**The Fourth Sunday in Lent**

**March 30, 2025**

**The Reverend Canon Mark A. Scheneman, presiding**

**The People Gather** (please keep a rule of silence)

**Organ, Recorder, and Guitar Preludes** *“Inisheer”*

**Silent Procession**

**Entrance Hymn** *“I sing the almighty power of God”* **Hymn 398**

**The Lorica** (St. Patrick’s Breastplate or Deer’s Cry)

Cantor: Today I shield myself with threefold po’wer,

**People:** **Invocation *of* the Trinity.**

Belief in the threeness, profession of the o’neness. **In union with *the* Creator.**

Today I shield myself with the power of Christ’s baptism, his hanging and bu’rial.

**His rising again and his ascension, his descent for *the* last judgment.**

Today I shield myself with the loving power of the Cher’ubim.

**Obedience of angels, service *of* archangels.**

Hope of rising to my reward, prayers of the pa’triarchs.

**Sayings of the prophets, teachings of the apostles,**

**Faith of confessors, deeds of *right*eous people.**

Today I shield myself with power of heaven, light of the sun’.

**Brilliance of the moon, splen*dor* of fire.**

Speed of lightning, swiftness of wind’.

**Depths of sea, firmness of earth, hard*ness* of rock.**

Today I shield myself with God’s power to dire’ct me,

**God strength *to* uphold me.**

God’s good sense to g’uide me, **God’s ear to *list*en for me.**

God’s speaking to spe’ak for me, **God’s *hand* to guard me.**

God’s path opening befo’re me, **God’s shield *to* protect me.**

From the snares of de’mons, **The inducements of *my* own vices.**

The proclivities of human na’ture, **And those who *wish* me evil.**

I summon these powers to come **Between me and every cruel and merciless power** **That threatens my body *and* my soul.**

Christ be my protection toda’y; **ag*ain*st violence,**

Against I’llness; **ag*ain*st drowning,**

Against mortal wo’unding, **so that I may come to my ulti*ma*te reward.**

Christ be wi’th me. **Christ *be* before me,**

Christ be behi’nd me, **Christ *be* inside me,**

Christ be bene’ath me, **Christ *be* above me,**

Christ on my ri’ght hand, **Christ *on* my left hand.**

Christ when I li’e down, **Christ *when* I sit down,**

Christ when I ri’se up, **Christ *all* around me.**

Christ in the heart of everyone who beho’lds me; **Christ in every eye that sees me; and Christ in every *ear* that hears me.**

Today I shield myself with threefold power, invocation of the Tri’nity.

**Belief in the threeness, profession of the oneness, in union with *the* Creator.**

The Lord is salva’tion; **Christ *is* salvation,**

The Lord is salva’tion; **may your salvation, O Lord, be *always* with us.**

(Prayer bell)

Celebrant: In the name of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Grace and peace be with you, **and also with you.**

***Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.***

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.**

**The Collect for the Fourth Sunday of Lent**

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 Word of God** (be seated for the reading)

**The Epistle** **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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God**

**Psalm 32:1-8, 12** (read responsively)

* Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, \* **and whose sin is put away!**
* Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, \* **and in whose spirit there is no guile!**
* While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, \* **because of my groaning all day long.**
* For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; \* **my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**
* Then I acknowledged my sin to you, \* **and did not conceal my guilt.**
* I said," I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." \* **Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.**
* Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; \* **when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.**
* You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; \* **you surround me with shouts of deliverance.**
* Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord; \* **shout for joy, all who are true of heart.**

**Gradual Hymn**  *“Be thou my vision”* **Hymn 488**

**The Holy Gospel** (remain standing) **Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32**

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

**People: 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.’"

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**The Sermon** The Rev. Canon Mark Scheneman

**The Celtic Creed** (intoned by all, standing)

Our God is the God of all humans, the God of heaven and earth,

The God of sea and rivers, the God of the sun and moon,

The God of all the heavenly bodies, the God of the lofty mountains,

The God of the lowly valleys.

God is above the heavens; and he is beneath the heavens.

Heaven and earth and sea, and everything that is in them,

Such he has as his abode.

He inspires all things, he gives life to all things, he stands above all things, And he stands beneath all things. He enlightens the light of the sun, he strengthens the light of

the night and the stars, he makes wells in the arid land and dry islands in the sea, And he places the stars in the service of the greater lights.

He has a Son who is co-eternal with himself, and similar in all respects to himself;

And neither is the Son younger than the Father, nor is the Father older than the Son

And the Holy Spirit breathes in them.

And the Father and the Son and Holy Spirit are inseparable. Amen.

**The Bidding Prayer of St. Martin**

Celebrant: With all our hearts and minds we pray to the Lord, who looks upon the earth and makes it tremble, saying after each petition, “Lord, have mercy.”

* For peace and tranquility in our time and for your Holy Catholic Church from one end of the earth to the other: **Lord, have mercy.**
* For Audrey our Bishop and Shepherd and for all bishops, presbyters and deacons, and all who minister in your Church: **Lord, have mercy.**
* For this community and for all who dwell here: **Lord, have mercy.**
* For all who are in authority; for the bereaved, the dispossessed and those who seek refuge: **Lord, have mercy.**
* For those who travel; those who do penance; those who learn the faith; **Lord, have mercy.**
* For those who in your holy Church bring forth the fruits of compassion; **Lord, have mercy.**
* For ourselves; through the prayers of your holy apostles and martyrs, grant us, Lord your forgiveness; **Lord, have mercy**.
* Grant us, Lord a Christian and a peaceful end. **Lord, have mercy**.

(Parish Intercessions are offered; and then intoning, the Confession)

O Almighty God, the heavenly Fa’ther, **and the only-beg*ott*en Son,**

Have mercy up’on us. **Have m*ercy* upon us.**

O Father, O Son, O Holy Spi’rit. **Have mercy upon us, O *only* God.**

O God of heaven, have mercy upo’n us. **Have mercy upon *us*, O God,**

From whom and through whom is the rule of all created things for you, O God.

To whom be glory and honor for ever and ever. Amen.

**The Peace**

Celebrant: Deep peace of the quiet earth, Deep peace of the flowing air, Deep peace of the running wave, Deep peace of the shining stars, Deep peace of the Son of peace be always with you.

**People: And also with you.** (Greet one another in the name of the Lord.)

**Announcements** (be seated)

**Offertory Hymn** *“Here in This Place”* **Guitar and vocals**

**Presentation of the Offering** “*Praise God from whom all Blessings Flow”* **Doxology**

**Reception of Gifts**

Celebrant: Thank you, O Lord God Almighty, Thank you for the earth and the waters, Thank you for the sky, the air and the sun, Thank you for all living creatures.

**People: Come, O Lord, in the Bread of Life.**

Celebrant: Praise be to you, O Lord God Almighty, For our homes, our families, Our friends, and loved ones. Praise be to you for all the people around us everywhere in this wounded world.

**People: Come, O Lord, in the Cup of Healing.**

Celebrant: We bless you, the Source of all creation. Through your goodness we have this bread and wine to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. They will become our spiritual food and drink.

Celebrant: The Lord is here:

**People:** **His Spirit is with us.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts;

**People:** **We will lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us thank the Lord for all He has done;

**People:** **God leads His people through the years**.

Blessed are you, strong and faithful God. All your works, the height and the depth, echo the silent music of your praise. In the beginning you Word summoned light and creation dawned. You breathed the Spirit of Life into all creation, and made us in your own image. In the Word made flesh, you lived among us, and died on the cross for our redemption. You made the tree of death, the tree of life, the empty grave a sign of glorious hope.

Therefore with all your people, with angels and archangels, and all the company of heaven, we chant the ageless hymn of your glory.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

(The people kneel)

By the power of your Holy Spirit may these gifts of bread and wine be for us Christ’s body and blood. Who, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, gave you thanks, broke it, and

gave it to his disciples saying: ‘Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.’ After supper he took the cup, gave you thanks and said to them: ‘Drink this, all of you, this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me.’

Celebrant: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ:

**People: Dying, you destroyed our death; Rising, you restored our life; Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Celebrant: Risen Christ, we welcome you. You are the flowering bough of creation; from you cascades music like a million stars; around you rejoice the angels of light. Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we offer you this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.

**People:** **Feed us with the bread of heaven. May we be filled with your holiness. AMEN.**

Celebrant: As our Savior taught us, we pray together:

**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 his 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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

**The Breaking of the Bread**

Celebrant: The bread, which we break is a sharing in the Body of Christ;

**People: We being many are one body, for we all share in the one bread**.

Celebrant: He whom the universe could not contain, is present to us in this bread. He who redeemed us and called us by name now meets us in this cup.

So take this bread and this wine. In them God comes to us that we may come to God

**The Administration of Holy Communion**

The Holy Table around which we gather is the Lord’s, and not our won. All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

**Blessing Hymn** *“Go, my children”* (tune to Welsh lullaby “All through the Night”)

Go, my children, fed and nourished. Closer to me.

Grow in love and love by serving. Joyful and free.

Here my Spirit’s power filled you;

Here his tender comfort stilled you.

Go, my children, fed and nourished.  Joyful and free.

I the Lord will smile upon you.  And give you peace.

I the Lord will be your Father,

Savior, Comforter, and Brother.

Go, my children, I will keep you.  And give you peace.

**Post Communion Prayer** (in unison)

Celebrant: Lord Jesus Christ, as we have shared this foretaste of the heavenly feast, generous be our hearts, open be our hands, justice be our benchmark, thanksgiving be our call.

**People:**

**I rise up clothed in the strength of Christ. I shall not be imprisoned,**

**I shall not be harmed; I shall not be down-trodden, I shall not be felt alone;**

**I shall not be tainted; I shall not be overwhelmed;**

**I go clothed in Christ’s white garments; I go freed to weave Christ’s patterns;**

**I go loved to serve Christ’s weak ones; I go filled to share Christ’s love.**

Celebrant: The saving streams from the pierced heart of Christ save you.

The sacred three shield you from all ill-will; Protect you from all that destroys

And lead you always along Christ’s paths. And the blessing of God Almighty; the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you always. **Amen.**

**Concluding Hymn** *“Guide me, O thou great Jehovah”*  **Hymn 690**

Celebrant: Let us bless the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Procession to the Churchyard and Blessing of the Daffodils**

The Blessing of the Daffodils will take place in the Churchyard after the Eucharist.

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*Texts for this service have been taken from “A Celtic Eucharist,” edited by Brendan O’Malley, Morehouse Publishing, 2002 and the Book of Common Prayer, the Church of Ireland*

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**Usher** Jeff Liszcz

**Organist** Jamie Gould

**Musicians:** Bill O’Bryan, Trevor Koenig

**Acolyte** Jarrod Wysock

**Reader** Joseph O’Brien

**Minister of the Chalice** Joseph O’Brien

**Altar Guild** Gary VanDyke, Maurine VanDyke, Susie Almon-Mantagos

**Money Counters:** Mary Chibatar, Jim Gribbell