

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

<i>Officiant</i>	<i>The Rev. Michelle Meech</i>	<i>Lector</i>	<i>Tom McDonald</i>
<i>Homilist</i>	<i>The Rev. Michelle Meech</i>	<i>Prelude</i>	<i>Ana Hernández</i>
<i>Intercessor</i>	<i>The Rev. Deacon Sue Bonsteel</i>	<i>Music Director</i>	<i>Terry Earles</i>

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

CONFESSION OF SIN

Officiant Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God, to set forth God's praise, to hear God's holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship God, let us kneel, in body or in spirit, in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by God's infinite goodness and mercy.

Silence is kept.

All

**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.**

Priest/Officiant 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.

People **Amen.**

THE KYRIE

Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.
Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

Officiant Lord, open our lips.
People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**
All **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.**

Psalm 95 (Venite)

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

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

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

Psalm 23

Officiant We will read the psalm in unison.

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.
- 3 He revives my soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil; *
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- 5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running over.
- 6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

All **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 FIRST LESSON

Lector A Reading from the first book of Samuel.

1 Samuel 16:1-13

The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons

and invited them to the sacrifice. When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord." But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Lector Here ends the Reading.

THE RESPONSE Lord, throughout these forty days *Hymnal 1982, 142*

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!

THE SECOND LESSON

Lector A Reading from Paul's letter to the Ephesians.

Ephesians 5:8-14

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light— for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

Lector Here ends the Reading.

THE RESPONSE *The Song of Mary Magnificat (Luke 1:46-55)*

All My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *
From this day all generations will call me blessed: *
the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.
He has mercy on those who fear him *
in every generation.
He has shown the strength of his arm, *
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *
and has lifted up the lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
The promise he made to our fathers, *
to Abraham and his children for ever.

All 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 THIRD READING

Lector A Reading from the Gospel of John.

John 9:1-41

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He

answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

Lector Here ends the Reading.

THE HOMILY

The Rev. Michelle Meech

We will sit in a few moments of reflective silence following the homily.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

All 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

Officiant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Officiant 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.**

Officiant Show us your mercy, O Lord;
People **And grant us your salvation.**
Officiant Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
People **Let your people sing with joy.**
Officiant Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
People **For only in you can we live in safety.**
Officiant Lord, keep this nation under your care;
People **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**
Officiant Let your way be known upon earth;
People **Your saving health among all nations.**
Officiant Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
People **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**
Officiant Create in us clean hearts, O God;
People **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

Officiant Gracious God, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

Officiant O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

Lord Jesus, Sun of Righteous

Hymnal 1982, 144

1 Lord Je - sus, Sun of Right - eous - ness, shine
2 Give guid - ance to our wan - dering ways, for -
3 Lord, grant that we in pen - i - tence may
4 Now near - er draws the day of days when
5 The u - ni - verse your glo - ry shows, blest

1 in our hearts, we pray; dis - pel the gloom that
2 give us, Lord, our sin; re - store us by your
3 of - fer you our praise, and through your sav - ing
4 par - a - dise shall bloom, when we shall be at
5 Fa - ther, Spi - rit, Son; we shall ac - claim your

1 shades our minds and be to us as day.
2 lov - ing care to peace and joy with - in.
3 sac - ri - fice re - ceive your gift of grace.
4 one with you, Lord, ris - en from the tomb.
5 ma - jes - ty, e - ter - nal Three in One.

Deacon Reconciled to God through the grace of Jesus Christ, let us pray with confidence for the needs of the church and the world saying: God of mercy, hear our prayer.
Let us pray for the church in all places. Remove our blindness that we may always recognize your truth and see the world through your compassionate eyes. God of mercy,

***People* hear our prayer.**

Deacon Let us pray for the world - for our friends but also for those who wish us harm. Remove our blindness that we may see beyond the angry and oppressive words and actions that separate us from living together in peace. God of mercy,

***People* hear our prayer.**

Deacon Let us pray for justice and for all who are oppressed. Remove our blindness that we may clearly see the suffering of those who struggle for freedom and dignity. Give us strength to stand with them. God of mercy,

***People* hear our prayer.**

Deacon Let us pray for the communities in which we live and work. Remove our blindness that we may see opportunities for growth and prosperity for all your people. Guide us in our efforts to make our neighborhoods safe and welcoming for all. God of mercy,

***People* hear our prayer.**

Deacon Let us pray for ourselves. Remove our blindness that we may make room in our hearts for all your children. Help us overcome our prejudices and fears about those we call "other." God of mercy,

***People* hear our prayer.**

Deacon Let us pray for the suffering and the lost, for all who live with anxiety and fear during this global pandemic, for those who may lose their jobs and for all who face economic uncertainty, especially those we now name aloud and silently in our hearts.

Please offer your petitions either silently or aloud.

Remove our blindness that we may truly be your light in the world and to one another. God of mercy,

***People* hear our prayer.**

Deacon Let us pray for those who are working in hospitals, medical clinics and the telemedicine community. Remove our blindness to those who give selflessly in caring for those who are infected with the coronavirus and those impacted by other health concerns. Protect them from becoming ill and ease their anxieties as they seek to care for their own loved ones at the same time. God of mercy,

***People* hear our prayer.**

Deacon Let us pray for those who have passed from earthly life into the loving arms of Christ, especially for those who have died from the global pandemic and for Dave, Beth and Mary Kay Aldrich and Ruth and Gus MacDonald in whose memory the Lenten greens are given. God of mercy,

***People* hear our prayer.**

Deacon For whom else and what else shall we pray?

Please offer your petitions either silently or aloud.

Officiant Holy One, 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.

***People* Amen.**

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

***All* 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.**

THE DISMISSAL AND BLESSING

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

Officiant May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. *Romans 15:13*
People **Amen.**

Stay with us for Virtual Coffee Hour!

St. John's will have worship online until May 17.

As Rev. Michelle announced in a letter to everyone this past week, Bishop Andy Dietsche has suspended all public worship in the Diocese of New York until May 17. We are currently worshipping through an online video conferencing program. Please see the St. John's website for details.

All other activities in the church building have been canceled.

Rev. Michelle will not be doing in-person visitations during this time. If you have a pastoral concern and would speak with her by phone, send her an email or call her to set up an appointment. 845-768-8839 or michelle.stjohnskingston@gmail.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Adult Inquirer's Classes STILL ON SCHEDULE! We'll be meeting online.

Rev. Michelle is offering a series of Inquirer's Classes for adults on **Saturday mornings from 9:30-12** during the spring. Designed to support people who are seeking to be baptized, confirmed, or received in the Episcopal Church, these classes are **open to everyone** in the congregation. **Sign-up by emailing Rev. Michelle at michelle.stjohnskingston@gmail.com**

- **March 28:** How we pray: Liturgy in the Episcopal Church
- **April 4:** Who we are: History, Structure of the Episcopal Church
- **April 25:** What we believe: The Creeds of the Church
- **May 2:** How we read scripture: Hebrew and Greek Scriptures
- **May 23:** What we do: Ministry and the Baptismal Covenant
- **June 6:** Who we are called to become: Ministry Discernment

Healthy and Available? OR Need some help?

Angel Food East – Drivers are needed. Contact Rev. Michelle or Lynn Dennison

NY Caring Majority will deliver food. To receive, email: ilana@domesticemployees.org

Kingston School District: KCS D students/families can pick up free to-go breakfast and lunches Mondays-Fridays from 11am-1pm. You may walk or use our "drive-through" curbside service at either John F. Kennedy Elementary School at 107 Gross Street or J. Watson Bailey Middle School at 118 Merilina Ave.

People's Place – 17 Saint James St, Kingston. The Bag Student Hunger program: Groceries containing week's worth of breakfast, lunch and snacks. Pick-up fresh air M-F 10:00-1:00 and Weds. 5:30-7:30. Community Cafe is making food To Go from 8:30-1:00 M-F. To Donate: peoplesplaceuc.org/donate/ OR grab a few items at the store (canned fruits, juices, pasta, children's meals, granola bars, canned meats) and take these items directly to People's Place.

Pointe of Praise Family Life Center Food Pantry - 243 Hurley Ave, Kingston, NY 12401
Pre-bagged groceries available for pick-up by driving up Saturdays from 11-1pm.

Saint James United Methodist Church Food Pantry – Call the church first: (845) 331-3030. Prepared packages includes food, dairy, bread, bread and 1 roll of toilet paper.

Have an announcement? Please send to Cindy by Wednesday at noon to get it in the bulletin. stjohnskingston@aol.com

UPCOMING PARISH CALENDAR

Mar 28: Adult Inquirer's-How We Pray, 9:30-12 ONLINE

Apr 4: Adult Inquirer's-Who We Are, 9:30-12 ONLINE

More information forthcoming about Holy Week Services

Apr 5: Palm Sunday and All Ages Worship

Apr 9: Maundy Thursday service in the evening

April 10: Good Friday mid-day service and
Stations of the Cross in the evening

April 11: Spring Parish Work Party from 9-12
the Great Vigil of Easter in the evening

Apr 12: Easter Sunday Festival Eucharist and Easter Egg Hunt

Apr 25: Adult Inquirer's-What We Believe, 9:30-12 ONLINE

May 2: Adult Inquirer's-How We Read Scripture, 9:30-12 ONLINE

May 17: Rector's Forum

May 23: Adult Inquirer's- What We Do, 9:30-12

May 28-30: Undoing Racism Workshop

May 31: Feast of Pentecost

Jun 6: Adult Inquirer's- Who We Are Called to Become, 9:30-12