



EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY  
BURNET, TEXAS

MARCH 14, 2021: THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Hymn 530 *Gott sei Dank*

1 Spread, O spread, thy mighty word,  
spread the kingdom of the Lord,  
that to earth's remotest bound  
all may heed the joyful sound;

2 Word of how the Father's will  
made the world, and keeps it, still;  
how his only Son he gave  
earth from sin and death to save;

3 word of how the Savior's love,  
earth's sore burden doth remove;  
how forever in its need,  
through his death the world is freed;

4 word of how the Spirit came  
bringing peace in Jesus' name;  
how his neverfailing love,  
guides us on to heaven above.

5 Word of life, most pure and strong  
word for which the nations long,  
spread abroad, until from night  
all the world awakes to light.

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**A PENITENTIAL ORDER**

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.

*People* His mercy endureth for ever.

**The Decalogue** *Said responsively by Celebrant and People*

God spake these words, and said: I am the Lord thy God who brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. Thou shalt have none other gods but me.  
*Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.*

Thou shalt not make to thyself any graven image, nor the likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or in the earth beneath, or in the water under the earth; thou shalt not bow down to them, nor worship them.

*Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.*

Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in vain.  
*Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.*

Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day.  
*Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.*

Honor thy father and thy mother.  
*Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.*

Thou shalt do no murder.  
*Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.*

Thou shalt not commit adultery.  
*Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.*

Thou shalt not steal.  
*Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.*

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.  
*Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.*

Thou shalt not covet.  
*Lord have mercy upon us, and write all these thy laws in our hearts, we beseech thee.*

*The Celebrant then says*

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

*Minister and People*

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against thee in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved thee with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in thy will, and walk in thy ways, to the glory of thy Name. Amen.

*The Priest says*

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. Amen.

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Lord, have mercy upon us.

*Christ, have mercy upon us.*

Lord, have mercy upon us.

*The Celebrant says to the people*

The Lord be with you.

*People* And with thy spirit.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which giveth life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

### **A reading from the book of Numbers. 21:4-9**

From Mount Hor the Israelites set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

### **Psalm 107:1-3,17-22 *Confitemini Domino***

1 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, \* and his mercy endures for ever.

2 Let all those whom the LORD has redeemed proclaim \*  
that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe.

3 He gathered them out of the lands; \*  
from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.  
17 Some were fools and took to rebellious ways; \*  
they were afflicted because of their sins.  
18 They abhorred all manner of food \* and drew near to death's door.  
19 Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, \*  
and he delivered them from their distress.  
20 He sent forth his word and healed them \* and saved them from the grave.  
21 Let them give thanks to the LORD for his mercy \*  
and the wonders he does for his children.  
22 Let them offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving \* and tell of his acts with shouts of joy.

**A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Ephesians. *2:1-10***

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ- by grace you have been saved- and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God- not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

Hymn 685 *Toplady*

1 Rock of ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee;  
let the water and the blood from thy wounded side which flowed,  
be of sin the double cure, cleanse me from its guilt and power.  
2 Should my tears for ever flow, should my zeal no languor know,  
all for sin could not atone; thou must save, and thou alone;  
in my hand no price I bring, simply to thy cross I cling.

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint John. *3:14-21*

*People* Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Jesus said, "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* Praise be to thee, O Christ.

3 While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eyelids close in death,  
when I rise to worlds unknown and behold thee on thy throne,  
Rock of ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee.

**The Sermon**

The Reverend Michael Long

**The Nicene Creed**

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.

## Prayers of the People

*The person appointed says*

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers,  
and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we  
offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal  
Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do  
confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and  
godly love.

*Leader* Lord, in thy mercy

*People* Hear our prayer.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers especially Michael,  
our Presiding Bishop; Andy, Jeff, Hector, and Kai, our bishops; Michael, our priest; and  
Jeannie our missionary, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true  
and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

*Leader* Lord, in thy mercy

*People* Hear our prayer.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

*Leader* Lord, in thy mercy

*People* Hear our prayer.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, especially Joseph, our President, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

*Leader* Lord, in thy mercy

*People* Hear our prayer.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

*Leader* Lord, in thy mercy

*People* Hear our prayer.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those who in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity, especially:

John	Allan	Kenyon	Ann	Charles	Brooks
Nancy	James	Sarah	Ginny	Patty	Ed
Morgan	Victoria	Lynne	Lindsey	Alice	Degeyter family
David	Christian	Carol	Ellie	Glenda	William
Judy	Patrick	Tyler	Tom	Leah	Bailey family
Bob	Dale	Merle	Shelly	Greg	Sid and his family
Karen	Donna	Shereese	Carol	Jackie	Betty
Leslie	June	Miranda	Gayle	Donald	Bonnie & Ed
Sherrill	Mollie	Katelyn	Rashunda	RG	Sherry
Bobbie	George	Dianne	Carolyn	Robyn	Norman
Marianne	Jo	Jill	Virginia	Barbara	Joe
Winifred	Cecile	Melissa	Dallas	Mary	
Amanda	Women in the Hutto facility				

And with these thy servants who serve in the military

Brian	James	Kevin	Jarrold	Bryan	All in harm's way
Eric	Trever	Jonathan	Chris	John Wesley	

*Leader* Lord, in thy mercy

*People* Hear our prayer.

And with all who travel this week.

And with all who mourn the deaths of their loved ones.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, especially Colleen Collier, Andy Kala, Mae Gibson, Everett Holbrook and all who have died from the coronavirus,, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of the Blessed Virgin Mary and of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

*Leader* Lord, in thy mercy

*People* Hear our prayer.

We pray in thanksgiving especially with those celebrating anniversaries and birthdays this week: Elizabeth and Bill Drake (3/14), Kristin and George Picken (3/16), and Victoria Bailey (3/16).

*The People may offer their own petitions and thanksgivings at this time, silently or aloud. The Leader concludes*

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. Amen.

And now, as our Savior Christ hath 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, for ever and ever. Amen.

## The Peace

*The Celebrant says to the people*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* And with thy spirit.

**Solemn prayer** *The Celebrant says a solemn prayer in place of a blessing during Lent*

Look down in mercy, Lord, on your people here before you; and grant that those whom you have nourished by your Word and Sacraments may bring forth fruit worthy of repentance; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### Hymn 686 *Nettleton*

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! O 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.

**Dismissal** *Celebrant* Let us bless the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

- **Layreaders this morning** are Linda and Jim Dyke.
- **LA Care and the Community Kitchen** have ongoing needs. Epiphany maintains the Community Kitchen the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month.
- **Bulletin and E-Star deadlines**—Tuesday, 9 am. Contact Dianne Williams in the parish office with news or updates.

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Our mission: To be part of God's family, growing through worship and ministry by sharing Christ's love with our community and beyond. Vision: to be a place where people find God's purpose for their lives and become empowered by the Holy Spirit to make a difference in God's world.

Priest-in-Charge	The Rev. Michael Long
Senior Warden	Linda Myers (Term ends 2023)
Junior Warden	JJ Gonzales (2022)
Vestry Member	Sandy Arrington (2022)
Vestry Member	Otis Maclay (2022)
Vestry Member	Diane Langley (2023)
Vestry Member	Margaret Thomas (2023)
Vestry Member	Rachel Bryson (2024)
Vestry Member	Ryan (RG) Guthrie (2024)
Vestry Member	Sherry Musgrove (2024)
Treasurer	Diane Hays
Missionary	Jeannie Loving
Acolyte Co-Directors	Bill Drake, Kathleen Broad
Music Directors	Otis Maclay, Mike Kelley
Saint Anne's Guild	Carol Weathers
Altar Guild	Carol Weathers, Diane Hays
Daughters of the King	Sandy Arrington
Sunday School Director	Nancy Heuss
Editor of the E-Star, weekly newsletter	Dianne Williams
Parish Secretary/Office Manager	Dianne Williams