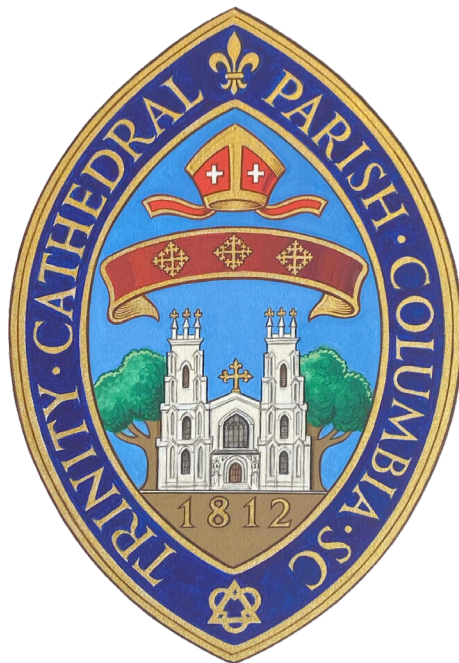


TRINITY EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL



THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 19, 2023 - 4:00PM

CHORAL EVENSONG

The Fourth Sunday in Lent: Laetare Sunday

“Laetare” is the name traditionally given to this Sunday. That Latin word was the first word sung or spoken this morning. It comes from the Vulgate translation of Isaiah 66:10: “Rejoice ye with Jerusalem, and be glad with her, all ye that love her.”

In the ancient, intense Lenten fast this was a day of refreshment. Flowers on altars, organ voluntaries, and other little expressions of joy and gladness banished since Ash Wednesday reappeared briefly on this day. Though Easter is still a few weeks off and all the rigors of Passiontide and Holy Week still loom before us, the Fourth Sunday in Lent has always been a day for a little rejoicing.

There is a deep grace in this tradition. We human beings—especially religious human beings—sometimes have to be reminded to rejoice. One of the silliest aspects of our species must be how easily we become impressed with our own seriousness, our own piety, our own effort. Nothing could be more spiritually stultifying, as Jesus repeatedly warned the self-righteous Pharisees of his own day. And a little unabashed, unexpected joy is an excellent antidote to our puffed-up pretensions.

Today is a day to remember and rejoice over the truth that our Lenten fasts and disciplines do not and cannot save us. Rather, those practices are mere tools intended to prepare our soft, comfortable bodies and our soft, comfortable souls to remember and re-enter upon the mighty acts by which Christ has won for us a victory deeper and broader than anything our paltry, pitiful pieties could ever achieve.

Firm in that truth, what can we do but rejoice, even here in Lent? How can we fail to laugh at ourselves and our tendency to sanctimony? And when we do, we join the everlasting laughter ringing through high heaven from before time and forever. We participate in the joy that shines through all eternity, and which dimmed but once, briefly, on a Friday afternoon twenty centuries ago—only to be renewed louder and lustier than ever before just three short days later.

Rejoice ye, Jerusalem, and be glad with her, all ye that love her. Rejoice ye, Trinity, and laugh today, with all the triumphant, joyful saints of God.

Faithfully,

The Very Reverend Dane E. Boston
Dean of Trinity Cathedral

CHORAL EVENSONG

The setting of the Preces & Responses is by Jessica French (b. 1984)

The setting of the canticles is by Kathryn Rose (b. 1980)

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

INTROIT

The Lord is in his holy temple;
let all the earth keep silence before him.

The Lord preserve thy going out and thy coming in;
from this time forth for evermore.

Amen.

Words: Habakkuk 2.20, Psalm 121

Music: Gerre Hancock (1934–2012)

The people stand as the procession enters the Cathedral.

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

The Officiant says to the people

Dear friends in Christ, here in the presence of Almighty God, let us kneel in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, so that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

Officiant and people

Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep,
we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts,
we have offended against thy holy laws,
we have left undone those things which we ought to have done,
and we have done those things which we ought not to have done.
But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us,
spare thou those who confess their faults,
restore thou those who are penitent,
according to thy promises declared unto mankind
in Christ Jesus our Lord;
and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,
that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life,
to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

The Officiant alone stands and says

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

THE INVITATORY (*sung by the Officiant and Choir*)

☩ O Lord, open thou our lips.
☩ And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.
☩ O God, make speed to save us.
☩ O Lord, make haste to help us.
☩ 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.
☩ Praise ye the Lord.
☩ The Lord's Name be praised.

The people sit.

THE PSALMS APPOINTED

Psalm 100

Jubilate Deo

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands *
serve the Lord with gladness, and come before his presence with a song.
Be ye sure that the Lord he is God *
it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise *
be thankful unto him, and speak good of his Name.
For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting *
and his truth endureth from generation to generation.

Music: Gerre Hancock (1934-2012)

Psalm 101

Misericordium et judicium

My song shall be of mercy and judgement *
unto thee, O Lord, will I sing.
O let me have understanding *
in the way of godliness.
When wilt thou come unto me *
I will walk in my house with a perfect heart.

I will take no wicked thing in hand; I hate the sins of unfaithfulness *
 there shall no such cleave unto me.
 A froward heart shall depart from me *
 I will not know a wicked person.
 Whoso privily slandereth his neighbour *
 him will I destroy.
 Whoso hath also a proud look and high stomach *
 I will not suffer him.
 Mine eyes look upon such as are faithful in the land *
 that they may dwell with me.
 Whoso leadeth a godly life *
 he shall be my servant.
 There shall no deceitful person dwell in my house *
 he that telleth lies shall not tarry in my sight.
 I shall soon destroy all the ungodly that are in the land *
 that I may root out all wicked doers from the city of the Lord.

Music: Brent te Velde (b. 1989)

THE FIRST LESSON: Jeremiah 14.1-9, 17-22

The people stand.

CANTICLE: *Magnificat - The Song of Mary* The Book of Common Prayer, p. 65

The people sit.

THE SECOND LESSON: Galatians 4.21—5.1

The people stand.

CANTICLE: *Nunc dimittis - The Song of Simeon* BCP, p. 66

THE APOSTLES' CREED (*said by all*) BCP, p. 66

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth;
 And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
 who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
 born of the Virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, dead, and buried.
 He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS *(sung by the Officiant and Choir)*

∇ The Lord be with you.
℞ And with thy spirit.
∇ Let us pray.
℞ Lord have mercy upon us;
Christ have mercy upon us;
Lord have mercy upon us.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP, p. 67

THE SUFFRAGES

∇ O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.
℞ And grant us thy salvation.
∇ O Lord, save the State.
℞ And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.
∇ Endue thy ministers with righteousness.
℞ And make thy chosen people joyful.
∇ O Lord, save thy people.
℞ And bless thine inheritance.
∇ Give peace in our time, O Lord.
℞ Because there is none other that fighteth for us,
but only thou, O God.
∇ O God, make clean our hearts within us.
℞ And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

THE COLLECTS

The people sit.

THE ANTHEM

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.
Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me,
for I am gentle and lowly in heart,
and you will find rest for your souls.
For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Words: Matthew 11.28-30
Music: John Fitz Rogers (b. 1963)

The people stand.

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING *(said by all)*

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we thine unworthy servants
do give thee most humble and hearty thanks
for all thy goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all men.
We bless thee for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for thine inestimable 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 beseech thee,
give us that due sense of all thy mercies,
that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful;
and that we show forth thy praise not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to thy service,
and by walking before thee
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost,
be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

A PRAYER OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

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

☩ Let us bless the Lord.

☩ Thanks be to God.

The Officiant offers a concluding prayer, to which the people respond

Amen.

Hymn 547 “Awake, O sleeper, rise from death”

Marsh Chapel

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Officiant: The Very Reverend Dane E. Boston

Choir: The Cathedral Singers

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The Right Reverend Daneil P. Richards, *Bishop*

The Very Reverend Dane E. Boston, *Dean*

The Reverend Canon James P. Hartley, *Canon Pastor*

The Reverend Canon Mia C. McDowell, *Canon Catechist*

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