



SERVANTS OF CHRIST  
ANGLICAN CHURCH

# The Fourth Sunday in Lent

## March 19, 2023

If you are in need of additional precautions to avoid illness, we offer our balcony where masks are required.

### Get Started At Servants

If you're visiting with us online or in person today, we'd love to get to know you better. Feel free to fill out our connect card and we will gladly answer any questions you have about us. If you're ready to dive into our community, we invite you to download our app.

Connect  
Card

Download  
our App

[Mission Spotlight](#)

[Prayer Reminders](#)

[Announcements](#)

[Financial Update](#)

## **Order of Worship**

*We invite you to follow the service in the Book of Common Prayer by referencing the page numbers listed. If you worship from home and do not have a Prayer Book but would like one, please contact the Church Office. Most parts of the service are projected in-house or subtitled in our live video, except for the sermon. A guideline for Anglican worship generally: we stand to praise God, we sit to listen, and we kneel to pray.*

*At times you may see some people bowing or making the sign of the cross. These gestures are symbolic customs (called sacramentals) that some prefer to use in keeping with our ancient roots. At Servants you'll hear the phrase "all may, some should, none must," which is our general guide for these customs.*

## Processional Hymn

*The ministers for the service enter preceded by a cross. The cross is one of several symbols of Christ present in the service and some choose to bow as it passes to honor Jesus's atoning death for us.*

## The Acclamation 105

*These opening lines vary according to the seasons of the church calendar.*

## The Collect for Purity 106

*This 11<sup>th</sup>-century prayer begins almost every Anglican worship service.*

## The Decalogue 100

*On specific penitential Sundays, we replace the "Summary of the Law" with the 10 Commandments (or Decalogue). In both instances, hearing God's law reminds us of God's expectations for our lives.*

## The Kyrie 106

*Literally "Lord, have mercy," this Greek prayer is the oldest prayer in our liturgy and comes from the age of the apostles. On entering the presence of God, we ask for mercy.*

## The Collect of the Day 606

*Collects "collect" our thoughts and focus them on a theme found in the Lessons and Gospel as the service shifts our attention to listening to God's Word.*

## The Lessons 721

*These readings usually come from the lectionary, a schedule of readings that many churches around the world follow every Sunday. In using the lectionary, we worship with them and they with us. We use the English Standard Version.*

### **1 Samuel 16:1-13**

1 The Lord said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul, since I have rejected him from being king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil, and go. I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” 2 And Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears it, he will kill me.” And the Lord said, “Take a heifer with you and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.’ 3 And invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do. And you shall anoint for me him whom I declare to you.” 4 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?” 5 And he said, “Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.

Consecrate yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

6 When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the Lord's anointed is before him.”

7 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 sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.”

8 Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.”

9 Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.”

10 And Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, “The Lord has not chosen these.”

11 Then Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?”

And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but behold, he is keeping the sheep.”

And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and get him, for we will not sit down till he comes here.”

12 And he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome.

And the Lord said, “Arise, anoint him, for this

is he.” 13 Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the Lord rushed upon David from that day forward. And Samuel rose up and went to Ramah.

## Psalm 23

1 The LORD is my shepherd; \*

therefore I can lack nothing.

2 He shall feed me in green pastures \*

and lead me forth beside the waters of  
comfort.

3 He shall refresh my soul \*

and bring me forth in the paths of  
righteousness for his Name's sake.

4 Even though I walk through the valley

of the shadow of death, I will fear no  
evil, \*

for you are with me; your rod and your  
staff comfort me.

5 You shall prepare a table before me, in

the presence of those who trouble me; \*

you have anointed my head with oil,

and my cup shall be full.

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.

### **Ephesians 5:1-14**

1 Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. 2 And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

3 But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. 4 Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving. 5 For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. 6 Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. 7 Therefore do not become partners with them; 8 for at one time you

were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light 9 (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), 10 and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. 11 Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. 12 For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. 13 But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, 14 for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, “Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

## Gradual Hymn

*The medieval practice of singing before the Gospel reading was restored in American Anglicanism in 1928.*

## The Gospel

*Since at least the 4<sup>th</sup> century, the Church has asked those able to do so to stand during the reading of the Gospel.*

## John 9:1-38

As he passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. 2 And his disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” 3 Jesus answered, “It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. 4 We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. 5 As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” 6 Having said these things, he spit on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man's eyes with the mud 7 and said to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.

8 The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” 9 Some said, “It is he.” Others said, “No, but he is like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” 10 So they said to him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” 11 He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ So I went and washed and received my sight.” 12 They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

13 They brought to the Pharisees the man who

had formerly been blind. 14 Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. 15 So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." 16 Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" And there was a division among them. 17 So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."

18 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 19 and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" 20 His parents answered, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. 21 But how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." 22 (His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Jesus to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue.) 23 Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

24 So for the second time they called the man

who had been blind and said to him, "Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner." 25 He answered, "Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." 26 They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" 27 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?" 28 And they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. 29 We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." 30 The man answered, "Why, this is an amazing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. 31 We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. 32 Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. 33 If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." 34 They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out.

35 Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" 36 He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" 37 Jesus

said to him, “You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.” 38 He said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him.

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed 109

The Prayers of the People

*Congregants may add specific prayers during the pauses. Please speak loudly so that we can hear and agree with you.*

Let us pray for the Church and for the world. Almighty and everliving God, we are taught by your holy Word to offer prayers and supplications and to give thanks for all people. We humbly ask you mercifully to receive our prayers. Inspire continually the universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all who confess your holy Name may agree in the truth of your holy Word, and live in unity and godly love. Lord, in your mercy: *Hear our prayer.*

We pray that you will lead the nations of the world in the way of righteousness; and so guide and direct their leaders, especially our President, Congress and Courts, that your people may enjoy the blessings of freedom and peace. Grant that our leaders may impartially administer justice, uphold

integrity and truth, restrain wickedness and vice, and protect true religion and virtue. Lord, in your mercy: *Hear our prayer.*

Give grace, heavenly Father, to all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, and especially to your servants Foley, our Archbishop; Alex, our Bishop; James, Bob, Susan & Michael, our Priests, that by their life and teaching, they may proclaim your true and life-giving Word, and rightly and duly administer your holy Sacraments. And to all your people give your heavenly grace, especially to this Congregation, that with reverent and obedient hearts we may hear and receive your holy Word, and serve you in holiness and righteousness all the days of our lives. Lord, in your mercy: *Hear our prayer.*

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: look graciously on your Church, and so guide the hearts and minds of the vestry and search committee who will choose a rector for Servants of Christ, that we may receive a faithful pastor who will preach the Gospel, care for your people, equip us for ministry, and lead us forth in fulfillment of the Great Commission; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Prosper, we pray, all those who proclaim the Gospel of your kingdom throughout the world, especially our mission partner, the Christian Study Center. Strengthen us to fulfill your great commission, making disciples of all nations, baptizing them and teaching them to obey all that you have commanded. We pray for those least reached by your Gospel, especially the Xiang Han Chinese of Northeast Asia. Lord, in your mercy: *Hear our prayer.*

We ask you in your goodness, O Lord, to comfort and sustain all who in this transitory life are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity. We especially pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ who are persecuted for their faith in Afghanistan; we also pray for those who persecute your people; forgive them and turn their hearts toward you. Lord, in your mercy: *Hear our prayer.*

We remember before you all your servants who have departed this life in your faith and fear, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we ask you to give us grace to follow the good examples of all your saints, that we may share with them in your heavenly kingdom. Lord, in your mercy: *Hear our prayer.*

The Confession & Absolution of Sin 112

The Comfortable Words 113

The Peace 114

Welcome & [Announcements](#)

The Offertory

*To give, visit [servantsanglican.org/give](http://servantsanglican.org/give).*

Offertory Song

The Doxology

The Sursum Corda 115

*Literally “Lift up your hearts.” This command is from the 2<sup>nd</sup> century and opens the Communion service in every ancient liturgy known today. During this part of the service, the priest gives a reason for praising God which changes with the Church seasons.*

The Sanctus 115

*Syrian Christians in the 3<sup>rd</sup> century adopted this prayer from the Jewish synagogues. It combines imagery from the Psalms and the prophet Isaiah.*

The Prayer of Consecration 116

*As Anglicans we take a high view of the Eucharist believing it is the real presence of Christ that we imbibe. The elements are spiritually changed. The Eucharist is an outward sign of a spiritual reality: grace is given, strength to fulfill our baptismal vows is*

*conveyed, and we join with believers throughout all time and space at the foot of the Cross.*

The Lord's Prayer 118

The Fraction 118

*This action symbolically pictures Christ's body broken on the cross for us.*

The Prayer of Humble Access 119

The Anima Christi

The Ministration of Communion

*All baptized Christians may receive Communion. Ushers will direct you to the altar rail where you may kneel or stand. If you are not baptized and would like to receive a blessing, simply cross your arms over your chest and the priest will quietly pray God's blessing upon you. If you prefer a gluten-free wafer, raise your hand at the rail as a signal to the priest. If you are unable to walk to the altar, but would like Communion, please notify an usher.*

*During Communion, prayer intercessors are available to pray for you for anything you need. Look for the two people standing near the east emergency exit doors.*

Communion Songs

## The Post Communion Prayer 121

*This prayer from 1549 summarizes all the themes of the Communion service: thanksgiving, mystery, unity with Christ, spiritual nurture, mission, and the coming Kingdom of God.*

## The Blessing

## Hymn for Processing into the World

## The Dismissal

*To honor this parish's origins in the Anglican Church of Kenya we use the dismissal form from the Kenyan Prayer Book. You may see parishioners pointing to the cross as we send our cares to Christ, and then pointing to the heavens as we declare where our hope resides. These are optional motions, like crossing oneself or bowing toward the cross or the altar.*

*Deacon* All our problems

**All** We send to the cross of Christ.

*Deacon* All our difficulties

**All** We send to the cross of Christ.

*Deacon* All the devil's works

**All** We send to the cross of Christ.

*Deacon* All our hopes

**All** We set on the risen Christ.

*The deacon or priest gives the dismissal.*

*All* Thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

## Mission Spotlight

The Christian Study Center brings together students, faculty, and community members to explore the intellectual and cultural resources of the Christian tradition. Drawing on these resources they engage at the highest levels of scholarship in order to address enduring human questions and respond to challenges created by contemporary culture. Servants has long supported the work of the CSC and Pascal's, their coffee shop. If you'd like to learn more, visit [christianstudycenter.org](http://christianstudycenter.org).

## Prayer Reminders for the Week

The least reached people group: Xiang Han Chinese of Northeast Asia

The persecuted church in: Afghanistan

First responders, relief & healthcare workers, and armed forces personnel connected to

**Servants:** Jeannie Bey, Sarah Chandler, Scottie Daquila, Danielle Elswick, Ethan Gibson, Rick Guerry, Annette Hall, John Harris, Lisa Kincaid, Libby King, Peter King, Chris Lewis, Barbara Matthews, Tiebout McCrea, Steve McCready, Tom McGee, Taylor Moore, Kate Norton, and Andrew Thompson

**Clergy of our parish and diocese:** Foley, our Archbishop; Alex, our Bishop; James, our Interim Rector; Bob, Michael, and Susan, assisting clergy; Kathy Ayres and Justin Smith, postulants; and Sherry in Live Oak.

**Churches in our diocese:** St. Andrews Anglican Church, Douglas, GA; Resurrection Anglican, Shalimar, FL

**Specific needs in our parish:** Healing—Jim Mouthrop and Sandra Mixson; Servants at home—Barbara Austin (out of town), Charlotte Barrett, Judi Burger & Rick Mulligan, Jan Campana-Schrottke & Gus Schrottke (out of town in winter months), Alice Crosby, Kathleen Crosby, Larry & Lesley Goble, Andrew & Claudia Hanson, Bob Lyons & Rae Maren-Lyons, Jim Mouthrop (out of town)

# Announcements

*If you're new to Servants, the section below is intended to give you a picture of what is going on in our parish over the next few weeks. All of this information and more can be found [in our app](#), available to you when you need it most!*

## Special Events

**Mark 14:7 Ministry:** Our Mark 14:7 food ministry is being resumed! We will be gathering food in the basket in the narthex to be taken to Gainesville Community Ministry. Each month we will focus on different items that are in high demand. During the month of March we will be collecting peanut butter and soups. If anyone wants to volunteer to deliver to GCM please contact Ann Shower at (828) 551-7097.

**Holy Week Services:** You're invited to our solemn services leading up to Easter Sunday. For more details about each service, see our app or our weekly email.

- **Maundy Thursday** (April 6) we will enjoy a potluck together on the grounds beginning at 5:30pm. At around 6:30 we will move into the Sanctuary for the liturgy, foot-washing service, and

Eucharist. The service will be [live streamed](#).

- **Good Friday** (April 7) we will have two services in the Sanctuary. At noon we will have the Good Friday service from the Prayer Book. This service will not be offered online.
- A **Tenebrae Service** will be offered at 6:30pm on April 7. That service will be [live streamed](#).
- **Holy Saturday** (April 8) we will have the brief liturgy from the Prayer Book at noon in the Sanctuary. This service will be [live streamed](#).

**Spring Service Day at Servants:** We'll gather on Saturday, April 1, from 9am-12pm to work together to upkeep our facilities as we prepare for Easter. RSVP to [let us know you'll be there](#). If you know of a need our facility has for repair or upkeep, you can [submit that need here](#).

## Gatherings

**Women's Fellowship & Bible Study:** Mondays from 12:00-1:30pm, women of all ages are invited to a weekly Bible study at the church in the Conference Room. The Women's Fellowship & Bible Study is for women wanting to study the Bible, build authentic

friendships, and grow in faith. Contact Ramona Chance with questions at [rchance@mindspring.com](mailto:rchance@mindspring.com).

**Life on the Porch:** We offer two Life on the Porch groups, one for men and one for women. All ages and backgrounds are invited to a casual gathering where the group checks in, reads Compline together followed by a brief scripture examination from the Daily Office, and ends with prayer. You don't have to attend every time; it's a relaxed environment to spend time with others from the church. The location for each changes often, but is always at the home of a member. Men meet Mondays from 8:00-9:00pm; text John Harris for the address at (352) 224-8156. Women meet on Wednesdays from 7:30-9:00pm; see the app or text Kim Harris at (352) 256-1840 for the address.

**Children's Ministry Family Picnic Lunch:** Today after the service, the children's ministry will host a picnic lunch for all K-5th grade families on the playground. Even if you didn't bring something, you're still welcome to join! Come get to know other parents while the kids play! See Kim Harris with questions. To be notified of the next picnic, be sure to get on our emailing list by emailing us at

hello@servantsanglican.org.

## Ways to Serve

**Freedom to Invest Initiative:** We are working to pay down our mortgage before we have to renegotiate our loan in April. By doing so, funds will be freed up for the church to invest in ministry spaces and more! To give go to [servantsanglican.org/give](https://servantsanglican.org/give). If giving by check, please note “FTI” or “Freedom to Invest” on the memo line.

## Financial Update

*We know that money talk can be a real turn-off. We rarely talk about it, but we always include this as a way to be transparent to our parish. Amounts are current as of March 5.*

2023 Budget YTD: \$211,893

2023 Giving YTD: \$231,306

Freedom to Invest Initiative: \$34,382

(7% of our \$526,000 goal)