

Sherwood Episcopal Church

Five Sherwood Road
Cockeysville-Hunt Valley, MD 21030

410-666-2180

sherwoodcockeysville.org

Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 30, 2025

10 am
Holy Eucharist, Rite II

THE WORD OF GOD

Prelude

Rhosymedre (Lovely) - Ralph Vaughan William

Welcome and Announcements

The Rev. Nancy H. Hennessey, Rector

Please stand as you are able.

OPENING HYMN - 686

Come thou font of every blessing

1 Come, thou fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace!
Streams of mercy never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! Oh, fix me on it,
mount of God's unchanging love.

2 Here I find my greatest treasure;
hither, by thy help, I've come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.

Jesus sought me when a stranger
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.

3 Oh, to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee:
prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart, oh, take and seal it,
seal it for thy courts above.

Come, thou fount of every blessing, #686 from *The Hymnal 1982* — Words: Robert Robinson (1735-1790), alt. Music: *Nettleton*, melody from *A Repository of Sacred Music, Part II*, 1813; harm. Gerre Hancock (b. 1934).

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP pg. 360

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

His mercy endures for ever.

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:8,9

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.**

KYRIE

Lamb of God, setting by John Merbecke



Lord, have mer-cy up-on us.



Christ, have mer-cy up-on us.



Lord, have mer-cy up-on us.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Gracious Father, 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. **Amen.**

The Lord said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day. While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 32

Read responsively by whole verse

1 Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, *
and whose sin is put away!

**2 Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, *
and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

3 While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, *
because of my groaning all day long.

**4 For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; *
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**

5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you, *
and did not conceal my guilt.

**6 I said, " I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." *
Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.**

7 Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; *
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.

**8 You are my hiding-place;
you preserve me from trouble; *
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.**

9 "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; *
I will guide you with my eye.

**10 Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; *
who must be fitted with bit and bridle,
or else they will not stay near you."**

11 Great are the tribulations of the wicked; *
but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.

**12 Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord; *
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.**

THE SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

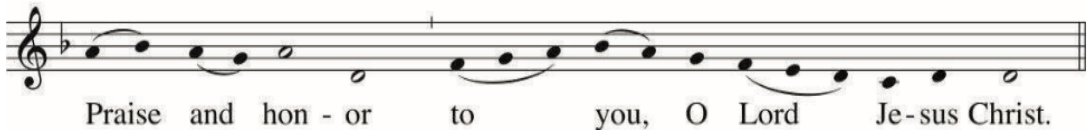
From now on, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; 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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

All the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." So Jesus told them this parable: "There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands."' So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe--the best one--and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate. "Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you

have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The people are seated at the invitation of the preacher.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Nancy H. Hennessey

Following the sermon, let us pause for a period of silent reflection on God's holy word.

THE NICENE CREED

BCP pg. 358

Said by all, standing as you are able.

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE – Form II

BCP pg. 385

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishop Carrie;
for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.

Silence

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of
all people. Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in
prison. We especially pray for those our parish prayer list: Kevin M., Carrie,
Eleanor, and Maria. Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

I ask your thanksgiving for the blessings of this life, including those celebrating
birthdays, especially Sheila Hood, Kathleen Stewart, and Kevin Hennessey, as
well as anniversaries.

Silence

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him. Pray that they may find and be found by him.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the departed. Pray for those who have died.

Silence

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence

Celebrant concludes

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; 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.

We continue to do God's work and your contributions of any size make a huge difference. Give online (sherwoodcokeysville.org/give) or if you would prefer, mail your contribution to 5 Sherwood Road, Cockeyville, 21030. Thank you!

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 Chalicist 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.



← PayPal



← This QR code will take you to Sherwood's website where you may access your Vanco Give+ account.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Dear Lord and Father of mankind - C.H.H. Parry

Celebrant: All things come of thee, O Lord.

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

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer A – BCP pg. 367

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.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth ...

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS

Holy, holy, holy - Land of Rest

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, Lord God of
hosts. Heav - en 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:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

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 for ever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP pg. 364

The Celebrant says

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

People and Celebrant

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,

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.

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

sins of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.

O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a - way the

sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

Music: John Merbecke (1518?-1585?); adapt. *Hymnal 1982*; acc. Thomas Foster (b. 1938). Melody: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

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 - 693

Just as I am, without one plea

1 Just as I am, without one plea,
but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come.

2 Just as I am, though tossed about
with many a conflict, many a doubt;
fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come.

3 Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;
sight, riches, healing of the mind,
yea, all I need, in thee to find,
O Lamb of God, I come.

4 Just as I am: thou wilt receive;
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve,
because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come.

5 Just as I am, thy love unknown
has broken every barrier down;
now to be thine, yea, thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come.

6 Just as I am, of thy great love
the breadth, length, depth, and height to prove,
here for a season, then above:
O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, without one plea, #693 from *The Hymnal 1982* — Words: Charlotte Elliott (1789-1871). Music: *Woodworth*, William Batchelder Bradbury (1816-1868).

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP pg. 365

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.***

1 Amazing grace! how sweet the sound,
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found,
was blind but now I see.

2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

3 The Lord has promised good to me,
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.

4 Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

5 When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound, #671 from *The Hymnal 1982* — Words: John Newton (1725-1807), alt.; st. 5, from *A Collection of Sacred Ballads*, 1790; compiled by Richard Broaddus and Andrew Broaddus. Music: *New Britain*, from *Virginia Harmony* 1831; adapt. att. Edwin Othello Excell (1851-1921); harm. Austin Cole Lovelace (b. 1919). Harmonization Copyright © 1974 by Abingdon Press.

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

Worship Participants

Celebrant: The Rev. Nancy H. Hennessey
Music Director: Greg Sesek
Cantor: Cassidy Dixon
Lectors: Jack & Jane Turnbull
Acolyte: Greg Szymaszek
Ushers: Karyn Galetto, Cindy Haraughty
Broadcast Engineer: Robin Rouleau
Altar Guild: Connie Bonsiero, Sandy Thompson

Lay Participants for Sunday, April 6

Lectors: Bronwyn Strong, Dylan Strong
Acolyte: Dylan Strong
Ushers: Kevin Hennessey, Sandy Thompson
Broadcast Engineer: Mason Strong
Altar Guild: Susan Boucher, Joyce Mann

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. 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 with ongoing needs ... Shannon T., Sally, Shannon, Joyce, Christine, Kendall, Sarah, Gail, Steve W., Michelle, Danny, Debbie R., Marian, John M., Paige, Marissa, Frances T., David D., Hannah, Jessica, Ruth, Don M., Andrea, and the people of Ukraine, Israel, and Gaza.

This Week @ Sherwood

Sunday

CPC Meeting following the service
Casa de Oración Hossana, 4-6 pm

Monday

Office closed

Wednesday

Mother Nancy's Office Hours 10 am-3 pm
Broadmead Eucharist, 11 am
Lenten Book Study 2-3 pm @ Faith Lutheran, Conference Room
Lenten Book Study via Zoom, 6 pm

Thursday:

Faith and Waters Restoration Forum, 5 pm

Saturday:

Funeral for Sally Anyan, 11 am

World Relief Update:

Last week I delivered the final 15 gift cards to World Relief. This makes a grand total of 53 Aldi, Giant and Walmart gift cards. A really amazing result!

Katie Kriss, the Resettlement Manager at World Relief, shared a few stories of the refugees that the gifts have helped to support:

- During a home visit with a young couple from Afghanistan the couple noted they had just ran out of their food benefits and did not have money to purchase more food until their benefits reloaded in a week. They were in the midst of the celebration of Ramadan. Dinners during this holiday are a special occasion and they were feeling sad they could not prepare the traditional Ramadan meals. The couple were given a grocery store gift card and were incredibly grateful that this tangible need and concern could be met.
- A young woman from DRC came to the United States without knowing anyone else in the country. She has been working towards a goal of becoming a certified childcare provider and takes school and English classes every day in a program that will help her find employment upon completion. She experienced a lapse in her food benefits last month and a grocery store gift card helped to bridge the gap so that she could purchase meals.
- A Nicaraguan couple has experienced difficulty in getting established in this country. They were previously receiving emergency assistance from World Relief, but with the recent changes in our funding they are no longer eligible for this help. The couple is in the midst of interviewing for several job opportunities and are waiting for approval for benefits to assist them. World Relief was able to provide them with grocery store gift cards to meet their immediate needs. The couple is very resourceful and have started making Nicaraguan style empanadas using Maseca flour, cheese, and oil they purchased from Aldi with the gift cards and are selling the empanadas throughout the city with free delivery on a donated bicycle.

These are just a few of the stories of the people that were helped by the generosity of Sherwood. Thank you again for your support. -- *Joyce Mann, Outreach Chair*

Lenten Book Study Zoom Change:

Please note that the Zoom Lenten Book Study has been moved to Wednesday, April 2 @ 6 pm. This was done because Mother Nancy has a conflict on Tuesday evening. The Zoom class will return to its regular time (Tuesday @ 6 pm) the following week. This does not impact the in-person group (Wednesday @ 2 pm).