



ST. ELIZABETH'S
ANGLICAN CHURCH
聖公會頌主堂

Sunday, March 10th, 2024 (10am)
4th Sunday in Lent
In-Person & Online
English Morning Prayer Service

This Sunday Roster

Worship Leader, Reader 1 (*Numbers 21:4-9*): **Paul Seto**

Preacher: **Rev. Siu Chun Leung**

Reader 2 (*Ephesians 2:1-10*): **Silas Seto**

Intercessor, PPT Compiler: **Carol Tam**

Accompanist: **Daniel Yoon**

Gospeller (*John 3:14-21*): **Fenella Chiu**

Offering Collection: **Hazel Doiron**

AV Team: **Terence Kim**

Hymn Leader: **Ada Lam**

Introduction before starting service – Paul Seto

We invite parishioners joining the live online service to join in on responses as you would in regular worship, but please note that all will be muted except for those scheduled to serve in the worship. This service will be recorded and subsequently posted to our website.

Opening Sentence (P.292) – Paul Seto

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

John 3.16

Processional Hymn – I'm Forever Grateful

You did not wait for me to draw near to You,
But you clothed Yourself in frail humanity.
You did not wait for me to cry out to You,
But You let me hear Your voice calling me.

And I'm forever grateful to You,
I'm forever grateful for the cross.
I'm forever grateful to You
That You came to seek and save the lost.

(Repeat)

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Grace (P.185) – Paul Seto

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

The Peace (P.192) – Paul Seto

Leader: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

< Please greet each other in the name of Christ >

Confession (P.45) – Paul Seto

Leader: Dear friends in Christ, as we prepare to worship almighty God, let us with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

All: **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 neighbours 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.**

Absolution (P.46) – Paul Seto

Leader: Almighty God have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and keep us in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: **Amen.**

1st Reading from Numbers 21:4–9 – Paul Seto

Reader:

⁴ From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. ⁵ 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.' ⁶ Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷ 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. ⁸ 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.' ⁹ 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.**

2nd Reading from Ephesians 2:1–10 – Silas Seto

Reader:

From Death to Life

¹ You were dead through the trespasses and sins ² 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. ³ 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. ⁴ But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us ⁵ even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—⁶ and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷ so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness towards us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—⁹ not the result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰ 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.**

Gospel Hymn – God So Loved The World

God so loved the world
That He gave His only begotten son
That whoever believes in Him
Should have everlasting life

God so loved the world
That He gave His only begotten son
That whoever believes in Him
Shall never die
Shall never never die

For God did not send His son into the world
to condemn the world
But that the world, through Him might be saved.

God so loved the world
That He gave His only begotten son
That whoever believes in Him
Shall never die, shall never die but have everlasting life.

For God did not send His son into the world
to condemn the world
But that the world, through Him might be saved. Be saved.

God so loved the world
That He gave His only begotten son
That whoever believes in Him
Should have everlasting life

God so loved the world
That He gave His only begotten son
That whoever believes in Him
Shall never die, Shall never die but have everlasting life.

Everlasting life Everlasting life.

Music and Text: Jimmy Owens

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Gospel John 3:14–21 – Fenella Chiu

Reader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **John**.

People: **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Reader:

¹⁴ And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶ '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.

¹⁷ '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. ¹⁸ 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. ¹⁹ And this is the judgement, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰ For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. ²¹ 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.'

Reader: The Gospel of Christ.

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

Sermon – Rev. Siu Chun Leung (Read by Fenella Chiu)

The Apostles' Creed (P.52) – Paul Seto

Leader: Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

All: **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of
the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was
buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose
again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand
of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the
dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the
communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of
the body, and the life everlasting.**

Amen.

Prayers of the People (P.121 Litany 14 Lent) – Carol Tam

Parish Cycle of Prayer

Parish: 2024 PAB members & Ministry Plans

Deanery: St. Francis of Assisi, Meadowvale; Rev'd Jeff Brown

Diocesan: The Anglican Church Women (ACW) – Enid Corbett, Diocesan President

Anglican: The Episcopal Church of United States

For Healing: Tommy Lam, Esther Chen, Susan Xu's mother Dian-Lan Feng, Aileen Lu,
Andy Ng's parents Kim Tung Ng and Sau Fong Cheung, Kingsman Tang

Please join in the response indicated by the Intercessor

Intercessor: With confidence and trust let us pray to the Lord, saying,
“Lord, have mercy.”

Intercessor: For the one holy catholic and apostolic Church throughout
the world, we pray to you, Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor: For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it
may preach the gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to
you, Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor: For those preparing for baptism and for their teachers and
sponsors, we pray to you, Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor: For peace in the world, that a spirit of respect and
reconciliation may grow among nations and peoples, we
pray to you, Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor: For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer;
for refugees, prisoners, and all in danger; that they may be
relieved and protected, we pray to you, Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor: For all whom we have injured or offended, we pray to you,
Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor: For grace to amend our lives and to further the reign of
God, we pray to you, Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

<Silence for praying, people may pray for their needs>

Collect of the Day (P. 292) – Carol Tam

Intercessor: Let us pray.

All: **Gracious Father,
whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came 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's Prayer (P.54) – Paul Seto

Leader: Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray as our
Saviour taught us,

All: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom
come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today
our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin
against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from
evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now
and for ever. Amen.**

Offertory Hymn – We Walk by Faith, and Not by Sight

1. We walk by faith, and not by sight:
No gracious words we hear
From him who spoke as none e'er spoke,
But we believe him near.
2. We may not touch his hands and side,
Nor follow where he trod;
But in his promise we rejoice,
And cry 'My Lord and God!'
3. Help then, O Lord, our unbelief,
And may our faith abound;
To call on you when you are near,
And seek where you are found:
4. That when our life of faith is done
In realms of clearer light
We may behold you as you are
With full and endless sight.

*Music: Marty Haugen; Text: Henry Alford
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***All things come of Thee, O Lord,
And of Thine own have we given Thee. Amen.***

Prayer over the Gifts (P. 293)

All: **God of mercy and compassion,
your Word calls us home to faith and love.
Accept all we offer you this day,
in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord
Amen.**

Blessing (P.684) – Paul Seto

Leader: May the God of mercy transform us by his grace, and the blessing
of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be
among us and remain with us always.

People: **Amen.**

Announcements <https://www.stechurch.com/announcements>

Dismissal – Paul Seto

Leader: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Recessional Hymn – Amazing Grace

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. Through many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come;
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.
4. The Lord has promised good to me, His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be, As long as life endures.
5. And when this flesh and heart shall fail, And mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess within the veil A life of joy and peace
6. 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.

*Words: John Newton Music: Early American Melody
Hymns of Universal Praise #609
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Next Sunday, March 17th, 2024 (10am)

5th Sunday in Lent

In-Person & Online English Morning Prayer Service Roster

Celebrant, Gospeller (*John 12:20–33*), Preacher: **Rev. Siu Chun Leung**

Worship Leader, Reader 1 (*Jeremiah 31:31–34*): **Fenella Chiu**

Reader 2 (*Hebrews 5:5–10*): **Gabriel Kong**

Offering Collection: **Sky Boone**

Intercessor, PPT Compiler: **Yvonne Zheng**

AV Team: **Tommy Kung**

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Reflection & Meditation Article – “Mercy”

“Happy the merciful, for they will receive mercy” (Matthew 5:7). Jesus promises nothing else to the merciful than what they are already living—mercy. In the other beatitudes, the promise contains something more, leads further: those who weep will be comforted; the pure of heart will see God. But what more could God give to the merciful? Mercy is the fullness of God and of human beings. The merciful are already living God’s own life.

“Mercy” is an old word. In the course of its long history it has acquired a very rich meaning. In Greek, the language of the New Testament, the word for mercy is *eleos*. This word is familiar to us from the prayer *Kyrie eleison*, which is a call for the Lord’s mercy. *Eleos* is the usual translation in the Greek version of the New Testament for the Hebrew word *hesed*. *Hesed* is one of the most beautiful words in the Bible. It is often translated simply by love.

Hesed, mercy or love, is part of the vocabulary of the covenant. On God’s side, it stands for a steadfast love, one able to keep alive a relationship forever, regardless of what happens: “My love will never depart from you” (Isaiah 54:10). But since God’s covenant with his people is a story of broken promises and new beginnings from the very start (Exodus 32–34), it is evident that such an unconditional love includes forgiveness; it must of necessity be merciful.

Eleos also is used to translate another Hebrew word, *rachamim*. This word is often used together with *hesed*, but is more emotionally loaded. Literally it stands for the bowels; it is a plural form of *rechem*, a mother’s womb. Mercy or compassion is here a love which is felt, the deep affection of a mother for her little child (Isaiah 49:15), the tenderness of a father for his offspring (Psalm 103:13), an intense love between brothers and sisters – (Genesis 43:30).

Mercy in the biblical sense is much more than simply one aspect of God’s love. Mercy is in some sense God’s own being. God speaks his Name three times to Moses. The first time, he says “I am who I am” (Exodus 3:14). The second time: “I am gracious to whom I am gracious, and show mercy to whom I show mercy” (Exodus 33:19). The rhythm of the phrase is the same, but graciousness and mercy are substituted for being. For God, being who he is means being gracious and showing mercy. This is confirmed by the third proclamation of the divine Name: “The Lord, a merciful and gracious God, slow to anger, rich in steadfast love and faithfulness (Exodus 34:6).

This last formula was taken up by the prophets and in the psalms, particularly in Psalm 103, verse 8. In the central part (verses 11–13), this psalm marvels at the incredible scope of God’s mercy: “As high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is God’s mercy...”: mercy is thus God’s loftiness, his transcendence. But it is also God’s humanity, if we can put it that way: “As a father has compassion on his children...” So transcendent and at the same time so close, it is able to take away all evil: “As far as the East is from the West, so far he removes our faults from us.”

Mercy is what is most divine in God, but also what is most sublime in human beings. "He crowns you with steadfast love and mercy," says Psalm 103. This verse should be read in the light of another verse from Psalm 8 where it is said that God crowns human beings "with glory and honor." Created in the divine image, human beings are called to share in God's glory and beauty. But it is steadfast love and mercy that enable us to participate truly in God's own life.

Jesus' words: "Be merciful as your Father is merciful" (Luke 6:36) echo the ancient commandment "Be holy as I, the Lord your God, am holy" (Leviticus 19:2). Jesus imparted the face of mercy to God's holiness. Mercy is the purest reflection of God in a human life. "Through mercy to your neighbor you resemble God" (Saint Basil the Great). Mercy is God's humanity. It is also the divine future of human beings.

From Taizé, France: https://www.taize.fr/en_article6825.html