

# Sherwood Episcopal Church

Five Sherwood Road  
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[sherwoodcockeysville.org](http://sherwoodcockeysville.org)

February 14, 2024/Noon

Holy Eucharist, Rite II



*Enter in silence*

## THE WORD OF GOD

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP pg. 264

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

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing you have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God. "Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?" Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. The LORD will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 103

*Read responsively by whole verse*

1 Bless the LORD, O my soul, \*  
and all that is within me, bless his holy Name.

- 2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, \***  
**and forget not all his benefits.**
- 3 He forgives all your sins \*  
and heals all your infirmities;
- 4 He redeems your life from the grave \***  
**and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;**
- 5 He satisfies you with good things, \*  
and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.
- 6 The LORD executes righteousness \***  
**and judgment for all who are oppressed.**
- 7 He made his ways known to Moses \*  
and his works to the children of Israel.
- 8 The LORD is full of compassion and mercy, \***  
**slow to anger and of great kindness.**
- 9 He will not always accuse us, \*  
nor will he keep his anger for ever.
- 10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins, \***  
**nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.**
- 11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, \*  
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.
- 12 As far as the east is from the west, \***  
**so far has he removed our sins from us.**
- 13 As a father cares for his children, \*  
so does the LORD care for those who fear him.
- 14 For he himself knows whereof we are made; \***  
**he remembers that we are but dust.**
- 15 Our days are like the grass; \*  
we flourish like a flower of the field;
- 16 When the wind goes over it, it is gone, \***  
**and its place shall know it no more.**
- 17 But the merciful goodness of the LORD endures for ever on those who fear him,\*  
and his righteousness on children's children;

**18 On those who keep his covenant \*  
and remember his commandments and do them.**

19 The LORD has set his throne in heaven, \*  
and his kingship has dominion over all.

**20 Bless the LORD, you angels of his,  
you mighty ones who do his bidding, \*  
and hearken to the voice of his word.**

21 Bless the LORD, all you his hosts, \*  
you ministers of his who do his will.

**22 Bless the LORD, all you works of his,  
in all places of his dominion; \*  
bless the LORD, O my soul.**

THE SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 5: 20b-6:10

We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, "At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you. See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see--we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

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

### **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven. "So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. "And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. "And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

The Gospel of the Lord.

### **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

*The people are seated at the invitation of the preacher.*

THE HOMILY

The Rev. Nancy H. Hennessey

THE INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF A HOLY LENT      BCP pg. 264

Dear People of God: The first Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord's passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the Church to prepare for them by a season of penitence and fasting. This season of Lent provided a time in which converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism. It was also a time when those who, because of notorious sins, had been separated from the body of the faithful were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness, and restored to the fellowship of the Church. Thereby, the whole congregation was put in mind of the message of pardon and absolution set forth in the Gospel of our Savior, and of the need which all Christians continually have to renew their repentance and faith. I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word. And, to make a right beginning of repentance, and as a mark of our mortal nature, let us now kneel before the Lord, our maker and redeemer.

*Silence will be kept for a time, please kneel as you are able.*

Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth: Grant that these ashes may be to us a sign of our mortality and penitence, that we may remember that it is only by your gracious gift that we are given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

*Please come to the altar rail at the invitation of the usher.*

THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

PSALM 51

*Setting by Edward Bairstow*

1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; \*  
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

- 2 Wash me through and through from my wickedness \*  
and cleanse me from my sin.
- 3 For I know my transgressions, \*  
and my sin is ever before me.
- 4 Against you only have I sinned \*  
and done what is evil in your sight.
- 5 And so you are justified when you speak \*  
and upright in your judgment
- 6 Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, \*  
a sinner from my mother's womb.
- 7 For behold, you look for truth deep within me, \*  
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.
- 8 Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; \*  
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.
- 9 Make me hear of joy and gladness, \*  
that the body you have broken may rejoice.
- 10 Hide your face from my sins \*  
and blot out all my iniquities.
- 11 Create in me a clean heart, O God, \*  
and renew a right spirit within me.
- 12 Cast me not away from your presence \*  
and take not your holy Spirit from me.
- 13 Give me the joy of your saving help again \*  
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.
- 14 I shall teach your ways to the wicked, \*  
and sinners shall return to you.
- 15 Deliver me from death, O God, \*  
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness,  
O God of my salvation.
- 16 Open my lips, O Lord, \*  
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.
- 17 Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice, \*  
but you take no delight in burnt-offerings.

18 The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit; \*  
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

A LITANY OF PENITANCE

BCP pg. 267

*Please kneel as you are able.*

**Most holy and merciful Father:**

**We confess to you and to one another,  
and to the whole communion of saints  
in heaven and on earth,  
that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word,  
and deed; by what we have done, and by what we have left  
undone.**

*The Celebrant continues*

We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.

**Have mercy on us, Lord.**

We have been deaf to your call to serve, as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

**Have mercy on us, Lord.**

We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience of our lives,

**We confess to you, Lord.**

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people,

**We confess to you, Lord.**

Our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,

**We confess to you, Lord.**



Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work,

**We confess to you, Lord.**

Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,

**We confess to you, Lord.**

Accept our repentance, Lord, for the wrongs we have done: for our blindness to human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,

**Accept our repentance, Lord.**

For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,

**Accept our repentance, Lord.**

For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us,

**Accept our repentance, Lord.**

Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us;

**Favorably hear us, for your mercy is great.**

Accomplish in us the work of your salvation,

**That we may show forth your glory in the world.**

By the cross and passion of your Son our Lord,

**Bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.**

*Celebrant:*

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desires not the death of sinners, but rather that they may turn from their wickedness and live, has given power and commandment to his ministers to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the absolution and remission of their sins. He pardons and absolves all those who truly repent, and with sincere hearts believe his holy Gospel.

Therefore we beseech him to grant us true repentance and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him which we do on this day, and that the rest of our life

hereafter may be pure and holy, so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

*The people will greet one another with a sign of God's peace. Don't forget to show the sign of peace to our friends who are worshiping with us virtually.*

**Please be seated.**

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

What follows is the Holy Communion, the sacred meal of the Christian faith. The Episcopal Church, as do all other denominations rooted in the historic Christian faith, affirms that the sacrament of Baptism is the ancient and normative entry point for receiving the sacrament of Eucharist, yet no one who comes forward to receive the bread and wine at communion is ever turned away from God's table. Wherever you are in your spiritual journey, the Episcopal Church welcomes you, and we invite you to explore with us what baptism may mean for you. Want to know more? Please see Mother Nancy following the service. To receive either bread or wine is considered full communion. You may receive the bread or a gluten-free wafer; please indicate to the minister your need. To receive the wine, please assist the Chalice by holding the base of the chalice (cup) and guiding it to your lips. If you are not baptized or would prefer not to receive communion for any personal or religious reason, you are still invited to come forward at the time of communion to receive a blessing from the priest. (Please place your arms across your chest to indicate your desire to receive a blessing.) Above all, remember that all are welcome here at Sherwood!

## THE OFFERTORY

*The people are seated while an offering is collected to support God's mission here at Sherwood Church and in the world.*

*Please stand as you are able.*

Celebrant: All things come of thee, O Lord.

People: **And of thine own we have given thee.**

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*Lead me, Lord* -- Samuel Sebastian Wesley

Lead me, Lord, lead me in Thy righteousness,  
Make Thy way plain before my face.  
For it is Thou, Lord, Thou, Lord, only, that makest me dwell in safety.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer A – BCP pg. 361

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*The Celebrant offers thanks to God for the grace and mercy made available in Christ, and in response the people sing:*

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS

*Holy, holy, holy*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, heav'n and earth are  
full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

*The Celebrant gives thanks to God for the reconciling work of Christ's passion and resurrection and prayers over the bread and wine.*

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**  
**Christ is risen.**

## Christ will come again.

*The Celebrant continues the Eucharistic prayer and at the conclusion says*

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP pg. 364

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**Our Father, who are 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, forever and ever. Amen.**

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.*

*A period of silence is kept.*

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

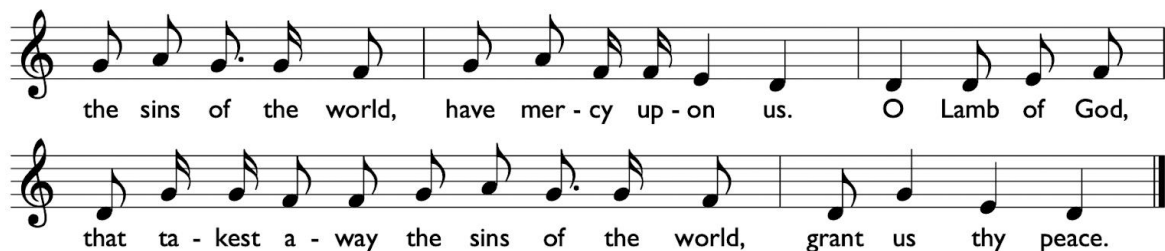
**Therefore let us keep the feast.**

## AGNUS DEI

*Lamb of God*



O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the world,  
have mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a - way



The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*Facing the people, the Celebrant offers an invitation to Holy Communion. For those who are not able to be present for communion, please pray the Spiritual Communion Prayer while communion is distributed.*

### A PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

*Episcopal Prayer Book for the Armed Forces (1988): In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. We remember your death, Lord Christ; we proclaim your resurrection; we await your coming in glory. And since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we beseech you to come spiritually into our hearts. Cleanse and strengthen us with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.*

### COMMUNION HYMN - 341

*For the bread which you have broken*

1 For the bread which you have broken,  
for the wine which you have poured,  
for the words which you have spoken,  
now we give you thanks, O Lord.

2 By this pledge, Lord, that you love us,  
by your gift of peace restored,  
by your call to heaven above us,  
hallow all our lives, O Lord.

3 As our blessèd ones adore you,  
seated at our Father's board,  
may the Church still waiting for you

keep love's tie unbroken, Lord.

4 In your service, Lord, defend us;  
in our hearts keep watch and ward,  
in the world to which you send us  
let your kingdom come, O Lord.

*For the bread which you have broken*, #341 from *The Hymnal 1982* — Words: Louis F. Benson (1855-1930), alt. Copyright © Louis F. Benson. Used by permission of Robert F. Jeffery. Music: *Omni die*, melody from *Gross Catolisch Gesangbuch*, 1631; harm. William Smith Rockstro (1823-1895).

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP pg. 366

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

**Almighty and everliving God,  
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food  
of the most precious Body and Blood  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;  
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries  
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,  
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.  
And now, Father, send us out  
to do the work you have given us to do,  
to love and serve you  
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.  
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

*The Celebrant pronounces a blessing over the people, and the people respond, Amen.*

## RECESSIONAL HYMN - 150

*Forty days and forty nights*

1 Forty days and forty nights  
thou wast fasting in the wild;  
forty days and forty nights  
tempted, and yet undefiled.

2 Should not we thy sorrow share  
and from worldly joys abstain,  
fasting with unceasing prayer,  
strong with thee to suffer pain?

3 Then if Satan on us press,  
Jesus, Savior, hear our call!  
Victor in the wilderness,  
grant we may not faint nor fall!

4 So shall we have peace divine:  
holier gladness ours shall be;  
round us, too, shall angels shine,  
such as ministered to thee.

5 Keep, O keep us, Savior dear,  
ever constant by thy side;  
that with thee we may appear  
at the eternal Eastertide.

*Forty days and forty nights*, #150 from *The Hymnal 1982* — Words: George Hunt Smyttan (1822-1870), alt. Music: *Aus der Tiefe rufe ich*, melody att. Martin Herbst (1654-1681), alt.; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889).

## THE DISMISSAL

As we go forth into the world, refreshed and renewed, we reaffirm our commitment to our mission as a congregation:

**God commands us to enthusiastically cast open our doors to embrace all, impacting lives through bold service, no exceptions.**

Let us go forth to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

*Jesu, meine Freude* - J.S. Bach

*Thank you to Stephanie Everts for assisting Mother Nancy  
this morning with Ashes to Go.*

## Worship Participants

Celebrant: The Rev. Nancy H. Hennessey

Music Director: Greg Seseck

Cantor: Cassidy Dixon

Lectors: Loretta Cunninghame, Sheila Fitzgerald

Acolyte: Jack Turnbull

Ushers: Fran Gunshol, Sandy Thompson

Broadcast Engineer: Robin Rouleau  
Altar Guild: Susan Boucher, Joyce Mann

**Lay Participants for Sunday, February 18**

Lectors: Loretta Cunninghame, Greg Szymaszek

Acolyte: Greg Szymaszek

Ushers: Karyn Galetto, Cindy Haraughty

Broadcast Engineer: Stephanie Everts

Altar Guild: Susan Boucher, Joyce Mann

Hospitality: VOLUNTEER NEEDED

*A very special welcome to visitors and newcomers! Thank you for joining us for worship. If you are seeking a church home and are interested in learning more about Sherwood Church, or if you would like to receive weekly emails and announcements from our parish, please contact Carey Mednick at [sherwoodparish@gmail.com](mailto:sherwoodparish@gmail.com). Please be sure to check out our Facebook page for updates and remember to subscribe to our YouTube channel.*

*Please remember those on our parish prayer list: Joe C., Chip, Raymond, Peggy, Sally E., Kevin M., Victor, Joyce T., Kim, Bernie C., Tony, Midge, Barbara, Joan L., Rachael, Doreen, Norma, Virginia, Don M., Tom D., Josh F., Michele G., Kathryn, Charles, Bill P., Mike, Don, Karen K., Olivia, Mary Ellen, Andrea, and Tim G.*

*As well as those with ongoing needs ... Louis, Shannon T., Sally, Shannon, Joyce, Christine, Kendall, Sarah, Gail, Steve W., Michelle, Danny, Dante, Debbie R., Marian, John M., Paige, Marissa, Frances T., David D., Hannah, Jessica, Ruth, Guy, and the people of Ukraine, Israel, and Gaza.*

*Give the departed eternal rest. We especially remember and give thanks for the life of Mary Everts, mother of Stephanie Everts. Let light perpetual shine upon her.*