



ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
in the heart of the historic Stockade District
THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT, YEAR A – 19 MARCH 2023
HIGH MASS — RITE I, 10AM
The Reverend Peter Schofield, *Celebrant & Preacher*
Dr. Brian J. Taylor, AAGO, *Director of Music Ministry*

MASS SETTING

John Merbecke (1510?-1585?)

OPENING VOLUNTARY: Deck, thyself, my soul, with gladness (Opus 122, no. 5)

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

THE PREPARATION OF SACRED MINISTERS IN THE LADY CHAPEL

The Sacred Ministers, Servers & Choir offer Preparatory Prayers prior to the Entrance Procession

THE ENTRANCE, HYMN 525

The Church's one foundation

Aurelia

THE INTROIT

Sung by the Cantor

Behold my servant whom I have chosen; my beloved in whom my soul is well pleased; I will put my spirit upon Him; and he shall show judgment to the Gentiles. Ps. Thou shalt show us wonderful things in thy righteousness; O God of our salvation; thou that art the hope of all the ends of the earth. Glory be...

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

(people kneel)

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

THE SUMMARY OF THE LAW

(people kneel)

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.

THE KYRIE ELEISON, HYMNAL S-90

(people kneel)

Lord, have mercy upon us. (3x)
Christ, have mercy upon us. (3x)
Lord, have mercy upon us. (3x)

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And with thy spirit.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which giveth life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

1 SAMUEL 16:1-13

The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you

what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.” Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, “Do you come peaceably?” He said, “Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the Lord’s anointed is now before the LORD.” But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.” Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.” Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.” Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The LORD has not chosen any of these.” Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.” He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, “Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.” Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Lector The Word of the Lord

People **Thanks be to God**

THE GRADUAL

Sung by the Cantor

Light shineth in the darkness for the upright; the righteous are merciful and full of compassion. For they will never be shaken; they will be kept in everlasting remembrance.

THE EPISTLE READING

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.”

Lector The Word of the Lord

People **Thanks be to God**

THE TRACT

Psalm 43:3-6

Cantor Send out thy light and thy truth that they may lead me and bring me to thy holy hill and to thy dwelling;

Choir that I may go unto the altar of God; to the God of my joy and gladness; and upon the harp will I give thee thanks O God my God

Cantor Why art thou so full of heaviness O my soul? and why art thou so disquieted within me?

Choir Put thy trust in God. For I will yet give thanks to him; who is the help of my countenance and my God.

Please Stand for the Gospel

THE HOLY GOSPEL

JOHN 9:1-41

Celebrant ✠ The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John

People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

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 Lord.

People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

THE SERMON

THE REVEREND PETER SCHOFIELD

THE NICENE CREED

(people stand)

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

(people kneel)

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 all those who in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity, [*especially* ____].

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 [*Blessed Mary Ever-Virgin, Blessed George our Patron, and*] all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

We remember those who celebrate birthdays and anniversaries this week, [*especially*____]
Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

(people kneel)

Celebrant **Y**e who do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: Draw near with faith, and take this Holy Sacrament to your comfort, and make your humble confession to Almighty God, devoutly kneeling.

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all men: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE ABSOLUTION

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, ✠ pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

THE COMFORTABLE WORDS

Hear what comfortable words our Savior Christ saith unto all who truly turn to him.

Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you.

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Hear also what St. Paul saith: This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

Hear also what St. John saith: If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the Propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world.

THE PEACE

(people stand)

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Sung by the Cantor

Unto me is this grace given; that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Fa-ther, who art in hea-ven, hal-low-ed
be thy Name, thy king-dom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in hea-ven. Give us this day our
dai-ly bread. And for-give us our tres-pas-ses,
as we for-give those who tres-pass a-gainst us. And lead
us not in-to temp-ta-tion, but de-liv-er us
from e-vil. For thine is the king-dom, and the power,
and the glo-ry, for ev-er and ev-er. A-men.

Music: Plainsong; adapt. Charles Winifred Douglas (1867-1944)

THE FRACTION

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People Therefore let us keep the feast.

THE AGNUS DEI, HYMNAL S-157

Sung by All

(people kneel)

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

Said by All

(people kneel)

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

THE INVITATION

Celebrant ☩ Behold the Lamb of God: Behold him that taketh away the sins of the world.

People Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof, but speak the word only and my soul shall be healed.

ADMINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

All baptized Christians may receive communion.

If you wish to not receive, you are invited to come forward and cross your arms to receive a blessing.

Gluten-free hosts are available.

THE COMMUNION SENTENCE

Sung by the Cantor

And they shall need no candle; neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light; and they shall reign for ever and ever.

COMMUNION ANTHEM

Like as the hart

Vincent Novello (1781-1861)

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Said by All

(people kneel)

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.

THE BLESSING

(people kneel)

Look down in mercy, Lord, on your people who kneel 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**

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE RETIRING PROCESSION, HYMN 690

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah

Cwm Rhondda

CLOSING VOLUNTARY:

Lord have mercy, God the Holy Ghost (BWV 674)

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Celebrant & Preacher:	The Reverend Peter Schofield
Master of Ceremonies:	David Kennison
Organist:	Dr. Brian J. Taylor
Cantor:	Tarik Wareh
Thurifer:	Christopher Henry
Acolytes:	Anne Kennison & J.J. Moran
Greeter:	Lynn Paska
Lector:	Suzy Unger
Counters:	Bob Paska & Rich Unger
Altar Guild:	Ralph Polumbo
Sacristan:	Sandee Hughes

Prayer List

The Sick and those in need: Robert T, Richard, Christian, Christine L, Leslie P, Ed C, Sue C, Karen S, Scott W, Suzy T, Donald M, Kevin, Jesse, Brittany, Pamela, Jean M, Dom, Bess, Theresa S, Wanda Z, Pat Gibbons, Dustin, Susan, Jamie Taft, Jo-Ann S, Donna T, Sam, Alexander, James L. Margo, Rev. Marshall Vang

This list will be reset every 3 months.

If you would like a name included, contact david@stgeorgesschenectady.org

The Departed ✠ None

Birthdays: Ann Duff (3-23, Thurs), Gerri Moore (3-24, Fri)

Anniversaries: None

Leaving St. George's: Alice & Ralph Polumbo

PARISH NOTICES

WELCOME VISITORS! We'd like to extend a warm welcome to our visitors today. Whether you live in our area and decided to worship with us today or if you are visiting from out of town, we offer you a warm Georgian welcome! There are offering plate. We'd love to see you again. Our Sunday Mass is at 10am. Details are on our website, www.stgeorgesschenectady.org.

Coffee Hour Don't forget Coffee hour after the Mass. Join us in the Great Hall for some fellowship time with friends and church family.

All on the Same Page Book Club Meeting **TODAY**, the Book Club will meet in the Shaw Lounge after the service to discuss the mystery novels of Anthony Horowitz. At the suggestion of Alice Polumbo, we will share our thoughts about *The Word is Murder*, *The Sentence is Death*, *A Line to Kill*, or *The Twist of a Knife*. If you didn't draw straws at the January book club meeting, pick one or more to read! In addition to these four adult mystery novels, Horowitz is the author of many books for young people in addition, to working on such shows as *Maggie Murders*, *Midsomer Murders*, and *Foyle's War*.

Organ Concert! **TODAY**, Brian Taylor will be playing an organ concert of music by Johann Sebastian Bach at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 21 Hackett Blvd., Albany, NY 12208. He will be joined by the church's organist, Steven L. Rosenberry and Alfred V. Fedak, Organist of First Reformed Church, Scotia and Instructor of Organ at Schenectady County Community College. The concert is at 3pm. You'll be thrilled when you put this on your Sunday schedule.

Lenten Series Continuing **TODAY**, we are again offering our popular Sunday evening Lenten series. It all starts with a **potluck supper at 6pm** in the Great Hall, followed by **Stations of the Cross** in the Church. This devotion, much loved by Christians of many denominations recreates Jesus' last hours, from his sentencing by Pilate to his scourging and death upon the cross and burial in the tomb. It is a moving service that will deepen your faith. Not to be missed! We are all called to take on a Lenten discipline; this is a perfect fit.



The Annunciation **This Friday, March 24th**, we will observe **the Feast of The Annunciation with a Mass at 7pm**. The Annunciation celebrates the visit of the angel Gabriel to Mary, telling her that she will bear a son, Jesus. The actual date of the Annunciation is March 25th (9 months prior to Christmas) but this feast can be transferred and we are moving it to Friday so more people can participate. This is a Principal Feast Day of the Church and a day of obligation. Please plan to attend.

Little Red Wagon Sunday/ SiCM collection At last week's ingathering of food and personal hygiene products for the SiCM food pantry, you donated **222lbs**, making our our 2023 total-to-date **567lbs**, which is a great start towards our 2023 goal to exceed last year's total of 2,073lbs. It is especially important during the winter season to remember the hungry and needy in our community. Thank you to all who have contributed so generously. **Next month's collection will be April 16th**.

Pillow Talk Thank you also for last Sunday's generous donations for the YWCA emergency shelter. This continuing ministry supports women and children who have escaped from an unsafe environment and arrive with nothing. The need is great and is ongoing. The need is for **Pillows, Twin Size Blankets and Comforters**. Blankets and comforters may be gently used, but pillows must be new, unopened and in their original packaging. Place donated items at the back of the church. **The next quarterly ingathering will be June 11th**.

Holy Week & Easter – Save the Dates!Get your calendars out. Here is this year's Holy Week schedule of services:

2 April, 10am	Palm Sunday	Liturgy of the Palms (in the Great Hall) with Mass in the Church
2 April, 6pm	Palm Sunday	Potluck Supper & Stations of the Cross (in the Church)
6 April, 7pm	Maundy Thursday	Mass with washing of feet
6 April, 9pm-12am	Maundy Thursday	The Watch at the Altar of Repose (in the Lady Chapel)
7 April, 12 noon	Good Friday	Liturgy of the Pre-Sanctified & Veneration of the Cross
8 April, 9:30am	Holy Saturday	ProAnaphora (in the Chapel of the Holy Family)
8 April, 7pm	Holy Saturday	The Great Vigil and the First Mass of Easter
9 April, 10am	Easter Day	The Mass of The Resurrection

Easter Flower Memorials **There are only 3 weeks left until Easter Day.** It's time to plan for your Easter flower donation in memory of a family member or loved one. There are envelopes for this in your pledge envelope box and at the back of the church. Be sure to clearly write the names of those remembered as they will be listed in the Easter bulletins. Please also send the memorial names to David at david@stgeorgesschenectady.org. to ensure they are included in the Easter Vigil and Easter Day bulletins' print deadlines.

Weekday Services. Our normal Wednesday weekday liturgy will be held this week 9am. Our normal Friday noon liturgy will not be held this week as there is a Mass for the Feast of the Annunciation at 7pm.

Care & Emergencies During the interregnum, here are the options for pastoral care needs: (1) Jim Wingate & Ann Duff are available for pastoral care, home and hospital visitations and communion. Call Jim at 518-381-9271. (2) Brian Taylor is trained in hospital chaplaincy and will respond for pastoral care and emergencies. Contact Brian (text or voice) at 912-656-0779 or email cornishanglican@gmail.com. (3) If a priest is needed, Sr Warden David Kennison will arrange for a priest of the diocese to respond. Call David (text or voice) at 518-320-5619 or email kentech2@nycap.rr.com. Dean Marshall Vang has also offered his pastoral assistance during this time.

HAVE YOU REMEMBERED GOD IN YOUR WILL? The rubric on Pg 445 of the Book of Common Prayer reminds us of the importance of estate planning and charitable giving. When you prepare your will, please remember the work of God and his Church, and especially the Endowment Fund of St. George's Church. Please also remember the importance of making your funeral wishes known now to your family and clergy. Information to help you do that is available through the parish office.