

# Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church

March 20, 2022

Third Sunday in Lent

Ministry Assistants Today:

Lector: *Eric Michael Sanchez* Intercessor: *Susan Steele*

Altar Guild: *Barbara Potts*

*[Silence for prayer and preparation]*

*(+standing; ++ sitting; +++ sitting or kneeling as you are able)*

Prelude

+Opening Hymn # 516

*Come Down, O Love Divine*

Hymnal 1982

+Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins

**People: His mercy endures forever.**

+++Confession

BCP pg. 360

Absolution

+Celebrant The Lord be with you.

**All And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray

**Almighty God, you know that we have no power in 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 lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

++The Lessons *(attached)*

*Eric Michael Sanchez*

Gradual Hymn # 699

*Jesus, Lover of My Soul*

Hymnal 1982

+The Gospel

++Sermon

Gloria Dei – A Fig Tree in Queen's Village

*Rev. Koshy Mathews*

+An Affirmation of Faith

BCP pg. 358

+++Prayers of the People - Form III *(attached)*

*Susan Steele*

+The Peace

++Offertory Hymn

+Holy Communion

Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP 361

+The Post-Communion Prayer

BCP 365

+The Blessing

+Closing Hymn # 690

*Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

Hymnal 1982

+The Dismissal

Postlude

**First Reading – Exodus 3:1-15**

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the Lord said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain." But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I am who I am." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I am has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you': This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations."

Reader	Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
<b>All</b>	<b>Thanks be to God</b>

**Psalms 63:1-8**

- 1 O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; \*  
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you, as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.
- 2 Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, \*  
that I might behold your power and your glory.
- 3 For your loving-kindness is better than life itself; \*  
my lips shall give you praise.
- 4 So will I bless you as long as I live \*  
and lift up my hands in your Name.
- 5 My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness, \*  
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,
- 6 When I remember you upon my bed, \*  
and meditate on you in the night watches.

- 7 For you have been my helper, \*  
and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.
- 8 My soul clings to you; \*  
your right hand holds me fast.

### **Second Reading – 1 Corinthians 10:1-13**

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

Reader        Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
**All            Thanks be to God**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **Luke (13:1-9)**

**People        Glory to you, Lord Christ**

At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them--do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

Celebrant     The Gospel of the Lord  
**All            Praise to you, Lord Christ**

### **Prayers of the People - Form III**

Celebrant     Sisters and brothers in Christ, for the sake of the world that God so loves, let us pray.  
Intercessor   Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;  
**People        That we all may be one.**  
Intercessor   Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

**People**            **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**  
Intercessor        We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;  
**People**            **That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**  
Intercessor        We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world, we pray.  
**People**            **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**  
Intercessor        Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake, especially in our search for a new rector.  
**People**            **God's compassion does not fail, and his mercy is new every morning.**  
Intercessor        Let us pray for healing for **Bill, Bobbi, David, Siobhan, The McHoul Family, Fran, Rita, Sister Sagrario, Vinnie, Mary, Fox, Russell, Erika, Steve, Gemma, Connie, Margie, Jerry, Bonnie, Jack, and Barb** (*silence*)  
Let us pray for the healing of all who are suffering from the virus and other diseases.  
Also, for our own needs, and those of others. (*silence*)  
Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble.  
**People**            **That they may be delivered from their distress.**  
Intercessor        Give to the departed eternal rest. We also pray for the souls of all who died in the Pandemic.  
**People**            **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**  
Intercessor        We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
**People**            **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**  
  
Celebrant          Let us pray together for **the People of Ukraine.**

**God of peace and justice, we pray for the people of Ukraine today**  
**We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.**  
**We pray for those who fear for tomorrow,**  
**that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.**  
**We pray for those with power over war or peace,**  
**for wisdom to perceive that warring is contrary to your purpose for humans,**  
**discernment to recognize the cost of war leading to destruction of lives and nature,**  
**and compassion for those whose lives ruined and hopes are robbed.**  
**Guide their decisions, granting them a vision of a world where war shall be no more.**  
**Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear,**  
**that you would hold and protect them.**  
**We pray that each of us may be instruments of your peace.**  
**We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Amen.**

(This prayer is adapted from a prayer by the two Archbishops of the Church of England, Justin Welby, and Stephen Cottrell for our use. The additions shown in italics are by The Rev. Dr. Christopher Duraisingh.)