



WELCOME

TO THIS CONGREGATION,
A COMMUNITY OF FAITH IN
MIAMI, FLORIDA SINCE 1949.

AN EPISCOPAL PARISH IN THE
DIOCESE OF SOUTHEAST FLORIDA

The Church of the Incarnation

An Episcopal Parish In The Diocese of Southeast Florida

THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 29, 2020 – Year: A

9:00 A.M.

SOLEMN EUCHARIST AND SERMON

The Right Reverend Peter Eaton, *Bishop of Southeast Florida*
The Reverend Roberta (Bobbie) Knowles, *Rector*
The Reverend Canon J. Kenneth Major, D.D., *Rector Emeritus*
The Reverend John J. Jarrett, III, *Associate Priest*
Reverend James Bell, *Parish Musician*

Parish Staff:

Mrs. Euphemia Ferguson, *Parish Registrar*
Mr. Alfred Barnes, *Bookkeeper*
Mr. Bertram Roberts, *Sexton*

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WELCOME to this congregation, a community of faith since AD 1949. We are part of the Episcopal Church in the USA, a constituent member of the worldwide Anglican Communion with over 75 million Christians in 36 national and indigenous churches, originating from the Church of England and in communion with its Archbishop of Canterbury. We invite you to participate and join your prayer with ours. *If you are a baptized Christian of any tradition you are welcome to receive Holy Communion.* If you would like to know more about our activities and ministries, or wish to consider joining our community of faith, please speak to one of the clergy or an usher. May your visit here, as well as your leaving, bring you closer to what our loving God intends for you to be. Again, **WELCOME.**

As you enter the sanctuary and prepare for worship offer prayers for the service and be sensitive to the needs of those around you who may wish to pray in silence. Please silence your cell phone for the duration of the service.

The Celebrant says:

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: His mercy endures forever. Amen.

THE PENITENTIAL ORDER: RITE TWO

The Celebrant reads the following sentences

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*

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Celebrant: Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. *Hebrews 4:14,16*

Silence is kept. Then the Celebrant and People say together:

Celebrant: 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.

The Priest alone stands and says

THE ABSOLUTION

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.

People: Amen

The Trisagion (said)

Celebrant: Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One.

People: Have mercy upon us.

Celebrant: Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One.

People: Have mercy upon us.

Celebrant: Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One.

People: Have mercy upon us.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People: Amen.

Be seated

The Old Testament Reading.....Ezekiel 37:1-14

Lector: A reading from the Prophet Ezekiel

The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD."

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act," says the LORD. *(Pause)*

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Response.....Psalm 130:1-7

Lector: We will read Psalm 130 together

Out of the depths have I called to you, O Lord; Lord, hear my voice; * let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication. If you, Lord, were to note what is done amiss, * O Lord, who could stand? For there is forgiveness with you; * therefore you shall be feared. I wait for the Lord; my soul waits for him; * in his word is my hope. My soul waits for the Lord, more than watchmen for the morning, * more than watchmen for the morning. O Israel, wait for the Lord, * for with the Lord there is mercy; With him there is plenteous redemption, * and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

The Epistle.....Romans 8:6-11

Lector: A reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason, the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law-- indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you. *(Pause)*

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL.....John 11:1-45

The Gospeller: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him. *(Pause)*

Gospeller: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon.....The Reverend Bobbie Knowles

Silence is kept for a few moments of prayer

THE NICENE CREED *(said)*

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 III, WITH ADDITIONS

Lector: Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

People: That we all may be one.

Lector: Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

People: That your Name may be glorified by all people.

Lector: We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

People: That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

Lector: We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

People: That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Lector: Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

People: That our works may find favor in your sight.

Lector: Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

People: That they may be delivered from their distress.

Lector: Lord we pray for this pandemic: May we who are merely inconvenienced remember those whose lives are at stake. May we who have no risk factors remember those most vulnerable. May we who have the luxury of working

from home remember those who must choose between preserving their health or making their rent. May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close remember those children who will go hungry with no school meals. May we who have to cancel our trips remember those with no place to go. May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market remember those who have no margin at all. May we who settle in for quarantine at home remember those who have no home. As fear grips our country let us choose love. During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbor.

People: Through Jesus Christ our Savior, whose arms of love embrace us all.

Lector: Lord, we pray for the Coronavirus outbreak, give the doctors and medical professionals the discernment to find a cure for this dreaded disease and Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy in this time of uncertainty and distress. Sustain and support the anxious and fearful and lift up all who are brought low.

People: That we may rejoice in your comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Lector: Give to the departed eternal rest especially our sister Lillie Daniels and the thousands who have died from the Coronavirus.

People: Let light perpetual shine upon them.

Lector: We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

People: May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Lector: Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

We pause and ask that you add your own petitions at this time.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect

Silence.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Celebrant: Almighty God, you are rich in mercy; out of your great love you loved us even when we were dead in our sins, and you have made us alive together with Christ: Empower your people in our journey of sacrifice and compassion to follow Christ in such faithfulness that we may be glorified with him and bear your light of eternal life throughout the world, in the power of your Holy Spirit, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

People: Amen.

THE PEACE

The Celebrant says to the people

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us greet one another with the peace of God.

THE BLESSINGS

And now may the God of our salvation, our strength and our comfort, guard your hearts and minds this day and evermore. And the Blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be with you now, and remain with you forever.

People: Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

Lay Minister: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

People: Thanks be to God.