

The Church of the Epiphany
The Anglican Church in Qatar

5th Weekend of Lent
The Celebration of Holy Communion
Liturgical Color for Season – Violet

*My house
will be called
a house of prayer
for all nations*
Mark 11:17

Friday, 27 March 2020

Prelude “Little Prelude in C Minor” (Johann Sebastian Bach)

Please stand

Opening Hymn “**Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer**” *Tune: CWM RHONDDA*

Guide me, O my great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but you are mighty;
hold me with your powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore,
feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain,
where the healing waters flow.
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,
ever be my strength and shield,
ever be my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside.
Death of death, and hell's Destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever sing to you,
I will ever sing to you.

The Acclamation

Celebrant: Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

The Collect of Purity

Celebrant and People:

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Kyrie Eleison (sung): *[Music: Keith Landis; h. Jeffrey Rickard]*

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

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant and the people say the Collect:

Almighty God, you alone can bring order into our lives: Grant us your children grace to love you and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Please sit

First Reading Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord." So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act," says the Lord.

The Reader says The Word of the Lord
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 130 - *read responsively*

1 Out of the depths have I called to you, O Lord; Lord, hear my voice; *
let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.

2 If you, Lord, were to note what is done amiss, *
O Lord, who could stand?

3 For there is forgiveness with you; *
therefore you shall be feared.

4 I wait for the Lord; my soul waits for him; *
in his word is my hope.

5 My soul waits for the Lord, more than watchmen for the morning, *
more than watchmen for the morning.

6 O Israel, wait for the Lord, *
for with the Lord there is mercy;

7 With him there is plenteous redemption, *
and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

Please stand

Gradual Hymn “How Great Thou Art” *Tune: (Swedish Folk Melody) Words: Stuart Hine*

(singing vs. 1-2 before the Gospel reading, vs 3-4 after the reading)

O Lord, my God, when I in awesome wonder
consider all the works thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
thy power throughout the universe displayed;

Refrain:

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:
how great thou art, how great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:
how great thou art, how great thou art!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze; *[Refrain]*

The Gospel Reading John 11:1-45

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, “Lord, he whom you love is ill.” But when Jesus heard it, he said, “This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God’s glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.” Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to the disciples, “Let us go to Judea again.” The disciples said to him, “Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?” Jesus answered, “Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.” After saying this, he told them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.” The disciples said to him, “Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.” Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, “Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.” Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.”

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.” Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” She said to him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.”

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go." Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

After the Gospel, the Reader says The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

(singing verses 3-4 after the Gospel reading)

But when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
he bled and died to take away my sin; *[Refrain]*

Refrain:

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:
how great thou art, how great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:
how great thou art, how great thou art!

When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation,
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
and there proclaim, "My God, how great thou art!" *[Refrain]*

Sermon

Rev. Canon Paul-Gordon Chandler, Rector

Please stand

The Apostles' Creed

Celebrant: Let us declare our faith in God

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.

Please sit or kneel

Prayers of the People

Leader: As we reach out to the Lord, let us pray that our Lord will touch us and our world with His healing. Lord, help us to trust in you, that we may witness to your almighty power. May we help to uplift your people, raise the fallen, and bring the sick to recovery.

Leader: Our Great Physician

People: **Heal our world.**

Leader: Heal, O Lord, the wounds of our world. We pray for those that are ill, isolated, anxious and deserted in our world at this time. We pray for communities devastated by the ravages of this pandemic. And we pray that you will inspire the tenderness of our hearts, towards a compassionate and prayerful response.

Leader: Our Great Physician

People: **Heal our world.**

Leader: Lord, enter our homes and bring peace to all our hearts, and to any divisions, tensions or stresses. Show us the way that leads to life. Teach us to love unconditionally, to be gentle, and forgive and to accept forgiveness. And cure our minds, so only love and kindness flow from our hearts.

Leader: Our Great Physician

People: **Heal our world.**

Leader: Lord, we pray for those who are guiding the nations at this time, and shaping national responses, that they may make wise decisions.

Leader: Our Great Physician

People: **Heal our world.**

Leader: We pray for all those that are housebound at this time. And we remember especially our families, and especially our children and youth who are at home. Give each of our families a new and profound sense of your presence with us.

Leader: Our Great Physician

People: **Heal our world.**

Leader: We give thanks for the work of doctors and nurses and all healthcare providers at this time, that through their skill and insights many will be restored to health. We pray for friends, loved

ones and colleagues who are sick...and for those unknown to us who have been infected by the virus. And we pray for those whose livelihoods are in jeopardy with the decline or cessation of business, and who find themselves in a financial crisis at this time. And we pray for those who are researching and testing for a cure to COVID-19. May your wisdom be theirs.

Leader: Our Great Physician

People: **Heal our world.**

Leader: We pray for the vulnerable, the gravely ill and the dying, that they may know your comfort and peace. We give thanks for all whom you have lifted up from death and raised to life eternal at this time.

We rejoice with those who have gone before us who have triumphed over the troubles of this world and have entered the larger life where sorrow and pain and illness are no more.

Leader: Our Great Physician

People: **Heal our world.**

Leader: May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Confession

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Celebrant and People

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 neighbors 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.

The Celebrant, stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

Please Stand

Celebrant Having tasted of Christ's goodness, let us share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Welcome and Announcements

Please remain seated (this is a time of reflection and giving thanks to God with our tithes and offerings)

Offertory – *Special Music* “Reflection” (Martha Mier)

Please stand at the Presentation of the Gifts

Celebrant All things come from you, O Lord

People **And of your own have we given you**

The Holy Communion

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion, regardless of one's church background. During this time of live-streaming the service of Holy Communion, as the clergy receive the elements of bread and wine, they are doing this symbolically for all of us. Also, we encourage you to participate at home, breaking and distributing bread to each other.

(Eucharistic Prayer 1 - Order of the Holy Cross, Grahamstown, South Africa.)

Please Stand

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

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

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

O God of mystery and promise, you invite us to discover you in the intimate place of ourselves and our lives. You invite us to discover you within the complexities of our humanity, in tender loving, in struggle and pain, in confusion and unknowing, in flashes of insight and wisdom. You also call us beyond ourselves to places of imagination, beyond the silent stars, in the deep rhythms of the ocean, in the unending cycles of day and night, seasons of life and death.

With all those who have gone before us, with seas and earth and sky, with animals and birds, with our friends and those unknown to us, with all creation we join in the song of your unending glory.

Celebrant and People Sing

**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 stand or kneel.

We praise you that in Jesus you make known to us the wonder and richness of our humanity. We give you thanks for his life-giving love, for his healing touch, for his vulnerability and for his gentleness.

Before he gave up his life, he shared his humanity with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks for it, broke it and gave it to them saying: "This is my own body given for you. Do this to remember me." So too after they had eaten, he took wine, gave thanks for it and gave it to them saying: "This is my blood, poured out in love for you. Do this to remember me."

So, we proclaim the mystery of faith.

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Come now, Spirit of God, as we eat and drink these physical things, make us one body, food for the world, with our lives poured out for the life of all. Touch us with your gentle creativity and fire us with longing for the new age of justice and peace.

We ask this through Jesus who gave his life so that we might be one and find new life. With him, and through him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, be to you, O God, all honour and glory forever. **Amen.**

As Christ taught us we are bold to pray:

**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 Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

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

Celebrant: Jesus, Lamb of God,

All: **Have mercy on us.**

Celebrant: Jesus, bearer of our sins,

All: **Have mercy on us.**

Celebrant: Jesus, redeemer of the world,

All: **Grant us peace.**

Celebrant

This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord. It is made ready for those who love him and for those who want to love him more. Come, all those who have much faith, and those who have little, those who have been here often and those who have not been here long, those who have tried to follow you and those who have failed. Come, because it is the Lord who invites us. It is God's will that those who desire him should meet him here.

All are now invited to break and distribute bread to each other in our respective homes..

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Please join in meditative singing

Jesus, Lover Of My Soul” *Tune: ABERYSTWYTH*

Jesus, lover of my soul,
let me to thy bosom fly,
while the nearer waters roll,
while the tempest still is high:
hide me, O my Saviour, hide,
till the storm of life is past;
safe into the haven guide,
O receive my soul at last.

Other refuge have I none,
hangs my helpless soul on thee;
leave, ah, leave me not alone,
still support and comfort me.
All my trust on thee is stayed,
all my help from thee I bring;
cover my defenceless head
with the shadow of thy wing.

Plenteous grace with thee is found,
grace to cover all my sin;
let the healing streams abound,
make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art:
freely let me take of thee,
spring thou up within my heart,
rise to all eternity.

“Jesus, Remember Me” (*Taize*)

Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.
Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.

“Lord Jesus Christ” (*Taize*)

Lord Jesus Christ, your light shines within us.
Let not my doubts nor my darkness speak to me.
Lord Jesus Christ, your light shines within us.
Let my heart always welcome your love.

Please stand

The Post-Communion Prayer

***People:* Merciful God of all creation, through this time together, you have renewed us for your service. Help us to be his faithful disciples so that our daily living may be part of the life of your kingdom, and our love be your love reaching out into the life of the world. Amen.**

The Blessing

Closing Hymn “Be Thou My Vision” *Tune: SLANE*

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
be all else but naught to me, save that thou art -
be thou my best thought in the day and the night,
both waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word;
be thou ever with me, and I with thee, Lord;
be thou my great Father, and I thy true son;
be thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight;
be thou my whole armor, be thou my true might;
be thou my soul’s shelter, be thou my strong tower,
O raise thou me heavenward, great power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
be thou mine inheritance, now and always:
be thou and thou only, the first in my heart,
O High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, thou heaven's bright Sun
O grant me its joys, after victory is won;
Great heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Dismissal

Clergy: Go in peace. Stand firm in the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude "How Firm A Foundation" (arr. James E. Clemens)

CONTACT INFORMATION

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GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

WhatsApp prayer chain - The church has a “WhatsApp” prayer group; join the group or send a prayer request through Shammi Michael: michael.shammi@gmail.com.

Sign Up for our Email Mailing List: If you have not signed up for our mailing list, please do so on the Home page (see the bottom page) of our website: www.anglicanchurchinqatar.org.

Serve at Epiphany - There are many opportunities to be involved in the Church of Epiphany by serving others. To find out more, contact Christiana Nwandu; our Peoples’ Warden, at: pwarden@anglicanchurchinqatar.org

Feed the Hungry and Clothe the Needy - It is a tradition of the church that members support those in need. Please save up the bulk food with a long life (such as bags of rice, sugar and cooking oil) and good quality used or new clothes (especially men’s clothes) for our clothing distribution outreaches, and when we started worship services again you can bring them to the church.

Pledge Envelopes - Pledge Envelopes are always available! Please contact our Pledge Secretary: Shammi Michael: michael.shammi@gmail.com or Tel: 6692-5412.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Check our new YouTube Channel! Search for “Anglican Church of Qatar” in YouTube and you will find our channel. All our worship services will be on it, as well as other educational offerings.

“Faith Celebrities” – Check out our YouTube channel for our new short-video series titled “Faith Celebrities” that looks at the “saints” highlighted on the Church Calendar...historical Christian figures from whom we have much to learn.

POSTPONED! SPIRITUAL MAJILIS: An Exploration into "Soul-Literature" – The launching of this monthly gathering had been postponed. These “Spiritual Majilis” evenings will address the spiritual dimension of life by looking at renowned short stories with wisdom for our life journeys.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER services will be live-streamed/recorded this year – and also made available on our YouTube channel.

-Palm “Friday” English Services – 3 April (11am)

-Palm “Friday” Tamil Service – 3 April (7pm)

-Maundy Thursday “Tenebrae” Service – 9 April (7pm)

-Good Friday English Service – 10 April (11am)

-Good Friday Tamil Service – 10 April (7pm)

-Easter Sunday English Services – 12 April (11am)

-Easter Sunday Tamil Sunrise Service – 12 April