was born blind? How can he now see?" His parents answered, "We know he is our son. We know he was born blind. But we don't know how he now sees, and we don't know who healed his eyes. Ask him. He's old enough to speak for himself." His parents said this because they feared the Jewish authorities. This is because the Jewish authorities had already decided that whoever confessed Jesus to be the Christ would be expelled from the synagogue. That's why his parents said, "He's old enough. Ask him." Therefore, they called a second time for the man who had been born blind and said to him, "Give glory to God. We know this man is a sinner." The man answered, "I don't know whether he's a sinner. Here's what I do know: I was blind and now I see." They questioned him: "What did he do to you? How did he heal your eyes?" He replied, "I already told you, and you didn't listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples too?" They insulted him: "You are his disciple, but we are Moses' disciples. We know that God spoke to Moses, but we don't know where this man is from." The man answered, "This is incredible! You don't know where he is from, yet he healed my eyes! We know that God doesn't listen to sinners. God listens to anyone who is devout and does God's will. No one has ever heard of a healing of the eyes of someone born blind. If this man wasn't from God, he couldn't do this." They responded, "You were born completely in sin! How is it that you dare to teach us?" Then they expelled him. Jesus heard they had expelled the man born blind. Finding him, Jesus said, "Do you believe in the Human One?" He answered, "Who is he, sir? I want to believe in him." Jesus said, "You have seen him. In fact, he is the

one speaking with you.” The man said, “Lord,<sup>1</sup> I believe.” And he worshipped Jesus. Jesus said, “I have come into the world to exercise judgment so that those who don’t see can see and those who see will become blind.” Some Pharisees who were with him heard what he said and asked, “Surely we aren’t blind, are we?” Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you wouldn’t have any sin, but now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.

The Gospel of the Lord.  
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Meditation

Jason Cutshall, *Seminarian*

The Affirmation of Faith

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

*Prayers are invited, either silently or aloud. After each spoken prayer, a gong will sound.*

Concluding Prayer

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.*

Gather 614

Take and Eat

## The Holy Communion

The Lord is here.

**God's Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

It is right indeed to give you thanks most loving God, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, the first born from the dead, the pioneer of our salvation, who is with us always, one of us, yet from the heart of God.

For with your whole created universe, we praise you for your unfailing gift of life. We thank you that you make us human and stay with us even when we turn from you to sin.

**God's love is shown to us: While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.**

In that love, dear God, righteous and strong to save, you came among us in Jesus Christ, our crucified and living Lord. You make all things new. In Christ's suffering and cross you reveal your glory and reconcile all peoples to yourself, their true and living God.

In your mercy you are now our God. through Christ you gather us, new-born in your Spirit, a people after your own heart. We entrust ourselves to you, for you alone do justice to all people, living and departed.

**Now is the acceptable time, now is the day of salvation.**

Therefore with saints and martyrs, apostles and prophets, with all the redeemed, joyfully we praise you and sing:

**Sanctus (Gather 168)**

Marty Haugen

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and  
might, heav'n 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est!

*The Celebrant continues*

All glory to you, Giver of life sufficient and full for all creation. Accept our praises, living God, for Jesus Christ, the one perfect offering for the world, who in the night that he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said: Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this to remember me.

After supper he took the cup; 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 shed for you, and for many, to forgive sin. Do this as often as you drink it to remember me.

Therefore, God of all creation, in the suffering and death of Jesus our redeemer, we meet you in your glory. We lift up the cup of salvation and call upon your name. Here and now, with this bread and wine, we celebrate your great acts of liberation, ever present and living in Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come.

**Amen! Come Lord Jesus.**

May Christ ascended in majesty be our new and living way, our access to you, Father, and source of all new life. In Christ we offer ourselves to do your will.

Empower our celebration with your Holy Spirit, feed us with your life, fire us with your love, confront us with your justice, and make us one in the body of Christ with all who share your gifts of love.

**Through Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Creator God. Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

As our Savior Christ has taught us,  
we now pray:

**Eternal Spirit,  
Earth-Maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,  
Source of all that is and that shall be,  
Father and Mother of us all.  
Loving God, in whom is heaven:  
The hallowing of your name echoes through the universe!  
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples  
of the world!  
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!  
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom  
sustain our hope and come on earth.  
With the bread we need for today, feed us.  
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.  
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.  
From trials too great to endure, spare us.  
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.  
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,  
now and forever. Amen.**

*As our Savior Christ has taught us, we  
are bold to say:*

**Our Father in heaven,  
holy is 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 for ever. Amen.**

*From The Book of Common Prayer,  
p. 364*

From *A New Zealand Prayer Book*, p. 181

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread, and a period of silence is kept.*

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

**We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.**

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died and lives in you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given with these words*

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven.

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.

*Administration of the Sacrament: All are welcome to the Lord's Table at Ascension. To receive communion, come to the communion station. Receive the bread in the palm of your hand. Eat the bread and then drink from the cup when it is offered to you, or you may hold the bread and dip it into the wine when the cup is offered to you.*

*Gluten-free wafers are also available. Make your need known to the Clergy by holding up three fingers.*

*If you wish to receive a blessing rather than receive communion, please join in the movement to the communion station and cross your arms over the front of your chest - this will alert the Clergy of your desire to be blessed.*

*If you need communion brought to you please let a member of the Welcome Team know.*

*Healing Prayers: If you would like to receive the laying on of hands for healing for yourself or another, go to the prayer annex to the right of the pulpit after receiving communion. A healing minister will be there to pray with you.*

*When there is a Eucharistic Visitor present*

We send you forth bearing these holy gifts that those whom you visit may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

**We who are many are one body because we all share one bread and one cup.**

Let us pray.

God of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in Jesus and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Amen.

Gather 518

We Are Called

The Peace

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

*The Priest and People greet one another in the name of the Lord, then move to the narthex for refreshment and fellowship.*

**Pray for Comfort, Healing, Courage, and Hope**

We pray for all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity, especially Sandy Boynton, Monica Koenig Caphart, John Carman, Abby FitzPatrick, Diane Goldman, Dotty Pfadenhauer, Wilma Joyce Ruppel, Proscovia Senkeeto, Roz Silver-Marcotte, Fran Spina, and Suzanne Winterhalter.

We pray for peace in the world and all who are serving our country here and abroad, especially those in harm's way, and their families.

Equip us and empower us to be witnesses to your love – as advocates and as servants, as ministers of welcome and of hope for refugees and all affected by natural disasters, violence, and war.

We pray for all special intentions, and those on our extended Healing Prayer List.

**PERMISSIONS**

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# Worship Leaders

	Today	Next Sunday
<b>Readers</b>	<b>7:45 a.m.</b> Leslie Sanya <b>9:00 a.m.</b> Alvaro Gonzales Marsha Sutherland <b>11:15 a.m.</b> Kendall Anderson	David Burton Susan Ahalt Betsy Hasegawa Jason Cutshall
<b>Prayers</b>	<b>7:45 a.m.</b> Leslie Sanya <b>9:00 a.m.</b> Suzyn Gonzales	David Burton Chris Ruggieri
<b>Chalicians</b>	<b>7:45 a.m.</b> Jason Cutshall David Burton <b>9:00 a.m.</b> Margaret Tellu Major Clemens <b>11:15 a.m.</b> Kirk Fitch Anika Lalmansingh	Sharon Hayden Wadai Dennis Bob Waters Cynthia Perley Jason Cutshall Christian Nwankwo
<b>Healing Prayer Ministers</b>	<b>7:45 a.m.</b> Meredith Horan <b>9:00 a.m.</b> Jason Cutshall <b>11:15 a.m.</b> Laura Shay	Meredith Horan Javier Ocampo Sarah Rubin
<b>Acolytes</b>	<b>7:45 a.m.</b> Raymond chin Aidan Douglas <b>9:00 a.m.</b> Paul Whitmore Bob Waters Kofi Kwamena-Poh	Ron Hayden Aidan Douglas Gary McLaughlin Nuelle Johnson Manny Johnson
<b>Welcome Team</b>	<b>7:45 a.m.</b> Herald Douglas Lisa Murdock <b>9:00 a.m.</b> Swithin Kwamena-Poh Kevin Blanc Algernon Thomas <b>11:15 a.m.</b> Sciou Broderick Peedy Terry Emmanuel Nwankwo	Enid Cole Janet King Esther Allotey-Taylor Bev Stennett Christine Kroma Josephine Clarke Avin Lalmansingh
<b>Altar Guild</b>	<b>7:45 a.m.</b> Georgette Dennis <b>9:00 a.m.</b> TBA <b>11:15 a.m.</b> Anika Lalmansingh Avin Lalmansingh	Enid Cole Mardia Dennis TBA TBA
<b>Song Leader</b>	<b>11:15 a.m.</b> Claire Morin	Alice Benson
<b>Hospitality Angels</b>	<b>7:45 a.m.</b> Don Cohn <b>9:00 a.m.</b> Betsy Balicao <b>11:15 a.m.</b> Pamela Novel	Enid Cole Robertine Urey Pamela Novel
<b>Altar Guild Unscheduled Services</b>	7:45 a.m. Team	9:00 a.m. Team
<b>Eucharistic Visitor</b>	Bob Mansfield	Randy Lord-Wilkinson
<b>Flower Delivery</b>	Eliane Dunn-Johnson Alice Padmore	Esther Sawyer Adoma Baffoe



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