The Third Sunday in Lent
March 8, 2026

Prelude:
We Pray Now to the Holy Spirit, Dietrich Buxtehude

Opening Hymn:
Eat This Bread **Page 20**

The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two **BCP 355**

The Word of God
Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins
People **His mercy endures forever.**

The Decalogue: Contemporary
Celebrant 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.
People **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

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

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

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

Celebrant Honor your father and your mother.
People **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Celebrant You shall not commit murder.
People **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Celebrant You shall not commit adultery.
People **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Celebrant You shall not steal.
People Amen. Lord have mercy.

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

Celebrant You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.
People Amen. Lord have mercy.

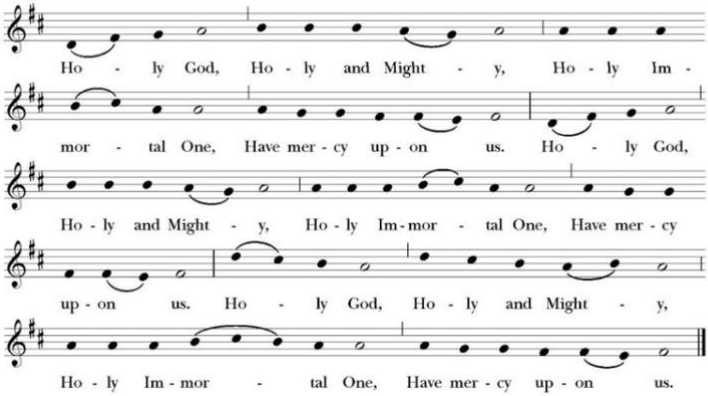
Celebrant Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these."
Mark 12:29-31

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
Silence may be kept.
Celebrant 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.

Celebrant 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.**

Trisagion

Holy God *Trisagion* setting David Hurd Hymnal S100



The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

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 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 Lessons
Old Testament
A Reading from Exodus 17:1-7
From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me."

The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 95 **BCP 724**

1 Come, let us sing to the LORD; *
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

2 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

3 For the LORD is a great God, *
and a great King above all gods.

4 In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are his also.

5 The sea is his, for he made it, *
and his hands have molded the dry land.

6 Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
and kneel before the LORD our Maker.

7 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!

8 Harden not your hearts,
as your forebears did in the wilderness, *
at Meribah, and on that day at Massah, when they tempted me.

9 They put me to the test, *
though they had seen my works.

10 Forty years long I detested that generation and said, *
"This people are wayward in their hearts; they do not know my ways."

11 So I swore in my wrath, *
"They shall not enter into my rest."

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Epistle
Romans 5:1-11

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory

of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person-- though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn:
Surely it is God who saves me **Hymn 679**

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 4:5-42
People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.
Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five

husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" They left the city and were on their way to him.

Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete

his work. Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest’? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.” So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”
Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Homily **Rev. Vikki Clayton**

Joining with Christians throughout the centuries and throughout the world today, let us affirm the faith of the Church, by saying the Nicene Creed.
All stand as you are able
The Nicene Creed **BCP 358**
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.

Stand or kneel as you are able

The Prayers of the People Form IV BCP 388

Lector: 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.
Silence
Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

We pray for those on the Anglican and Diocesan Cycles of Prayer and our Parish Family and Friends
Sarah Mullally, Archbishop of Canterbury, Sean, our Presiding Bishop, Mariann our Bishop, Vikki, our Rector; and for Lauren our music and choir director, for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.

The Anglican Cycle of Prayer
The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & The Middle East

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer
Pray in thanksgiving for the life and
witness of Harriet Ross Tubman
Church of the Good Shepherd, Silver Spring
Good Shepherd Episcopal Preschool, Silver Spring

For our parish family we pray for:
Meredith Smith, Lydia Brittle, Scott Peterson, Stevie Grimes, Janet McMurtray.

For parishioners' family members and friends we pray in the quiet of our hearts:
(A moment of silence.)
Carolann Guerette (V. Cross)

Jerry Cross (V. Cross)
Susan Oliver (J. Shea)
Daniel Oliver (J. Shea)
Thomas Cooper and Mrs. Boyd (D. Burton)
Roseann Royle (N. Row)
Darcy Alt (S. Henderson)
Pam Jagusch (S. Grimes)
Jeff Weinberger (S. Henderson)
Seth Washington (S. Grimes)
Amanda Graham (A. Fitts)
Christine Pearson (V. Cross & J. Rutherford)
Chris Fountas (J. Rutherford)
Edmund Ground (M. Smith)
Allie Ground (M. Smith)
Garry Ground (M. Smith)
Felicia Taylor Popowski (B. Taylor)
Angela McKenzie (S. Henderson)
Mercy Frederick Ozuruonye (C. Frederick)
Anna Kuhlmann (N. Row)
Nicole Pappano (J. Kaufmann)
David Umsheid (J. McMurtray)
Barb and Scott McDonald (V. Cross)
Joyce Oehmler (V. Cross)
Yannick Goedde-Bosch (A. Fitts)
Nicole Bowie (N. Row)
Jim Bond (S. Bond)
Shari Champagne (V. Cross)
Donny Cooper (J. McMurtray)
Nancy Loy (J. Rutherford)
Ann Rose (N. Row)
Amy Morris (D. Howard)

Celebrant:
O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for

you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

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

Celebrant: Walk in love as Christ loved us and gave himself for us as offering and sacrifice to God.

The Offertory
Celebrant Walk in love as Christ loved us and gave himself for us an offering and sacrifice to God.

Choral Offertory
Hope in Me, Terre Johnson

Doxology
All stand as you are able.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him, all creatures here below.
Praise Him above the Heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer B
The Great Thanksgiving
Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father

Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People **Hymn S125**
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.

The people stand or kneel.
We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son.

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. On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; 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 for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,
Celebrant and People
We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues
And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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 forever. **Amen.**

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

Celebrant and People
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, forever and ever. Amen.

The Fraction
The Celebrant breaks the bread.
(A moment of silence)

Celebrant:
Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People: Therefore, let us keep the feast.

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

Communion Hymn
And now, O Father, mindful of the love **Hymn 337**

Post Communion Prayer **BCP 365**
Celebrant: Let us pray.

Celebrant and People
Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food

in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

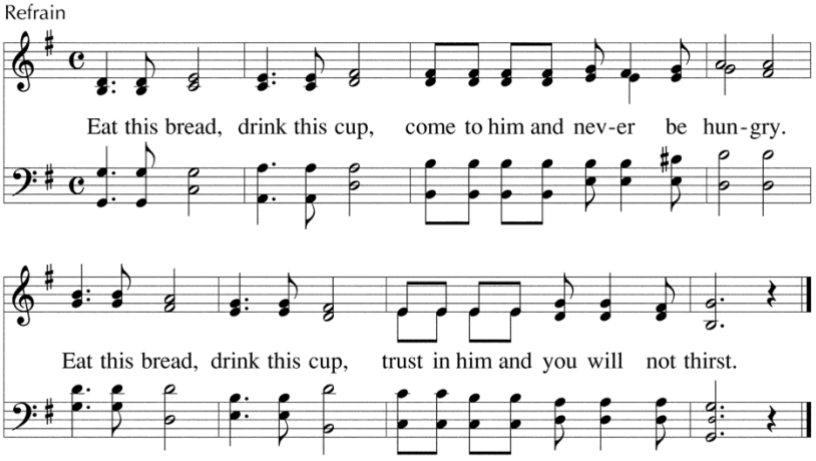
The Blessing

Closing Hymn
Guide me, O thou great Jehovah **Hymn 690**

Lay Eucharistic Minister: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Postlude
Sonata in d, Domenico Cimarosa, ed. Charles Callahan

Eat This Bread



Text: John 6; adapt. by Robert J. Batastini, b.1942, and the Taizé Community
Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994
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Serving Today

Lay Reader Susan Bond
Lay Eucharistic Minister Janet Shea
Choir Director, Music Director, and Organist Lauren Fisher
Usher Rob Palmer
Broadcast Technician Victoria Cross
Flower Guild Lois Leigh
Altar Guild Lauren Murtiff and Sharon Henderson
Celebrant & Preacher The Rev. Victoria Clayton

St. Bartholomew's Choir
Jeff Bergsten, Bill Fitts, Charley Hendricks, Judy O'Neil, Maggie Ramey, Jennifer Rutherford, Judith Schneider

St. Bartholomew's Vestry
Senior Warden Lois Leigh
Junior Warden Jeff Bergsten

Vestry:
Ann Fitts, John Kaufmann, David Landrith, Rob Palmer, Judith Schneider, Donna Starkweather

Announcements
Coffee Hour
Coffee hour today is Birthday Cake Sunday, hosted by Jennifer Rutherford, in celebration of Richard's birthday. Next week is a St. Paddy's Day celebration hosted by Nancy Row and Victoria Cross (and yes, Victoria's bringing her Irish soda bread).

Bible Study
Bible study is held on Thursdays at 10:30 am via Zoom. We are studying St. Paul's Letter to the Romans using the book *Paul for Everyone: Romans, Part Two: Chapters 9-16.* Newcomers are always welcome and you don't need the book to participate! Contact Richard Rutherford (richard.rutherford90@gmail.com) for more information, or Victoria (parishadmin@saintbartholomews.org) for the Zoom link.

Forward Day by Day
The current edition of Forward Day by Day, for February through April 2026, in regular and large print, is in the racks when you enter the church. Please take one. You can also go to www.forwardmovement.org, click on the Prayer tab at the top, then scroll down to Today's Forward Day by Day to view the online version.

Food Giving Basket
There is a food giving basket for Olney Help in the entry way of the church with a "wish list" of items. Please bring the items in a bag. Thank you for your generosity.

On-Line Giving
There is now the option to contribute to the ministries of St. Bartholomew's by using this QR code:

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church
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21611 Laytonsville Rd. Laytonsville, MD 20882
Office: 301-355-7189
Rector - Rev. Victoria Clayton

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