Whoever you are, wherever you are on your journey of faith, you are welcome here.
Saint Jude’s is a spiritual oasis where lives are transformed.

Radical Revelations on the Way of Love
The Fourth Sunday in Lent, March 22, 2020
The Holy Eucharist, Rite II, 9:30 am

St. Jude the Apostle Episcopal Church
(408) 252-4166 www.saintjudes.org
Welcome to our livestream service today, St. Jude’s parishioners and visitors. We’re happy you’re here!

Please keep the following people in your prayers. Do you need prayers? Email: prayers@stjude.org

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<th>Howard Pugh</th>
<th>Buddy Beecher’s Family</th>
<th>Gene Reilly</th>
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<td>Carol Wenberg</td>
<td>Frances Moodie</td>
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<td>Eleanor &amp; Re McCurdy</td>
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Prayers for People Facing Great Uncertainty

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;
You are God, and we need you.

*Taken from A New Zealand Prayer Book—He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa’ (adapted)*

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy. Sustain and support the anxious, be with those who care for the sick, and lift up all who are brought low; that we may find comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen. (Prayer from Gloucester Cathedral)
Whoever you are, wherever you are on your journey of faith, you are welcome here.

Welcome

Hymn: “I Want to Walk as a Child of Light”

verses 1-2 Hymnal 490
Celebrant:  Blessed be the God of our salvation:
People:  Who bears our burdens and forgives all our sins.

Collect for Purity

Holy Wisdom, in your loving kindness you created us and restored us when we were lost; inspire us with your truth, that we may love you with our whole minds and run to you with open hearts, through Christ our Savior. Amen.
Confession

O God of compassion, we confess that we have sinned against you and our sisters and brothers. We have not been true followers of our new way in Christ. We have not shared in your liberating work in the world. We have fallen short of your glory. In your great compassion, make us clean from our sin, and set us free in the joy of your Spirit, that we may serve you with new life; through Jesus Christ who gave his life that we might live in peace with you and with our fellow creatures. Amen.

Absolution

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.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Let us pray.

Discerner of hearts, you look beneath our outward appearance and see your image in each of us. Banish in us the blindness that prevents us from recognizing truth, so we may see the world through your eyes and with the compassion of Jesus Christ who redeems us. Amen.

The Lesson: Ephesians 5:8-14

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, “Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

After the lesson the reader says: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.
People: Thanks be to God.
Hymn: “Open My Heart”

Open my heart.
Open my heart.

The Gospel: John 9:1-41

Minister: The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.
People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent).

Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” Some were saying, “It is he,” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.” So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.
Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.” Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Savior.
People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

(Silence is observed after the sermon for meditation or reflection)

The Prayers of the People

Let us pray...

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the One, Holy, Compassionate God, saying “Hear us God, for your mercy is great.”

O God, our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble, in this challenging and uncertain time of global pandemic and public health crisis, we come before you offering our prayers for those in need, the Church, and the world. Hear us, God, for your mercy is great.

We pray for the Church, that it may not grow weary of proclaiming the gospel of Christ and may serve as a beacon of hope to a suffering world. Grant that our communities of faith may reflect your love as they minister to the most vulnerable among us. Fill them with your Holy Spirit as they work to be your healing hands to all in need. Hear us, God, for your mercy is great.

Watch over this congregation of St. Jude’s in this time of transition. Bless and guide the Search Committee, our rector candidates, the Vestry, and all those in leadership positions, giving them wisdom and grace. Inspire and strengthen this beloved community as this season of our parish life unfolds. Hear us, God, for your mercy is great.

We pray for our nation and all nations and peoples, that darkness and fear may be banished by the light of truth. We pray for all affected by the corona virus COVID-19 around the world, in our communities and in our homes. May the leaders of the nations and all communities work together for the common good as the outbreak spreads. Let impeding barriers that divide us be brought down and bonds of trust be strengthened to benefit the entire human family. Hear us, God, for your mercy is great.

Give courage and protection to healthcare workers on the front lines of care. Bless scientists and researchers around the world as they use their gifts and knowledge to develop a vaccine, treatments, and improved measures to reduce the spread of disease. Hear us, God, for your mercy is great.

Loving God have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble, that they may be delivered from their distress. Grant your healing grace to those who are sick. Give strength to all who are caring for loved ones. Watch over those we name now, especially... Hear us, God, for your mercy is great.

Eternal God give to the departed eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon them, remembering especially... and those we name now... Hear us, God, for your mercy is great.
Gracious God, we give thanks for all the blessings of this life, especially... and those we name now... For your abundant love, O God, we give you thanks and praise.

O God, the author and source of light, you gaze into the depths of our inmost hearts. Defend us from captivity by the powers of darkness, and open our eyes by the grace of your Spirit. Clear our vision and focus our sight that we may acknowledge Christ as the Light of the World. Amen. *adapted from Prayers of the People at Washington National Cathedral, 3/15/20

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People: And also with you.

Prayer for Healing

O God, the source of all health: So fill our hearts with faith in your love, that with calm expectancy we may make room for your power to possess us, and gracefully accept your healing; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing for Celebrations

Loving Creator, You are the source of life and the source of love. We thank you for all who celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, and special events today. Watch over them as their days increase, bless and guide them wherever they may be. May your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives, and may your love for the world shine through them and the deep relationships they cherish, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Holy Communion

Offertory Sentences

Offertory: “Now the Silence” Hymnal 333
The Great Thanksgiving

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.

Eternal God, Source of all being, we give you thanks and praise for your faithful love. You call us into friendship with you and one another to be your holy people, a sign of your presence in the world. When those we trust betray us, unfailingly you remain with us. When we injure others, you confront us in your love and call us to the paths of righteousness.

You stand with the weak, and those, broken and alone, whom you have always welcomed home, making the first last, and the last first. Therefore, we raise our voices with angels and archangels, forever praising you and saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed are you, O Holy One: when Hagar was driven into the wilderness you followed her and gave her hope. When Joseph was sold into bondage, you turned malice to your people’s good. When you called Israel out of slavery, you brought them through the wilderness into the promised land. When your people were taken into exile you wept with them by the river of Babylon and carried them home.
Restore us, O God, let your face shine!

At the right time you sent your Anointed One to stand with the poor, the outcast, and the oppressed. Jesus touched lepers, and the sick, and healed them. He accepted water from a woman of Samaria and offered her the water of new life. Christ knew the desolation of the cross and opened the way for all humanity into the redemption of your reconciling love.

On the night he was betrayed, Jesus, at supper with his friends, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, gave it to them, and said, “Take and eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper he 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 shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.” Loving and Holy One, recalling Christ’s death and resurrection, we offer you these gifts, longing for the bread of tomorrow and the wine of the age to come. Therefore we proclaim our hope.

Dying you destroyed our death,
Rising you restored our life.
Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Pour out your Spirit on these gifts that through them you may sustain us in our hunger for your peace. We hold before you all whose lives are marked by suffering, our sisters and brothers. When we are broken and cast aside, embrace us in your love.

Restore us, O God, let your face shine!

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O Source of all life, now and for ever. Amen.

And now, as our Savior Jesus taught us, in the language or version of our choice, we now pray:

The Lord’s 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.

Lord’s Prayer in Chinese

我們在天上之父，願人都尊父的名為聖，願父的國降臨，願父的旨意行在地上，如同在天。我們日用的飲食，求父今日賜給我們。又求饒恕我們的罪，如我們饒恕得罪我們的人。不叫我們遇見試探，拯救我們脫離凶惡。因為國度、權柄、榮耀，全是父的，從現在至到永遠。阿們。

Lord’s Prayer in Japanese

天にいられます私たちの父よ。み名があがめられますように。み国が来ますように。み心が天で行われるように。地でも行われますように。私たちの日ごとの糧を今日もお与えください。私たちの負い目をお赦しください。私たちも、私たちに負い目のある人たちを赦しました。私たちを試みに会わせないで、悪からお救いくださ。国と力と栄えは、とこしえに あなたのものだからです。アーメン
The Lord's Prayer in Spanish


The Breaking of the Bread

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.

Invitation

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the people of God. All who seek God are welcome at the Lord’s Table.

A spiritual communion is a devotional that can be prayed at any time to express the desire to receive Holy Communion when circumstances impede one from actually receiving Holy Communion.

The presider invites the following prayer to be said by all:

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

(St. Alphonsus de Liguori, 1696-1787) [used at Washington National Cathedral for streaming service March 15, 2020]

Communion Hymn: “O Lord, Hear my Prayer” sing twice Taizé
Post Communion Prayer

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and strengthening us with the sign of spiritual nourishment with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Blessing

God's blessing be with you, Christ's peace be with you, the Spirit's outpouring be with you, now and always. Amen.

Hymn: "God is Love"
Dismissal:

Minister: Journey in peace on the Way of Love.
People: Thanks be to God.

Announcements

Virtual Coffee Hour

Community Care and Continuity

Worship: Please check the website for the most recent information on live-streamed services: http://saintjudes.org/

Pastoral Care: Pastoral care is available with Assisting Clergy and Stephen's Ministers. Please contact The Rev. Stephanie Green, stephanie@saintjudes.org or cell/text: (510) 517-8459.

Communications: Messages on the main office number are checked twice daily: (408) 252-4166, and by email: office@saintjudes.org

*Weekly Announcements will be posted separately on the homepage of the St. Jude's Website (and updated as needed).

Pledges and Offerings: Please mail pledges and offerings to the church office or donate on-line through PayPal (under "Give" on the website). Office Address: St. Jude's Episcopal Church, 20920 McClellan Road, Cupertino, CA 95014.