Morning Worship
The Fifth Sunday in Lent
Sunday, March 29, 2020
Presider and Preacher: The Rev. Patrick J. Skutch

Officiant: Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Officiant: Lord, open our lips.
People: And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Officiant and People:
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.

Morning Psalm—Psalm 130

Officiant: Out of the depths have I called to you, O Lord; Lord, hear my voice; *
let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.

People: If you, Lord, were to note what is done amiss, *
O Lord, who could stand?

For there is forgiveness with you; *
therefore you shall be feared.

I wait for the Lord; my soul waits for him; *
in his word is my hope.

My soul waits for the Lord,
more than watchmen for the morning; *
more than watchmen for the morning.
O Israel, wait for the Lord, *
for with the Lord there is mercy;

With him there is plenteous redemption, *
and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

The First Reading

Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, “Mortal, can these bones live?” I answered, “O Lord God, you know.” Then he said to me, “Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord.” So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, “Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.” I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. Then he said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.’ Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act,” says the Lord.

Reader: The Word of the Lord
People: Thanks be to God

Canticle – A Song of Ezekiel

Officiant: I will take you from among all nations; *
People: And gather you from all lands to bring you home.
I will sprinkle clean water upon you; *
and purify you from false gods and uncleanness.
A new heart I will give you *
and a new spirit put within you.
I will take the stone heart from your chest *
and give you a heart of flesh.
I will help you walk in my laws *
and cherish my commandments and do them.
You shall be my people, *
and I will be your God.
Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, “Lord, he whom you love is ill.”

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.” Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” She said to him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.” When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.” And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him.

Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!”

But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?” Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.” Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?” So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.” When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.” Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord

**People:** Thanks be to God

**The Homily**

_Father Patrick_
Hymn

Introduction

1 Praise the Spirit in creation, breath of God, life’s or-i-gin:
2 Praise the Spirit, close companion of our in-most thoughts and ways;
3 Praise the Spirit, who enlight-en ed priests and pro- phets with the word;
4 Tell of how the a-scend-ed Je-sus armed a people for his own;
5 Pray we then, O Lord the Spirit, on our lives de-scend in might;
6 Praise, O praise the Ho-ly Spirit, praise the Fa-ther, praise the worlds to life with-in, source of breath to all things.

1 Spirit, moving on the wa-ters, quick-en ing; the power to gaze; and God’s will, to those who
2 who, in show-ing us God’s won-ders, is him-self; self the power to gaze; and God’s will, to those who
3 his the truth be-hind the wis-doms which as-yet know not our Lord; by whose love and power, in
4 own; how a hun-dred men and wo-men turned the known world up-side down, to its dark and fur-thest
5 might; let your flame break out with-in us, fire our hearts and clear our sight, till, white-hot in your pos-
6 Word, Source, and Truth, and In-spi-ra-tion, Trin-i-t-y in deep ac-cord: through your voice which speaks with

Interlude/Conclusion

1 breathing, life in whom all lives be-gin.
2 listen by a still small voice conveys.
3 Je-sus God him-self was seen and heard.
4 cor-ners by the wind of heaven blown.
5 ses-sion, we, too, set the world a-light.
6 in us we, your crea-tures, call you Lord.

Julion
The Apostles’ Creed

Officiant and People:

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.
The Prayers

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

*Officiant and People:*

*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.*

*Officiant:* Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;
*People:* Govern and uphold them, now and always.
*Officiant:* Day by day we bless you;
*People:* We praise your Name for ever.
*Officiant:* Lord, keep us from all sin today;
*People:* Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.
*Officiant:* Lord, show us your love and mercy;
*People:* For we put our trust in you.
*Officiant:* In you, Lord, is our hope;
*People:* And we shall never hope in vain.
The Collects

Officiant: Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen

Officiant: God our strong deliverer: when those charged with the urgent mediation of your healing power feel overwhelmed by the numbers of the suffering, uphold them in their fatigue and banish their despair. Let them see with your eyes, so that they may know all their patients as precious. Give comfort, and renew their energy and compassion, for the sake of Jesus in whom is our life and our hope.

People: Amen

Officiant: Loving God, inspire by your Holy Spirit those who are afraid of losing hope. Give them a fresh vision of your love, that they may find again what they fear they have lost. Grant them your powerful deliverance; through the One who makes all things new, Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

People: Amen

Intercessions

The Officiant bids the prayers of the people, who may offer intercession for those on their hearts and minds, either silently or aloud).

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Officiant and People: Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God

Officiant: Glory to God, whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever.

People: Amen.