

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 26, 2023



"Raising of Lazarus" – Dave Zelenka

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." 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. – John 11:38;40-45

ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Fifth Sunday in Lent, Year A

Rector: The Rev. Catherine D. Hicks

The Rev. Tom Hughes, Rector Emeritus

(BCP—Book of Common Prayer, H-Hymnal 1982; S Numbers are the service music found in the front of The Hymnal 1982; WLP-Wonder, Love and Praise)

LEVAS-Lift Every Voice and Sing II)

In the name of Christ, we welcome you to this Church. May those who sorrow find comfort; the weary, rest; the unhappy, joy; the troubled, peace; the stranger, friends; and to all the sense of God's Presence in this holy place. We acknowledge that we gather on the traditional land of the first people of Port Royal, the Nandtaughtacund, and we honor with gratitude the land itself and the life of the Rappahannock Tribe.

Prelude

Opening Hymn

Be not dismayed

LEVAS 183

Opening Sentences

Rend your hearts and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and repents of evil. Joel 2:13

Celebrant

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may 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.

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 and Psalter

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Glory be 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.

Venite To God with gladness sing (sung to Darwall's 148th)

To God with gladness sing, your Rock and Savior bless;

Into his temple bring your songs of thankfulness!

O God of might, to you we sing

Enthroned as King on heaven's height!

God cradles in his hand the heights and depths of earth;

God made the sea and land, God brought the world to birth!

O God most high, we are your sheep;

On us you keep your shepherd's eye!

Your heavenly Father praise, acclaim his only Son,

Your voice in homage raise to him who makes all one!

O Dove of peace, on us descend

That strife may end and joy increase!

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy: **Come let us adore him.**

Psalm 130 *De profundis*

1 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.

2 If you, LORD, were to note what is done amiss, *

O Lord, who could stand?

3 For there is forgiveness with you; *

therefore you shall be feared.

4 I wait for the LORD; my soul waits for him; *

in his word is my hope.

5 My soul waits for the LORD,
more than watchmen for the morning, *
more than watchmen for the morning.

6 O Israel, wait for the LORD, *
for with the LORD there is mercy;

7 With him there is plenteous redemption, *
and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

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 Lessons

A Reading from the Prophet Ezekiel, Chapter 37:1-14.

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, "Prophecy 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, "Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, 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.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Canticle G: A Song of Ezekiel

Ezekiel 36: 24-28 Please stand and read in unison.

I will take you from among all nations;*
And gather you from all lands to bring you home.
I will sprinkle clean water upon you;*
and purify you from false gods and uncleanness.
A new heart I will give you*
and a new spirit put within you.
I will take the stone heart from your chest*
and give you a heart of flesh.
I will help you walk in my laws*
and cherish my commandments and do them.
You shall be my people,*
and I will be your God.

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans, Chapter 8, verses 6-11.

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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Canticle M: A Song of Faith

1 Peter 1:3-4, 18-21 Please stand and read in unison.

**Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,*
by divine mercy we have a new birth into a living hope;**

**Through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,*
we have an inheritance that is imperishable in heaven.**

**The ransom that was paid to free us*
was not paid in silver or gold,**

**But in the precious blood of Christ,*
the Lamb without spot or stain.**

**God raised Jesus from the dead and gave him glory*
so that we might have faith and hope in God.**

A Reading from The Gospel according to John, Chapter 11:1-45.

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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn

When peace, like a river

LEVAS 188

Sermon

The Rev. Thomas Hughes

The Apostles' Creed

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 Peace

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Announcements

Birthday and Anniversary Blessings

BCP 830 #51/431

Offertory

The Prayers

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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Suffrages A

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 forever.
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.

Collect for Fifth Sunday in Lent

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. **Amen.**

A Collect for the Renewal of Life

O God, the King eternal, whose light divides the day from the night and turns the shadow of death into the morning: Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet into the way of peace; that having done your will with cheerfulness during the day, we may, when night comes, rejoice to give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

God of the covenant, in the glory of the cross your Son embraced the power of death and broke its hold over your people. In this time of repentance, draw all people to yourself, that we who confess Jesus as Lord may put aside the deeds of death and accept the life of your kingdom. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Mission

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your name. **Amen.**

For Peace Among the Nations

Almighty God our heavenly Father, guide the leaders and the nations of the world into the way of justice and truth, and establish among them that peace which is the fruit of righteousness, that together they may become the kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Until your reign of peace comes on this earth, we pray for those serving in the

armed forces, especially those on our prayer list. Protect them, guide them, and bring them safely home when their work is done. **Amen.**

For those on our prayer list

Merciful Lord, giver of life and health: Comfort and relieve all those on our prayer list, especially Herb Collins, Ken Pogue, Susan Linne von Berg and the Wisdoms. Give your power of healing to those who care for them, that they may be strengthened in their weakness and have confidence in your loving care; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

For those who have died

O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers on behalf of all who have died, especially Jane Harrington Webber, Linda Kramer's aunt, and grant all of them an entrance into the land of light and joy, in the fellowship of your saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

God of all consolation and compassion, your Son comforted the grieving sisters, Martha and Mary. Your breath alone brings life to dry bones and weary souls. Pour out your Spirit upon us, that we may face despair and death with the hope of resurrection and faith in the One who called Lazarus forth from the grave. **Amen.**

A General Thanksgiving (*Read in Unison*)

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.

Closing Hymn Precious Lord, take my hand

LEVAS 106

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

Postlude

Resources

Today's canticles are from Enriching our Worship.

Today's prayers are from The Book of Common Prayer and Revised Common Lectionary Prayers.

Announcements

Welcome to St Peter's. May you find God's love present with you in this place and return here often to worship.

The offering plates are in the back next to the doors. Your gifts help support God's work through this church. Mail - PO Box 399, Port Royal, VA 22535. online - <https://news.churchsp.org/onlinegiving>

Happy Birthday- Dave Duke 03/29, Joseph Long 03/29

Lent is the season to prepare for the journey through Holy Week and the joys of the Easter season to come. The Confession of Sin and the Absolution are both part of the Penitential Order and occur at the beginning of the service. The Kyrie, near the beginning of the service, emphasizes the merciful nature of God's love for us.

Next Sunday, April 2, is Palm Sunday. Meet at 10:45AM behind the church for the Blessing of the Palms followed by the Palm Sunday procession. After the service, plan to attend coffee hour. If you'd like to do so, bring a dish to share. Jan Saylor will be teaching the youth and anyone else who would like to know how to make palm crosses that can be dried and kept for many years.

If you would like to give a lily to beautify the church for Easter in memory or in honor of someone, or to make a donation to the Endowment Fund, complete the form and place in the offering plate – *Lily Form Due Today. Endowment Fund form, next week.*

Stations of the Cross—Meditate on the last hours of Jesus' life by walking the Stations of the Cross. Mary Peterman's moving watercolors and the text on display . Enter through the back gate. The Stations are located on the fence around the graveyard. Thank you to Jan and Larry Saylor for making the sign out front, posting it, and providing the information box and pamphlets.

Our worship service will not be streamed today. If anyone is interested in helping with Sunday morning technology, please let Catherine know (540)-809-7489.

-Monday, March 27, Psalms Study, every Monday night from 7-8PM on Zoom,

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87304189375?pwd=RHRIUUcrSVU1K1JPWmhiMlc4Z2xpUT09> Meeting ID: 873 0418 9375 Passcode: 092098

-Bible Study March 29, 10am-12pm. Parish House. Reading the Palm Sunday lectionary for April 2

https://lectionarypage.net/YearA_RCL/HolyWk/APalmSun_RCL.html

-Get a head start on Holy Week.

1 Holy Week resource page–

<https://www.churchsp.org/holyweeklinks2023/>

2 Bishop Curry talks about Palm Sunday

<https://www.episcopalnewsservice.org/2017/04/03/presiding-bishop-michael-currys-easter-message-2017/>

St. Peter's Episcopal Church
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Website: www.news.churchsp.org Parish Office: (804) 742-5908
The Vestry
Cookie Davis, Robert Bryan (2024)
Elizabeth Heimbach, Helmut Linne von Berg (2025)
Linda Upshaw (2026)
Jim Heimbach, Treasurer, Elizabeth Heimbach Registrar
Senior Warden, Elizabeth Heimbach
Junior Warden, Cookie Davis
Brad Volland – Music Director & Organist
The Rev. Catherine D. Hicks, Rector
The Rev. Tom Hughes, Rector Emeritus
(540) 809-7489, (540) 898-1586, stpetersrev@gmail.com
Christ Centered, Biblically Based, Spirit Filled, Caring

Prayer List

Ken Pogue, Fred and Crystal Pannell, Alice Hughes, Jim Heimbach, Susan and Helmut Linne von Berg, Brad Volland, Rob Dobson, Laura Carey, Lydia O' Neil, John Hess, Charles McGuire, Tommy Segar, John and Toni Faibisy, Linneth Feliciano, Thom Guthrie, Vivian McDonald, Bill Wick, Barbara and Boyd Wisdom

Herb Collins, Hyacinth Wallace, Bethune Andrews (Linneth Feliciano's sisters), **Sylvia Coleman, Ed and Doris Hooker, J. P. Wilkerson, Milijana Grayson, Nika Corwin** (friend of Marcia Kole), **Nathaniel Schakenberg, Otis Felts** (friend of Johnny Davis), **The Glasgows** (friends of the Felicianos), **Randall Clingenpeel, Mrs. Watson** (Linneth Feliciano's mother), **Ann Pyle** (Carolyn Duke's mother), **J.T. Moriarty** (Hicks' friend), **Harvey Yarus** (friend of Tom Kramer), **Patty Reno** (cousin of Tom Kramer), **Joanne Wilkerson and Jimmy Davis, Julie Davis** (sister, brother and daughter of Johnny Davis), **Lois Christie, Rosie Dowdy, Bill Lauck, Jonathan Coleman** (Cleo Coleman's son), **Anthony Bowman, Dylan Puryear** (BJ's grandson), **Ruth Smith, Joyce Smith** (Laura Carey's sisters-in-law), **Orville Watson** (Linneth Feliciano's brother), **Gloria Jewell, Kathryn, David and Bobby Hill** (Lydia O'Neil's family), **Lorena McElwain**, (friend of the Pogues), **G. Lee Baldwin, Linda Oliver, Pat Crenshaw** (Brad Volland's cousin), **Joan Pemberton** (Brad Volland's aunt), **Albert Barnett** (Andrea's uncle), **Scott Crabtree** (Eunice Key's brother), **Louise Chapman** (Barbara Segar's cousin), **Charlene Schakenberg**, (Becky Fisher's mother)
Passed into eternal life: Jane Harrington Webber, Linda Kramer's aunt

Serving in the Armed Forces

PJ Koons	Scott Estes	Cliff Lance
Steven Lee	Greg Merkl	Grace Grimaldi
Alexis Rye	Michael Hobbs	Alex Long V