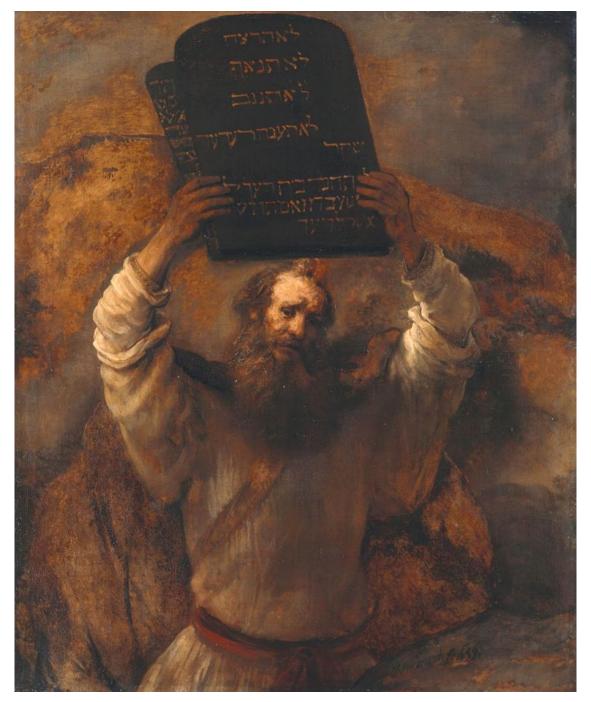
TRINITY

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN FINDLAY, OHIO WELCOMES YOU



The Third Sunday in Lent

Holy Eucharist for March 7, 2021 The Third Sunday in Lent

Prelude

148 Entrance – Uffingham



A Penitential Order: Rite One

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins. People His mercy endureth for ever.

The Decalogue

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.

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets. *Matthew 22:37-40*

The Deacon or Celebrant then says

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep,

we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, we have offended against thy holy laws, we have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done.

But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, spare thou those who confess their faults, restore thou those who are penitent, according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord;

and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy Name. *Amen*.

The Bishop when present, or the Priest, stands and 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.*

S90 Kyrie



Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you. Response: And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, who seest that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

A reading from the Book of Exodus (20:1-17)

And God spake all these words, saying, I am the Lord thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it. Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee. Thou shalt not kill. Thou shalt not commit adultery. Thou shalt not steal. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's.

The Word of the Lord.

Response: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 19

¹ The heavens declare the glory of God; * and the firmament showeth his handy-work.

² One day telleth another; * and one night certifieth another.

³ There is neither speech nor language; * but their voices are heard among them.

⁴ Their sound is gone out into all lands; * and their words into the ends of the world.

⁵ In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun; * which cometh forth as a bridegroom out of his chamber, and rejoiceth as a giant to run his course.

⁶ It goeth forth from the uttermost part of the heaven, and runneth about unto the end of it again; * and there is nothing hid from the heat thereof.

⁷ The law of the Lord is an undefiled law, converting the soul; * the testimony of the Lord is sure, and giveth wisdom unto the simple.

⁸ The statutes of the Lord are right, and rejoice the heart; * the commandment of the Lord is pure, and giveth light unto the eyes.

⁹ The fear of the Lord is clean, and endureth for ever; * the judgments of the Lord are true, and righteous altogether.

¹⁰ More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold; * sweeter also than honey, and the honeycomb.

¹¹ Moreover, by them is thy servant taught; * and in keeping of them there is great reward.

 12 Who can tell how off he offendeth? * O cleanse thou me from my secret faults.

¹³ Keep thy servant also from presumptuous sins, lest they get the dominion over me; * so shall I be undefiled, and innocent from the great offence.

¹⁴ Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be alway acceptable in thy sight, * O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

A Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians (1:18-25)

For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God. For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent. Where is the wise? where is the scribe? where is the disputer of this world? hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe. For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom: But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness; But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God. Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

The Word of the Lord.

Response: Thanks be to God.

141 Sequence Hymn - So giebst du nun



The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (2:13-22)

Response: Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

And the Jews' Passover was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem, And found in the temple those that sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the changers of money sitting: And when he had made a scourge of small cords, he drove them all out of the temple, and the sheep, and the oxen; and poured out the changers' money, and overthrew the tables; And said unto them that sold doves, Take these things hence; make not my Father's house an house of merchandise. And his disciples remembered that it was written, The zeal of thine house hath eaten me up. Then answered the Jews and said unto him, What sign shewest thou unto us, seeing that thou doest these things? Jesus answered and said unto them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up. Then said the Jews, Forty and six years was this temple in building, and wilt thou rear it up in three days? But he spake of the temple of his body. When therefore he was risen from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this unto them; and they believed the scripture, and the word which Jesus had said.

The Gospel of the Lord

Response: Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Sermon - The Rector

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible;

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spake by the Prophets. And I believe one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church; I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

The Deacon or other 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.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers [especially_____], that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

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.

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

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.

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

Additional petitions and thanksgivings may be included here.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear [especially

_____], beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of [______ and of] all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

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

If there is no celebration of the Communion, or if a priest is not available, the service is concluded as directed on page 406.

The Peace

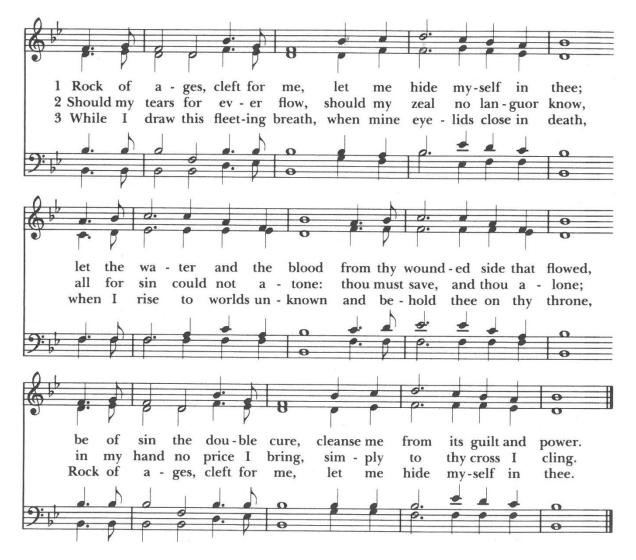
All stand. The Celebrant says to the people The peace of the Lord be always with you. People And with thy spirit.

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The Holy Communion

The Celebrant may begin the Offertory with one of the sentences on pages 343-344, or with some other sentence of Scripture.

685 Offertory – *Toplady*



The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer I

The people remain standing. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says

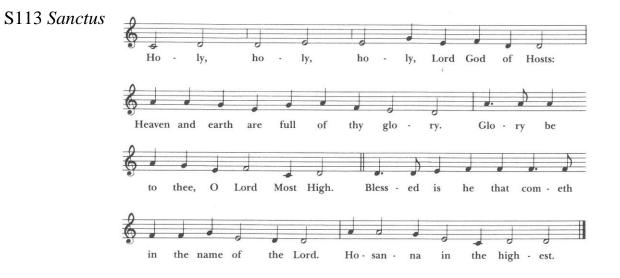
	The Lord be with you.
People	And with thy spirit.
Celebrant	Lift up your hearts.
People	We lift them up unto the Lord.
Celebrant	Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.
People	It is meet and right so to do.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was in every way tempted as we are, yet did not sin; by whose grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer unto ourselves, but unto him who died for us and rose again.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name: evermore praising thee, and saying,



The people kneel or stand.

Then the Celebrant continues

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake 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."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same. And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we Beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. *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 Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept. Then may be sung or said

S157 Agnus Dei



The people, being unable to make their Communion due to the pandemic are invited to make an act of Spiritual Communion.

I worship thee, Lord Jesus, And kneeling unto thee, As thou didst come to Mary, I pray thee come to me.

O most loving Jesus, O most blessed Saviour, come to me, I beseech thee, and unite me to thyself. Though I cannot now receive thee sacramentally, yet I believe that thou art able, even when received by faith and desire only, to heal, enrich and sanctify me. Come thou spiritually into my heart. I desire to unite myself to thee, with all the affections of my soul. Possess me wholly; let the consuming fire of thy love absorb me, and thy presence abide so intimately in me, that it will be no longer I that live, but thou who livest in me. Amen.

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

The People may join in saying this prayer

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. *Amen*.

In place of the blessing the Deacon or Celebrant says

Bow down before the Lord.

And the Celebrant says the solemn Prayer over the People

Look mercifully upon this thy family, Almighty God, that by thy great goodness they may be governed and preserved evermore; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Deacon, or the Celebrant, may dismiss the people with these words

Deacon Let us bless the Lord. People Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Join us for virtual coffee hour at 11:15 a.m. Sundays on Zoom. The ID is 8828907483 and the password is Trinity.

Morning Prayer is Monday through Thursday at 8 a.m.

Zoom office hours are from 9 - 11 a.m. Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. Wednesday 9 - 10 a.m.

Due to the departure of Fr. Brian and Annie's work schedule, noon Holy Eucharist and Evensong and Benediction on Wednesdays have been suspended.

NEW – EACH afternoon throughout Lent there is a five minute Daily Scripture Reflection posted at 3 p.m. on FaceBook. Everyone is invited to make this a part of your Lenten journey each day.

On our web-site - findlayepiscopal.org - are direct links to Trinity's Facebook and YouTube.

Trinity will resume "in-person" worship in the church on Sunday, March 21st. Our liturgical practice beginning that day will look and feel much like it did for those who were present during the period between the initial shutdown and the second shutdown late last autumn. Please see page following the prayer list for details.

Thought for the week... God never tires of forgiving us; we are the ones who tire of seeking his mercy. -Pope Francis

ANNUAL MEETING – Due to the impact of Covid, the annual meeting is postponed until July 18th in the hope that we will be able to have in-person participation. The current Vestry will remain in office until that time. Recently an interim report was sent to the parish. If you didn't receive one, please let us know.

There is still time to turn in your 2021 pledge cards. If you need one, it can be mailed to you.

We have an ongoing collection of non-perishable food and taxable toiletries (toilet paper, diapers, sanitary items, cleaning and sanitizing products, shampoo, and soap) for area charities, and plastic grocery sacks for the City Mission. Baskets are in the narthex for quick, socially distanced drop off or contact Annie Stricklin: 870-307-9058 or stricklina@gmail.com.

We're also still collecting warm hats, scarves, mittens, and gloves for children and adults.

THERE ARE A FEW 2021 ALTAR GUILD CALANDERS available in the parish hall.

FOR THOSE WHO REQUESTED 2021 numbered offering envelopes, they are available along with some un-numbered envelopes to which you may help yourself. There are also additional numbered sets – please contact Deborah.

Let us pray for...

MONDAY Corrie Abels Don Allen John Alm Lori Amstutz Kathleen Anderson Nan Anderson Ann Marie Erica Arthur Athan Angie Baker & family Sandy Baker **RK Baltzell** Tim Baltzell Deborah Bartlett Adeline Bates Becky Kristi Bedlion Sam Bello Annie Benson Greyson Biglin Gavin Bingamon Rev. Vincent Black Lisa Blair Katie & Boucher family Darin Boyles Judy Brann

THURSDAY

Ashland Lee Carol Lehman Lesley Leslie Lisa Li Su Lan Linda Cathy Linhart Carol Litten Ian Louth Audrey Ludwig MAF MAL Malcolm Mandy Marcea Beverly McCoy Michael McCoy Joanne McPherson Joe Meehan Melanie Laura Meredith Linda Metzger Vince Metzger Ron Miles Anna Miller Missy Joe N.

TUESDAY Natalie Elise Brown Bud & Ginny Carol Bryant Butch Bycinski Caitlan CAL, Jr. Kim Carty Chuck & Jo Daniel J. Churchey Cigere Karen Crawford Denise John Dohr Easton ERF Robert Elfvin Ellen Paul Esselman Esther Matt Fox Frank Gamper Tony Girvin Greg Shane Griesser Ruth Gulliford Susan H. FRIDAY Jo O'Malley Mike P. Mary Parks Barbara Payne Linda Perrv Barbara Peterson Katie Pfirsch Matt Pfirsch Gayle Pohl Dennis Rahe Diane Regan Gloria Reinhart S. Saldana Sam Andrani Samuel Sandy Marj Schott Chris Schutz Tara Semantel John Sharninghouse Linda Sharninghouse Melanie Sherger Dorothea Sherman T. Shnego SMC Elden Smith Fred Snyder Madeline Sommer

WEDNESDAY Susan Lee Hamilton Hank Harper AnnaMae Teddy Hartley Julie Hartzell Kim Hindman Leonard Hitchin Nathan & Lisa Hoy Hunter Monica Hunyadi Lorraine Ignarski James JFM Jimmy Joel Clancy Johnson Julius Jennifer Kahn Kallie Keith Amy Kempher Terri Kempher Nancy Kin John Koch Jeanna Kolhosf Kynslee Monroe SATURDAY Dr. Larry Spees Mike Stacey Joyce Sullivan Susan John Tallman Jan Taylor Bill Terry Dave Unkefer Valerie Tom Voea Carolyn Ware Natalie Ware Steve Ware Diana Warnement JoAnn Warner Glenn Weiler Philip Whitney Joe Wilhem **Richard Willson** Chuck Wolph Gloria Wolph Jackson Wolph Jim Wolph Travis Wolph Alex Wolper **Ricky Wooten** Bart Z.

By now many of you will have read the bishop's statement regarding his permission to resume public worship in the church beginning on the Fifth Sunday in Lent, March 21st. After prayerful consideration and consultation with our churchwardens, I have decided that - barring any unforeseen, significant 'spike' in Hancock County's Covid-19 metrics - Trinity will resume "in-person" worship in the church on that day. Our liturgical practice beginning that day will look and feel much like it did for those who were present during the period between the initial shutdown and the second shutdown late last autumn.

- 1. Masks will be required at all times and hand sanitization will be required upon entry and before receiving Holy Communion. Masks are available at each entrance, and hand sanitizer is present both at the entrances and in the center aisle.
- 2. We ask that you enter either via front door on Hardin Street or the handicap entrance ramp in the parking lot on Cory Street.
- 3. Social distancing will continue, requiring us to remain in our pews (which have been measured to provide each household a 6'- 360 degree separation from each other household) except when coming forward to receive Holy Communion.
- 4. The Sacrament will be administered in one species, the Bread, and I will receive the Wine on behalf of those gathered; we should be reminded here of the doctrine of concomitance that receiving only in "one kind" has always been considered a sufficient participation in the Sacrament, a full acceptance of God's Grace offered in the same, and a complete reception of Christ's whole Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity.
- 5. In order to provide sufficient space for social distancing, we will once again offer three masses each Sunday: 8:30 a.m., 10 a.m., and 1 p.m. in order to spread ourselves out sufficiently.

There are a few things that will differ from when we were last able to gather physically together:

- 1. Thanks to what I believe to be some providential synchronicity we have a fully restored organ, a fully restored church bell, an organist-choirmaster who has been fully vaccinated, a high-resolution live-streaming camera purchased thanks to a diocesan grant, and the installation tomorrow of broadband internet access in the church. That being the case, our 10 a.m. services, beginning on 21 March, will be live-streamed rather than being a simultaneous "live premiere" of a pre-recorded liturgy.
- 2. Please consider the following when you think about which liturgy to attend: 1) Only the 10 o'clock service will be broadcast and this is the only liturgy which includes music. 2) the camera will stream what is happening in the Chancel and administration of the Sacrament will take place in the Nave, so nobody in the congregation will be on camera, 3) the 10'oclock liturgy will include hymns and service music and those at home are encouraged to sing, but those of us present are not permitted to sing according to diocesan guidelines. As somebody who loves to sing, I totally understand that some would find this too painful to be present for; for others just being able to hear the organ in person again will be a blessing.
- 3. I anticipate that we may need to add additional services for Easter. This may require the use of an application which takes reservations since we can only seat twenty-two people in the Nave at a time while maintaining the diocesan required social distancing. Don't be worried we'll add as many Easter services as we need to include everybody who wants to be with us. We will, in addition to the liturgies at 8:30, 10, and 1 on Easter Day, observe the Great Vigil at 7 p.m. on Easter Eve. That said, I imagine we may still need to schedule additional opportunities for worship on Easter.

As was the case before, nobody should feel as if he or she is required to attend if this choice would make one feel unsafe. We must continue to respect each other's decisions and assume they were made prayerfully and with goodwill.

I, for one, am very excited that I'll get to see many of you in person again and share the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood in a way we've not been able to do for several months. It is a gift we are more likely not to take for granted after the last year!

Yours in service to the Gospel, John[†]