



THE FEAST OF NICHOLAS FERRAR
DEACON, 1637
THE LITURGY OF THE WORD
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2ND, 2020 | 10:00 AM

ORDER OF SERVICE

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Blessed the Lord who forgives all our sins;

People *His mercy endures for ever.*

Celebrant

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these." *Mark 12:29-31*

CONFESSION OF SIN

Celebrant

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Celebrant and People say together

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

ABSOLUTION

Please stand as you are able.

Celebrant continues

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.**

THE TRISAGION

Repeat three times.

Celebrant Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One,

People *Have mercy upon us.*

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

Lord God, make us worthy of your perfect love; that, with your deacon Nicholas Ferrar and his household, we may rule ourselves according to your Word, and serve you with our whole heart; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

LESSON

Please be seated.

Reader A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Galatians.

Galatians 6:7-10

⁷Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. ⁸If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh; but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. ⁹So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. ¹⁰So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

GOSPEL

Please stand as you are able.

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Luke 10:38–42

³⁸Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. ³⁹She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. ⁴⁰But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." ⁴¹But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; ⁴²there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.

People *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

SERMON THE REVEREND JIM COOK, ASSISTING PRIEST

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Reader The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Reader Let us pray.

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishop(s); for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church. *Silence*

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people, especially those suffering from COVID-19, those caring for them, and those working on treatments. Pray for justice and peace. *Silence*

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, those on the prayer list of our parish, and those in prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble, especially victims of Gulf Coast hurricanes and Western wildfires. *Silence*

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him. Pray that they may find and be found by him. *Silence*

I ask your prayers for the departed. Pray for those who have died, especially Maggie Straub, friend of Phyllis Day. *Silence*

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day. *Silence*

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY

Celebrant

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

We are grateful for your tax-deductible contributions, which enable us to continue our work.
Click [here](#) to give on-line; or text a dollar amount followed by the word “pledge” to 833-948-2161;
or mail a check to: St. Luke’s on the Lake Episcopal Church | 5600 RR 620 N | Austin, TX 78732

OFFERTORY SONG

DOXOLOGY

The gifts are presented and placed on the Altar.

Celebrant And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Celebrant and People say together

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy Name,

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those

who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory,

for ever and ever. Amen.

A GENERAL THANKSGIVING

Celebrant and People say together

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love.

We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side.

We thank you for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us.

We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.

Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.

Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know him and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. Amen.

BLESSING

Celebrant

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you this day and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

DISMISSAL

Celebrant

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

WORSHIP MINISTERS

Preacher & Celebrant: *The Reverend Jim Cook, Assisting Priest* | Reader: *Patti Peacock* | Technology Support: *Brad Powell*

PARISH PRAYER LIST

Contact office@stlukesonthelake.org to add yourself or a loved one to this list.

Names remain on this list for four weeks unless otherwise requested.

Names of those who have died are read during Prayers of the People for two weeks.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation, especially:

These Members and Loved Ones Serving Our Country: Amos, Brian, Christine F., Christine M., Christopher, Isabelle, Jacob, Jason, Mark, Marshall, Phillip, Raymond, Russell, Scott, Travis, Weston.

These Members and Loved Ones Who Are COVID-19 Heroes: Anna, April, Aurelia, Bethany, Beau, Brenda, Brett, Christine, Daryl, Dennis, Dustin, Elizabeth, Jason, Jenny, Jim, Laura, Lucia, Michelle, Niki, Noël, Pito, Rick & Wendy, Riley, Ryan, Sherry, Sterling, Tamara.

Those Whose Needs Have Been Made Known to Us: Beverly, Breese, Caitlin, Carol, Carol & Ross, Cathy, Chris G., Chris M., Christy and David, Corinne, Craig, Dana, Deborah, Donnie, Eleanor, Elle & Jared, George, Hester, Joan, JoAnne, John F., John H., John & Suzy, Karen, Julia, & Jack, Kristi, Marilyn, Mark, Mary, Mary Alice, Nelle, Pat, Rachel, Russ, the Family of Lauren Hinton Kirk, the Clement Family, the Labit Family, the Roberts Family, the Watson Family.

Those Who Have Died: Maggie Straub, friend of Phyllis Day; Mary Duggan, wife of Jan Duggan and mother and grandmother of the Tabor Family.

All St. Luke's Ministry and Mission Partners, including our St. Luke's workers in the field: K & K & children, V.B..

The Staff of Dell Children's Hospital, especially those serving patients in PICU, Mental Health, and 3-Central.

Bless and guide the ministry and mission of St. Luke's, especially: Children, Youth, and Family Ministries and disaster relief.

THE FEAST OF NICHOLAS FERRAR DEACON, 1637

Nicholas Ferrar (1592–1637) was the founder of a religious community at Little Gidding, Huntingdonshire, England, which existed from 1626 to 1646. His family had been prominent in the affairs of the Virginia Company, but when that company was dissolved, he took deacon's orders, and retired to the country.

At Little Gidding, his immediate family and a few friends and servants gave themselves wholly to religious observance. They restored the derelict church near the manor house, became responsible for services there, taught many of the local children, and looked after the health and well-being of the people of the neighborhood. A regular round of prayer according to the Book of Common Prayer was observed, along with the daily recital of the whole of the Psalter. The members of the community became widely known for fasting, private prayer and meditation, and for writing stories and books illustrating themes of Christian faith and morality.

One of the most interesting of the activities of the Little Gidding community was the preparation of "harmonies" of the Gospels, one of which was presented to King Charles I by the Ferrar family.

The community did not long survive the death of Nicholas Ferrar. However, the memory of the religious life at Little Gidding was kept alive, principally through Izaak Walton's description in his *Life of George Herbert*: "He (Ferrar) and his family ... did most of them keep Lent and all Ember-weeks strictly, both in fasting and using all those mortifications and prayers that the Church hath appointed ... and he and they did the like constantly on Fridays, and on the vigils or eves appointed to be fasted before the Saints' days; and this frugality and abstinence turned to the relief of the poor ..."

The community became an important symbol for many Anglicans when religious orders began to revive. Its life inspired T.S. Eliot, and he gave the title, "Little Gidding," to the last of his *Four Quartets*, one of the great religious poems of the twentieth century.