

**Morning Prayer**  
**Wednesday, March 1, 2023**

**Opening Sentence:** I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord." Psalm 122:1

**Confession:**

Let us confess our sins to God.

**God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

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

Leader: 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 forever. Amen.**

**The Venite**

Antiphon: Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: **Come let us adore him.**

**Come, let us sing to the Lord; \* let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving \* and raise to the Lord a shout with psalms. For you are a great God; \* you are great above all gods. In your hand are the caverns of the earth, \* and the heights of the hills are yours also. The sea is yours, for you made it, \* and your hands have molded the dry land. Come, let us bow down and bend the knee, \* and kneel before the Lord our Maker. For you are our God, and we are the people of your pasture and the sheep of your hand. \* Oh, that today we would hearken to your voice!**

Antiphon: Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: **Come let us adore him.**

**Psalm 45:1-7**

**1 My heart is stirring with a noble song; let me recite what I have fashioned for the king; \* my tongue shall be the pen of a skilled writer.**

**2 You are the fairest of men; \* grace flows from your lips, because God has blessed you forever.**

**3 Strap your sword upon your thigh, O mighty warrior, \* in your pride and in your majesty.**

**4 Ride out and conquer in the cause of truth \* and for the sake of justice.**

**5 Your right hand will show you marvelous things; \* your arrows are very sharp, O mighty warrior.**

**6 The peoples are falling at your feet, \* and the king's enemies are losing heart.**

**7 Your throne, O God, endures for ever and ever, \* a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of your kingdom; you love righteousness and hate iniquity.**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: \* as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be; world without end. Amen.**

## The Lessons

### The First Reading: Deuteronomy 9:4-12

4 When the Lord your God thrusts them out before you, do not say to yourself, "It is because of my righteousness that the Lord has brought me in to occupy this land"; it is rather because of the wickedness of these nations that the Lord is dispossessing them before you. 5 It is not because of your righteousness or the uprightness of your heart that you are going in to occupy their land; but because of the wickedness of these nations the Lord your God is dispossessing them before you, in order to fulfill the promise that the Lord made on oath to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob. 6 Know, then, that the Lord your God is not giving you this good land to occupy because of your righteousness; for you are a stubborn people. 7 Remember and do not forget how you provoked the Lord your God to wrath in the wilderness; you have been rebellious against the Lord from the day you came out of the land of Egypt until you came to this place. 8 Even at Horeb you provoked the Lord to wrath, and the Lord was so angry with you that he was ready to destroy you. 9 When I went up the mountain to receive the stone tablets, the tablets of the covenant that the Lord made with you, I remained on the mountain forty days and forty nights; I neither ate bread nor drank water. 10 And the Lord gave me the two stone tablets written with the finger of God; on them were all the words that the Lord had spoken to you at the mountain out of the fire on the day of the assembly. 11 At the end of forty days and forty nights the Lord gave me the two stone tablets, the tablets of the covenant. 12 Then the Lord said to me, "Get up, go down quickly from here, for your people whom you have brought from Egypt have acted corruptly. They have been quick to turn from the way that I commanded them; they have cast an image for themselves."

The Word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God.**

### Canticle: *A Song of Praise*

**Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers; \***  
**you are worthy of praise; glory to you.**  
**Glory to you for the radiance of your holy Name; \***  
**we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.**  
**Glory to you in the splendor of your temple; \***  
**on the throne of your majesty, glory to you.**  
**Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; \***  
**we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.**  
**Glory to you, beholding the depths; \***  
**in the high vault of heaven, glory to you.**  
**Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; \***  
**we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.**  
**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \***  
**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

### The Gospel Reading: John 2:13-22

13 The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. 14 In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. 15 Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. 16 He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" 17 His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." 18 The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" 19 Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." 20 The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" 21 But he was speaking of the temple of his body. 22 After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

The Word of the Lord  
Thanks be to God.

### The Apostles' Creed *(read in unison)*

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.

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: 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 that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

### The Suffrages

Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;

**Govern and uphold them, now and always.**

Day by day we bless you;

**We praise your Name for ever.**

Lord, keep us from all sin today;

**Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.**

Lord, show us your love and mercy;

**For we put our trust in you.**

In you, Lord, is our hope;

**And we shall never hope in vain.**

### The Collect: The First Sunday in Lent

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan; Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### A Collect for Guidance

Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### Concluding Sentence:

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to God from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.** *Ephesians 3:20,21*