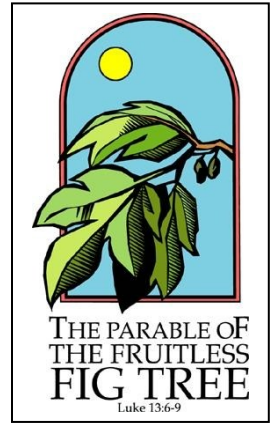




Third Sunday in Lent
March 23, 2025
Epiphany Parish, Walpole
Rite II



We gather with joy in the power of Jesus' name, to care for one another and to include all people through our fellowship, education & outreach.

The Word of God

The Silent Procession

Officiant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: His mercy endures for ever.

The Decalogue

p350

The Absolution

The Priest, stands and says:

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.

Kyrie Eleison

S-86

The Collect (in unison) Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The First Reading

Exodus 3:1-15

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the LORD said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the

Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain."

But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The LORD, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you':

This is my name forever,
and this my title for all generations."

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalms 63:1-8

Deus, Deus meus

- ¹ O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; *
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,
as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.
- ² Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, *
that I might behold your power and your glory.
- ³ For your loving-kindness is better than life itself; *
my lips shall give you praise.
- ⁴ So will I bless you as long as I live *
and lift up my hands in your Name.
- ⁵ My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness, *
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,
- ⁶ When I remember you upon my bed, *
and meditate on you in the night watches.
- ⁷ For you have been my helper, *
and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.
- ⁸ My soul clings to you; *
your right hand holds me fast.

The Epistle Reading

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

H#144 Lord Jesus, sun of righteousness

The Gospel

Luke 13:1-9

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People: Glory to you Lord Christ.

At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them--do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Sermon

The Rev. Christen H. Mills

The Nicene Creed

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The Prayers of the People - Form III

p387

The Peace

Offertory Hymn

I want Jesus to walk with me – Sung by Choir



The Great Thanksgiving - Eucharistic Prayer A

p361

Sanctus

S-125

The Lord's Prayer

p364

The Breaking of the Bread

Communion Hymn

H#313 Let thy Blood in mercy pour

Post Communion Prayer

p365

The Blessing

Welcome & Announcements

Closing Hymn

WLP#757 Will you come and follow me

- 1) Will you come and follow me
if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown?
Will you let my Name be known?
Will you let my life be grown
in you and you in me?
- 2) Will you leave your self behind
if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare
should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer
in you and you in me?
- 3) Will you let the blinded see
if I but call your name?
Will you set the pris'ner free
and never be the same?

- 3) Will you kiss the leper clean,
and do such as this unseen?
And admit to what I mean
in you and you in me?
- 4) Will you love the "You" you hide
if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
to reshape the world around
through my sight and touch and sound
in you and you in me?
- 5) Christ, your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
and never be the same.
In your company I'll go
where your love and footsteps show,
thus I'll move and live and grow
in you and you in me?

The Dismissal

Invitation for Spiritual Communion— *This prayer is a personal prayer that you can say when you desire communion but are unable to receive the sacrament.* Lord Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart. I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you. Let me never be separated from you. Amen.

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