

St. David's Episcopal Church

"Second Sunday in Lent, 2017"

March 12th, 2017



The Very Rev. Dr. J. Mastine Nisbett, *Rector/Dean*

Richard Williams, Herman Clark, *Wardens*

Phyllis Fibleuil, *Music Director/Organist*

Dorothy Lundy, *Parish Secretary*

"Proclaiming Good News to the Poor, the Blind, the Captive
and the Oppressed"

*("You are asked to please turn off all mobile devices during the
service. Thank you!")*

Holy Eucharist

Introit Hymn: (1982)

No. 401

A Penitential Order Rite Two (BCP)	p. 351
The Decalogue Traditional (BCP)	p. 350
The Confession (BCP)	p. 352
Kyrie (BCP)	p. 356

The Celebrant says to the people:

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Collect for: "The Second Sunday in Lent":

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

A Reading from the Book of Genesis (12:1-4a)

Now the Lord said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you.²I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing.³I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.'⁴ So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God. (*moment of silence*)

Psalm 121

- 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; * from where is my help to come?
- 2 *My help comes from the LORD, * the maker of heaven and earth.*
- 3 He will not let your foot be moved * and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.
- 4 *Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel * shall neither slumber nor sleep;*
- 5 The LORD himself watches over you; * the LORD is your shade at your right hand,
- 6 *So that the sun shall not strike you by day, * nor the moon by night.*
- 7 The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; * it is he who shall keep you safe.
- 8 *The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, * from this time forth for evermore.*

(All)

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: * as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.*

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans (4:1-5,13-17)

What then are we to say was gained by^{*} Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? ²For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³For what does the scripture say? 'Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.' ⁴Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. ⁵But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. ¹³For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. ¹⁶For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations')—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God. (*moment of silence*)

Gradual Hymn: (1982)

No. 444

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John (3: 1-17)

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews.² He came to Jesus^{*} by night and said to him, ‘Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.’³ Jesus answered him, ‘Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.’⁴ Nicodemus said to him, ‘How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?’⁵ Jesus answered, ‘Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit.’⁷ Do not be astonished that I said to you, “You^{*} must be born from above.”⁸ The wind^{*} blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.’⁹ Nicodemus said to him, ‘How can these things be?’¹⁰ Jesus answered him, ‘Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?¹¹ Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you^{*} do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things?¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man.’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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon:

(moment of silence)

The Nicene Creed (BCP)

pg. 358

Prayers of the People (Form IV)

pg. 388

Exchange of the Peace

At The Offertory

Anthem (Choir):

Offertory Sentence

Offertory Hymn: 'Who on Earth Can Find God's Kingdom?'

Who on earth can find God's kingdom? Who can know God's wondrous reign?

How can we receive the freedom of a people born again?

Can we hear the winds a-blowing – where they come from and return?

Can we see God's kingdom growing? These are things we long to learn.

Nicodemus said to Jesus, "God must be at work in you!

Rabbi, you're a God-sent teacher; we can see the signs you do!"

Jesus saw his faith and questions, so he spoke these words of love:

"Surely, none can see God's kingdom, till they're born from God above."

Nicodemus kept on wondering, "How can one be born anew?"

Jesus said, "This is the birthing that God's Spirit brings to you.

If you want to see God's kingdom, do not be at all surprised.

You can't see God's Spirit moving, yet it's working, changing lives.

"God, we see your world around us, and we wonder what will be.

Is your loving reign among us; is it something yet to see?

May we trust your Spirit's moving, giving life and hope and birth.

May we trust what you are doing, joy of heaven, hope of earth.

Hymn after the Offertory

Give thanks with a Grateful Heart,

Give thanks to the Holy One:

Give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ his Son

And now let the weak say, "I am strong"

Let the poor say "I am rich,"

Because of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

Presentation of Elements

The Great Thanksgiving (Prayer "B")

pg. 367

The Great Mystery

Hymns during Communion: (1982)

Nos. 337, 691,707

Post Communion Prayer:

"Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen."

Greetings and Announcements

The Blessings

Recessional Hymn: (1982)

No. 474

Musical Postlude (*please remain seated, quietly*)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today's Usher's:

8:00 AM - *Linval Cox; Shirley Anderson*

10:30 AM - *Iris Campbell; Trevor Ifill; Keith Richards;*

Richard Williams

(Current Ushers schedule now posted)

We welcome all visitors this morning, especially anyone visiting for the first time. Please sign our Guestbook located in the narthex (lobby) and do *visit us again*.

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During the Lenten Season, we will have “*Stations of the Cross*” every Friday evening beginning @ 7:30 pm. You will hear from your Care Group Leader with information on when your group will be meditating, and the procedures.

Casting Call, for Father Nisbett’s play “Who’s on Trial” If you are interested in taking part in the *passion play*, please contact *Lorna Moodie-Jones* or leave your name and telephone number in the church office. Thanks!

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Health Guild reinstated. If you are interested in joining (member need not be health professional), you may speak to *Sylvia Vernon RN*.

Note: There are NO flowers in the Sanctuary during Lent. You may, however, continue to request Sanctuary Candles and please donate \$25.00 towards Easter Lilies. Thanks!

THIS WEEKS EVENTS

Bible Study: Next meeting, Wednesday, March 15, 2017 @9:00 AM. All invited and don’t forget your book.

Wednesday Night Lenten Service: March 15, 2017@ (7:30 PM)

(A)Saint Peter’s, 137-28 244th St., Rosedale, NY 11422

Preacher: *Rev. Darryl James*

(B)Saint Joseph’s, 99-10 217th Lane, Queens Village. NY 11429

Preacher: *Rev. Canon Jerrick Rayside*

Telephonic Prayer Group: During Lent, every evening, except

Sunday, @8PM (712)432-8399, access code:707241# (all are

welcome and invited to participate).

Parish Choir rehearsal – Thursdays, @ 7:30 PM. All members are asked to be present. Currently accepting new members.

Stations of the Cross: Fridays @ 7:30 PM. (during Lent)

Youth Choir Rehearsal – Saturdays @ 5:00 PM

UPCOMING EVENTS

Refreshment Sunday (mid-Lent): Sunday, March 26, 2017. Add'l. information forthcoming.

Silver Jubilee of the New Edifice: Friday, June 23, 2017;(8PM-12:30AM (Black-Tie Gala)-@ The Coral House, 70 Milburn Ave., Baldwin, NY 11510. (Tickets \$125.00 per person.) See *Barbara Morrison* for additional information (*718/712-8969 or (917)374-1062 (asking for members & associates to take ads or page in Jubilee Journal) Thanks!*

SICK AND SHUT-IN MEMBERS & FAMILY

Inez Atkinson; Andrea Alleyne; Veronica Alleyne; Dennis Alston; *Icilda Anderson*; Anne Arley; Maritza Armien; Nelda Binal; *Etta Blagrove*; Sherron Bokonga; Lilly Bowens; Ewart Bowie, Lowell Bowie, Ginnderland Brooks; Kirk Brouwer; Winston Brown; Jerome Bryan; Ralph Coard; *Lilla Codner*; Priscilla Coleman; Lancelot Cowan; Che' Constantine; Niall Constantine; Justine Cunningham; Kayden DaCosta; Muriel Cust-Francis; Cicely Daniel; Herbert Daniel; Sharon Davis; Egan Davson; Lawrence Demeglio; Eunice Dixon; Cecile Fearon; Jeanette Francis- Fearon; Winifred Garrison; Muris Gayle; Gordon C. Gladden; Patrick Goin; Winnie Gooden; Gem Grant; Nellie Green; Viola Gretton; Jeffrey Grosvenor; Sylvia Grosvenor;; Shae Haris; *Gem Harris*; Khaled Hassanin; Ida Headley; *Roy Henneman*; Janiese Henry; *Maureen Henry*; Donald Herbison; Rita Herbert; Louise Hermon; Leslie Hutchinson-Morris; Ivy Irons; Marlon Jacobs; Victor Jiminez & family; Cecil Johnson; James Johnson; *Melrose Johnson*; *Joyce Jones*; Yvonne Jones; Rhonda Jordon; Michelle Joseph; *Germaine King*;; Christie Laieta; *Ellen Lawrence*; *Jean Lawrence*; Dudley Lawson; Ronald Lee; Isabella Lewis; Robert Lewis; Lorna Lewis; *Fitz Longman*; Bertram Longsworth; Joyce Lundy; Rev. Washington L. Lundy; Flavia Lytch-Threatt; Brandon Manasse; Amyika Marcial; *Bevon Mars*; Marc A. Mathews; Clara Maynard;; William D. Mullings;; *Kerwin O'Brien*; *Blanche O'Reilly*; John Parkes; Gene Pendarvis; Theresa Pulla; Nancy Taylor–Hall; Geneva Randolph; Monique Robert; Rev. Egbert Robertson; Sonia Rochester; Richard Rose; Henry Samuel; Joy Simon; Pauline Sekou; Lloyd Simmonds; Yvonne Simmonds; Leroy Small; Shirley Smith; Gerretta Sores; Calvin Souden; Dudley Spence; Hugh Springer; Marjorie Stevens; *Cecil Stevens*; *Beresford Stewart*; *Lillieth Stewart*; Dan Stewart; Sonia Thompson; Beatrice Tomlinson; Christine Turner; Cleveland Vanier; Myron Wade; *Olive Walford*; Barbara Wanaselja; Amanda Watts; *Emma Weekes*; Alberta West; Anita Williams; Carmen Williams;; Ken Williams;; Yvonne Williams; Phondel Yarboro. (*Italics indicate members of St. David's*)

Meditation: “Questions, Questions”

In today’s gospel reading, we hear the much beloved words of (*John 3:16*), “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.” This frequently-memorized passage finds its way onto billboards, bulletin boards, and sandwich boards the world over. However, these words are spoken by Jesus in the context of a greater debate with Nicodemus, a religious leader of his time. Nicodemus wants the answer to one of the biggest questions of faith: how? How can we truly be a child of God? How can faith be created in us? How is it that we are truly saved? These questions and many more regularly swirl around skeptic and believer alike. Nicodemus’s big question, “How can these things be? (*John 3:9*) sums up so many faith questions in just five short words. It is comforting to know that even Nicodemus, a well-educated man of deep faith, finds himself in the middle of some big questions. Faith frequently has more questions than answers. Jesus does answer Nicodemus’s questions, and points to himself as the ultimate answer. He reminds Nicodemus—and those of us listening today—that he is “the way, and the truth, and the life” (*John 14:6*). Because of Jesus, we are completely free. We are even free to ask questions, to not understand, and to feel confused. Certainly Nicodemus left feeling confused by Jesus’ answers. However, Jesus had a deep impact on Nicodemus: we learn in (*John 19:39*) that Nicodemus himself came to Jesus’ burial, bringing “myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds.” Where there are many questions, the Holy Spirit is at work. Our questions are not evidence of doubt, but opportunities for Jesus to speak to our hearts. We continue to trust that even when we are unsure, the truth of Christ and his great mercy will always bring us to faith. (*Copyright 2009 Augsburg Fortress*)

Second



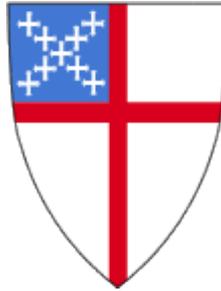
SUNDAY

IN LENT

SERMON NOTES

SERMON NOTES

“EMPOWERING THE CHURCH FOR SERVICE”



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VESTRY

Richard Williams, *Senior Warden*
Herman Clark, *Junior Warden*

Class of 2017

Sharon Brown, Ivor Lawson, Charmaine Mitchell

Class of 2018

Annette Marion, Yvonne Mitchell, Meagan Nettey

Class of 2019

Steve Morrison, Randy Moses, Ann Stewart

Officers (not vestry members)

Ms. Patricia Samuels, *Treasurer*
Ms. Eulah Walker, *Asst. Treasurer*
Ms. Noella Jackman, *Clerk*
Ms. Dorothy Lundy, Parish Secretary

("Proclaiming Good News to the Poor, the Blind, the Captive and the Oppressed")