

**March 17, 2024
10:00 AM**

**The Fifth Sunday
in Lent**

Morning Prayer



St. Stephen's in-the-Field Episcopal Church

7269 Santa Teresa Boulevard
San Jose, CA 95139
(408) 629-1836
www.ssitf.org

**We the people of Saint Stephen's in-the-Field
seek to know Christ, to share Christ, and to serve Christ,
recognizing his presence in all people,
and reaching out in love to each other and to the world around us.**

Opening Hymn: YSB

Opening Sentence

Officiant: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

Confession

Officiant: Let us confess our sins against God 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**

Absolution

Officiant: Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

Opening Versicle (*stand*)

Officiant: Lord, open our lips.

People: **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

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.

Invitatory Psalm

Officiant: The mercy of the Lord is everlasting:

People: Come let us adore him.

Venite Psalm 95:1-7

Officiant and people

Come, let us sing to the Lord:*

Let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving*

And raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God,*

And a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth,*

And the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it,*

And his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee,*

And kneel before the Lord our Maker.

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!

Psalm of the Day:

Psalm 119:9-16

9 How shall a young man cleanse his way? *

By keeping to your words.

10 With my whole heart I seek you; *

let me not stray from your commandments.

11 I treasure your promise in my heart, *

that I may not sin against you.

12 Blessed are you, O LORD; *

instruct me in your statutes.

13 With my lips will I recite *

all the judgments of your mouth.

14 I have taken greater delight in the way of your decrees *

than in all manner of riches.

15 I will meditate on your commandments *
and give attention to your ways.

16 My delight is in your statutes; *
I will not forget your word.

Officiant and people

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.

The Lessons *(please be seated)*

First Reading

Jeremiah 31:31-34

A reading from the Prophet Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

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

Second Reading

Hebrews 5:5-10

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

“You are my Son,
today I have begotten you”;

as he says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever,
according to the order of Melchizedek.”

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Please stand

Gospel Gradual: YSB

Gospel Reading

John 12:20-33

A reading from the Gospel of John.

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

Sermon: *A Young Man Throws... (B)* – 2003, by Craig Canfield

The Apostles' Creed *(please stand as you are able)*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayers

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray.

Lord's Prayer

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.

Suffrages

Leader: Show us your mercy, O Lord;
People: **And grant us your salvation.**
Leader: Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
People: **Let your people sing with joy.**
Leader: Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
People: **For only in you can we live in safety.**
Leader: Lord, keep this nation under your care;
People: **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**
Leader: Let your way be known upon earth;
People: **Your saving health among all nations.**
Leader: Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
People: **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**
Leader: Create in us clean hearts, O God;
People: **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

Collect of the Day

Lord of the new covenant, in Christ you draw all people to yourself: may we die with him to the powers of hate and let him show us a world loved by you, through Jesus Christ, the fruitful grain. **Amen.**

Prayers of the People *(please stand as you are able)*

Leader: Eternal and loving God, through the glorification of your Son Jesus you have taught us to follow him through death into eternal life: Glorify your name in us, as we bring before you the concerns of the world, saying:

Create in us clean hearts, O God,

People: **and renew a right spirit within us.**

Leader: Blessed Father, your Son Jesus has taught your Church that when a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it bears much fruit: Empower your people in our journey of sacrifice and compassion to follow Christ in such faithfulness that we may be glorified with him. In the diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for Education for Ministry, for those who lead and those who attend educational Conferences and who participate in Christian education in our congregations.

Create in us clean hearts, O God,

People: and renew a right spirit within us.

Leader: Almighty One, you have driven out the ruler of this world through the glorification of Jesus: Put your law of love within the hearts of all who hold authority among the nations, that they may hear of joy and gladness, so that the broken body of the world may rejoice.

Create in us clean hearts, O God,

People: and renew a right spirit within us.

Leader: Bring the joy of your saving help to all who suffer throughout the world, that they may hear of joy and gladness and be healed.

Create in us clean hearts, O God,

People: and renew a right spirit within us.

Leader: Gracious God, you have promised that all who serve your beloved will be honored in your sight: Have mercy upon this community, that all may know you, from the least to the greatest, and follow in the way that Christ has shown us.

Create in us clean hearts, O God,

People: and renew a right spirit within us.

Leader: Let our prayers ascend to Jesus, our eternal high priest, as we offer up our intercessions and supplications.

We thank you for the incarnation of your Son Jesus, who shares our sorrows and our joys. Hear our prayers of thanksgiving for all our blessings, and for those in any need or trouble, especially for...

Add your thanksgivings silently or aloud.

We entrust into your life all of those who have surrendered their lives into your eternal keeping, especially...

Add your own petitions silently or aloud.

Create in us clean hearts, O God,

People: and renew a right spirit within us.

All: Give us the joy of your saving help again, and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit, O God, as we follow Jesus in service to your world, that the salvation and glorification you have accomplished through his cross and resurrection may extend your eternal life throughout creation, now and forever. Amen

The Peace

Officiant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Exchange peace.

Offertory: YSB

Doxology (Old 100th):

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;

praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The General Thanksgiving

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

**Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make
our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-
beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you
will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as
may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in
the age to come life everlasting. Amen.**

Announcements *(please be seated)*

Prayers for Celebrations

Loving Creator, You are the source of life and the source of love. We thank you for all who celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, and special events today. Watch over them as their days increase, bless and guide them wherever they may be. May your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives, and may your love for the world shine through them and the deep relationships they cherish, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Please stand

Concluding Versicle and Response

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Concluding Sentence

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

Mission Song: YSB

Mark your calendar

- Wednesday Book Group, every Wednesday morning at St. John's, 11am
- Wednesday, March 20th – Lenten soup supper at St. John's, 6pm.
- Sunday, April 14th – Growing Natives Garden Tour at St. Stephen's, 10am – 4pm
(for more information go to www.ssitf.org under the “Events” tab)
- Saturday, May 4th – Spring Fundraiser and BBQ at St. Stephen's, 5pm

Vestry Members

Janet Thorsrud & Susan Zaballos, *Senior Wardens* • Rob van der Molen, *Junior Warden* • Andy Lief, *Treasurer/Finance* • Jill Vaughn, *Clerk* • Anthony Francis • Jessica Dickinson Goodman