



*The Feast of
the Annunciation*

MARCH 25, 2020

11:00 A.M.

Laura Schlett, preacher

HYMN 438

Tell Out, My Soul, the Greatness of the Lord!

Woodlands

We will not sing this hymn, but during the organist's improvisation on the tune, you may meditate on the text below.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord! Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice; tender to me the promise of his word; in God my Savior shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might! Powers and dominions lay their glory by. Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight, the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word! Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord to children's children and for evermore!

LENTEN ACCLAMATION

CELEBRANT Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

PEOPLE *His mercy endures for ever.*

DECALOGUE

The congregation kneels.

Hear the commandments of God to his people: I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage. You shall have no other gods but me.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Honor your father and your mother.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit murder.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit adultery.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not steal.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not be a false witness.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

The Celebrant adds a scriptural sentence.

CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION

DEACON

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

A period of silence is kept.

OFFICIANT 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 Priest alone 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.*

KYRIE *The congregation remains kneeling.*

CELEBRANT Lord, have mercy.

PEOPLE *Christ, have mercy.*

CELEBRANT Lord, have mercy.

COLLECT

The congregation may be seated.

LESSON Isaiah 7:10-14

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel.

READER The Word of the Lord. PEOPLE *Thanks be to God.*

CANTICLE 15 The Song of Mary (*Magnificat*) (*said in unison*)

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: *
the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him *
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, *
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,

The promise he made to our fathers, *
to Abraham and his children for ever.
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.

The congregation stands.

GOSPEL

Luke 1:26-38

BEFORE THE GOSPEL

DEACON

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

PEOPLE

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

AFTER THE GOSPEL

DEACON

The Gospel of the Lord.

PEOPLE

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

HOMILY

Laura Schlett

A brief period of silence follows the Homily.

The congregation stands.

NICENE CREED

*We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is—seen and unseen.*

*We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.*

Through him all things were made.

*For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit*

he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

*For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.*

*On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.*

*He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.*

*We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

From Intercessions for the Christian People

Jesus Christ intercedes for us at all times. Together let us remember and pray to God through Christ, saying: Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Let us pray for the church, that the fasting of these forty days may clear away much that is needless and so open our eyes to the bright glory of the cross. Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Let us pray for our divided and restless world, that those who hold power over others may be troubled and transformed by the demands of justice. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Let us pray for all who suffer want, that God in mercy may turn our hearts toward one another. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Let us pray for ourselves, that this church may walk both as burdened and as free as Jesus. Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Let us pray for all who have died, that they may be at peace. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Silence

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

God of the present moment, God who in Jesus stills the storm and soothes the frantic heart; bring hope and courage to all who wait or work in uncertainty. Bring hope that you will make them the equal of whatever lies ahead. Bring them courage to endure what cannot be avoided, for your will is health and wholeness; for you are God and we need you. *Amen.*

THE PEACE

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer I from *Enriching Our Worship*

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 our thanks and praise.*

CELEBRANT It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

The Celebrant adds a Proper Preface.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we say:

CELEBRANT AND PEOPLE

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 congregation kneels, and the Celebrant continues.

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

CELEBRANT AND PEOPLE

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

The Celebrant continues

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. *AMEN.*

CELEBRANT

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

CELEBRANT AND PEOPLE

Second translation of The Lord's Prayer from *The Book of Common Prayer*

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.

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: *have mercy on us.*

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: *have mercy on us.*

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: *grant us peace.*

COMMUNION

In apartheid South Africa many prisoners were denied the sacraments and had to find other ways of taking Spiritual Communion. This found its way into the 1989 Anglican Church of Southern Africa Prayer Book as a help to others who could not receive:

Jesus, may all that is you flow into me. May your body and blood be my food and drink. May your passion and death be my strength and life. Jesus, with you by my side enough has been given. May the shelter I seek be the shadow of your cross. Let me not run from the love which you offer But hold me safe from the forces of evil. On each of my dyings shed your light and your love. Keep calling to me until that day comes When, with your saints, I may praise you for ever. Amen.

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

From *Enriching Our Worship*

CELEBRANT AND PEOPLE

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE *The congregation bows.*

From *The Book of Occasional Services*

CELEBRANT Look down in mercy, Lord, on your people who bow before you; and grant that those whom you have nourished by your Word and Sacraments may bring forth fruit worthy of repentance; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

MEDITATION ON HYMN 278

Sing We of the Blessed Mother

Rustington

We will not sing this hymn, but during the organist's improvisation on the tune, you may meditate on the text below.

Sing we of the blessed Mother who received the angel's word,
and obedient to the summons bore in love the infant Lord;
sing we of the joys of Mary at whose breast the child was fed
who is Son of God eternal and the everlasting Bread.

Sing we, too, of Mary's sorrows, of the sword that pierced her through,
when beneath the cross of Jesus she his weight of suffering knew,
looked upon her Son and Savior reigning from the awful tree,
saw the price of our redemption paid to set the sinner free.

Sing again the joys of Mary when she saw the risen Lord,
and in prayer with Christ's apostles, waited on his promised word;
from on high the blazing glory of the Spirit's presence came,
heavenly breath of God's own being,
manifest in wind and flame.

Sing the chiefest joy of Mary when on earth her work was done,
and the Lord of all creation brought her to his heavenly home;
where, raised high with saints and angels, in Jerusalem above,
she beholds her Son and Savior reigning as the Lord of love.

DISMISSAL

RESPONSE Thanks be to God.

† † †

Ongoing Services and Events

(links can be found at BBTS.ORG)

- Worship online every day at 11:00
Holy Eucharist Wednesday and Sunday
Morning Prayer Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday
- Online Coffee Hour—Sundays at 11:45 a.m.—video chat on Zoom
- The Middle Way—Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.—video discussion on Zoom
- Our Facebook page provides updates, information, and encouragement

Bethesda's Mission is to experience the clear and strong presence of God and to understand and spread Christ's teachings through collective worship, learning, and service.

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