

**MORNING PRAYER II**

**SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT**

**Sunday, February 28, 2021**



*We welcome The Rev. Kit Sherrill  
as our Celebrant and Preacher this morning.*

**St. Columba's Episcopal Church**

Boothbay Harbor, Maine



In this time of the Pandemic, we are changing and being changed.

What once was urgent in our daily lives is now put on pause.  
Other more immediate ways of living and dying are transforming us.

As we contemplate and experience our collective living and dying,  
we pray that we can be even more unified as One in God's Love all across the world.  
There is great hope in all that is happening in this world, we embrace it all.

Now in these unprecedented times, our world is hushed . . .

In the quiet and the chaos,  
we're witnessing the wellspring of new life, even in the midst of death.  
All the world is now, perhaps for the first time ever,  
singularly focused on the healing of one another  
and the healing of "this fragile Earth, our island home."

Almost since time began,  
this is also the spirit in which our evenings always have begun.  
At this holy hour of twilight, we are hushed throughout all time,  
breathing in more deeply, lighting our candles, pausing at the end of the day  
together to pray into the love of God's welcoming embrace.

In this widened space at the end of the day,  
our prayers encircle the world continuously.  
We rest into the power of quietness and the healing touch of God.  
As were all those who have gone before us, we too are comforted and calmed  
at this hour of twilight by candlelight, music and prayer.

The Celtic tradition holds that we find God in Christ in our hearts,  
in each other, and in all creation.

As always, we welcome all to join with us in these timeless prayers.

So come as you are, let down your burdens,  
find your rest in God's expansive Love.  
This love is sweeping over you and all of Creation,  
sweeping 'round and 'round the world  
throughout all time and in all places.

Let us pray, this prayer offered up by our friends in Virginia,

Almighty God: Our times are in your hand. We call upon you in this hour of our need, when we are lonely and must stand apart. Be our strength, O Loving God, our calm in the midst of raging seas, our refuge and our dwelling place. Sanctify to us this time drawn away from others, even as your Son, O God of All Creation, drew away to a lonely place for prayer. Deepen our need of you, dear God, that every breath may be a whisper of the Spirit's prompting, a renewed searching of the deep things of God. Stir up in us the great act of intercession, that we may spend our time apart in prayer for the world you created and sustain. Bless us in our turning toward you, and make us a blessing to those who stand in need of you, the whole fragile earth. All this we ask in the name of great Physician our healer, even Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

<https://mailchi.mp/vts/a-prayer-and-worship-resource-pack-from-vts-2615050>

With God's help, our gifts become the blessings we seek for the world.

## MORNING PRAYER

### Prelude

#### Hymn #8 "Morning has broken"

*Unison or harmony*

1 Morn-ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing,  
 2 Sweet the rain's new fall sun - lit from hea - ven,  
 3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing

black-bird has spo - ken like the first bird.  
 like the first dew - fall on the first grass.  
 born of the one light E - den saw play!

Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the morn - ing!  
 Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet gar - den,  
 Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - ery morn - ing,

Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!  
 sprung in com - plete - ness where his feet pass.  
 God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

Words: Eleanor Farjeon (1881–1965), alt.

Music: *Bunessan*, Gaelic melody; harm. Alec Wyton (b. 1921)

### Opening Sentences

*Book of Common Prayer pg. 76*

#### The Confession

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*A short period of silence will be kept.*

***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 Absolution

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.**

### The Invitatory

Lord, open our lips.

**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.**

### The Venite *Congregation reads verses in bold ink - verses 2,4,6*

*Psalm 95:1-7*

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 22:22-30

Praise the Lord, you that fear him;  
stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel;  
all you of Jacob's line, give glory.

For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;  
neither does he hide his face from them;  
but when they cry to him he hears them.

My praise is of him in the great assembly;  
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied,  
and those who seek the Lord shall praise him:  
"May your heart live for ever!"

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord,  
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

For kingship belongs to the Lord;  
he rules over the nations.

To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship;  
all who go down to the dust fall before him.

My soul shall live for him;  
my descendants shall serve him;  
they shall be known as the Lord'S for ever.

They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn \*  
the saving deeds that he has done.

## THE LESSONS

### **The First Reading** Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.

God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

The Word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God.***

### **The Second Reading** Mark 8:31-38

Jesus began to teach his disciples that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

The Word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God.***

Hymn #554 “’Tis the gift to be simple, ’tis the gift to be free” (2 times)

'Tis the gift to be sim - ple, 'tis the gift to be free,  
'tis the gift to come down where we ought to be,  
and when we find our - selves in the place just right,  
'twill be in the val - ley of love and de - light.  
When true sim - pli - ci - ty is gained to  
bow and to bend we shan't be a-shamed, to turn, turn, will  
be our de-light till by turn - ing, turn - ing we come round right.

Words: Shaker song, 18th cent.  
Music: *Simple Gifts*, Joseph Brackett (1797–1822); acc. Margaret W. Mealy (b. 1922)

The Sermon

*The Rev. Kit Sherrill*

The Apostles' Creed *read by one person*

*BCP pg. 96*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth,  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He 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,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
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

### The Lord's Prayer

The Lord be with you.

*And also with you.*

Let us pray.

*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.*

### Suffrages

BCP pg. 97

Show us your mercy, O Lord;  
*And grant us your salvation.*

Clothe your ministers with righteousness;  
*Let your people sing with joy.*

Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;  
*For only in you can we live in safety.*

Lord, keep this nation under your care;  
*And guide us in the way of justice and truth.*

Let your way be known upon earth;  
*Your saving health among all nations.*

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;  
*Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.*

Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
*And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.*

## The Collect for The Second Sunday in Lent

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## Prayers

### For the Human Family

*BCP pg. 815*

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### For the Poor and the Neglected

*BCP pg. 826*

Almighty and most merciful God, we remember before you all poor and neglected persons whom it would be easy for us to forget: the homeless and the destitute, the old and the sick, and all who have none to care for them. Help us to heal those who are broken in body or spirit, and to turn their sorrow into joy. Grant this, Father, for the love of your Son, who for our sake became poor, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### For Those Who Live Alone

*BCP pg. 829*

Almighty God, whose Son had nowhere to lay his head: Grant that those who live alone may not be lonely in their solitude, but that, following in his steps, they may find fulfillment in loving you and their neighbors; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### For Peace

*BCP pg. 815*

Eternal God, in whose perfect kingdom no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, no strength known but the strength of love: So mightily spread abroad your Spirit, that all peoples may be gathered under the banner of the Prince of Peace, as children of one Father; to whom be dominion and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### For Quiet Confidence

*BCP pg. 832*

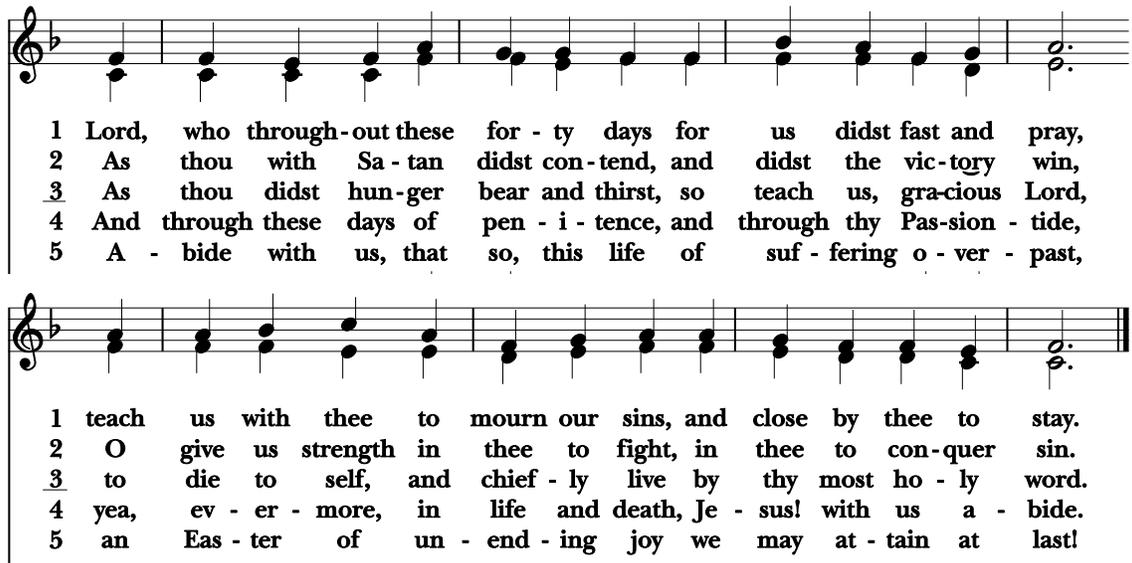
O God of peace, who hast taught us that in returning and rest we shall be saved, in quietness and in confidence shall be our strength: By the might of thy Spirit lift us, we pray thee, to thy presence, where we may be still and know that thou art God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

*BCP pg. 102*

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.**

Hymn #142 "Lord, who throughout these forty days" (st. 1, 3, 4)



1 Lord, who through-out these for - ty days for us didst fast and pray,  
2 As thou with Sa - tan didst con - tend, and didst the vic - tory win,  
3 As thou didst hun - ger bear and thirst, so teach us, gra - cious Lord,  
4 And through these days of pen - i - tence, and through thy Pas - sion - tide,  
5 A - bide with us, that so, this life of suf - fering o - ver - past,  
1 teach us with thee to mourn our sins, and close by thee to stay.  
2 O give us strength in thee to fight, in thee to con - quer sin.  
3 to die to self, and chief - ly live by thy most ho - ly word.  
4 yea, ev - er - more, in life and death, Je - sus! with us a - bide.  
5 an Eas - ter of un - end - ing joy we may at - tain at last!

Words: Claudia Frances Hernaman (1838–1898)  
Music: St. Flavian, melody from Day's Psalter, 1562; adapt, and harm. Richard Redhead (1820–1901)

The Blessing and Dismissal

BCP pg. 102

Let us bless the Lord.  
*Thanks be to God.*



*Please note that during this time of pandemic  
St. Columba's building is closed until further notice.  
Donations can be sent to St. Columba's Episcopal Church  
32 Emery Lane, Boothbay Harbor ME 04538*



*The Rt. Rev. Thomas J. Brown  
Bishop of The Diocese of Maine*

*The Rev. Maria J. Hoecker,  
Rector of St. Columba's Episcopal Church*

*Musician, IT, and Sound Engineer: Guy Scott  
Bulletin Preparation: Gretchen Fehlau*

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OUR MISSION

To be a Safe Harbor In the Name of Christ  
For the Love of God ~  
Through the Power of the Holy Spirit.

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If you would like to contribute to our online and community ministries, your special gift can be sent to:  
St. Columba's Church  
32 Emery Lane  
Boothbay Harbor ME 04538

Or you can directly send us an online donation through the link on the Episcopal Diocese of Maine home page: <https://www.episcopalmaine.org/about-us/about-us-for-everyone/giving-online>

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