

The Word of God

In the spirit of penitence there are no preludes or postludes during Lent, except for Lætare Sunday (Lent 4)

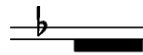
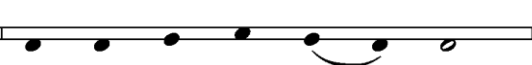
Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.
People His mercy endures for ever.

BCP p. 351

THE DECALOGUE

The people kneel.

BCP pg. 350

<i>Celebrant, Deacon, or Cantor</i>	<i>People</i>
	
<i>(Each commandment monotoned)</i>	A - men. Lord, have mer - cy.

Hear the commandments of God to his people: I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage. You shall have no other gods but me. *Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not make for yourself any idol. *Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God. *Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy. *Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Honor your father and your mother. *Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit murder. *Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit adultery. *Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not steal. *Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not be a false witness. *Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor. *Amen. Lord have mercy.*

CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP 352

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

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.

The Priest stands and says

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.*

KYRIE (*Franz Schubert*) (The "S" numbers are found at the front of the blue hymnal)

S 96

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, —
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord,
Christ, —
Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, — have mer - cy. Lord,
Lord, —
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

The Celebrant prays the Collect

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 12:1-4a

The people sit.

Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” So Abram went, as the Lord had told him.

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

PSALM

Psalm 121 | St. Noël Chabanel

Sung by the Choir. The Congregation is invited to join in the antiphon.

ANTIPHON 

Our help is from the Lord, who made heav'n and earth.

I lift up my eyes toward the mountains;
whence shall help come to me?
My help is from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth. **ANTIPHON**

The LORD is your guardian; the LORD is your shade;
he is beside you at your right hand.
The sun shall not harm you by day,
nor the moon by night. **ANTIPHON**

May he not suffer your foot to slip;
may he slumber not who guards you:
indeed he neither slumbers nor sleeps,
the guardian of Israel. **ANTIPHON**

The LORD will guard you from all evil;
he will guard your life.
The LORD will guard your coming and your going,
both now and forever. **ANTIPHON**

SECOND LESSON

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

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

SEQUENCE HYMN | *There’s a wideness in God’s mercy (St. Helena)*
The people stand. Verses 1 - 2 before the Gospel; verse 3 after the Gospel.

Hymnal 469

THE GOSPEL

John 3:1-17

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

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The people sit.

THE NICENE CREED

BCP p. 358

The people stand.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

BCP pg. 389

The people kneel or stand. The Leader and people pray responsively.

Leader In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy."
For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the day of your coming, we pray to you, O Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Leader For Sarah, Archbishop of Canterbury, Sean our Presiding Bishop, for John our own Bishop, for all bishops and other ministers, and for all the holy people of God, we pray to you, O Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Leader For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease, and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Leader For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Leader For those who do not yet believe, and for those who have lost their faith, that they may receive the light of the Gospel, we pray to you, O Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Leader For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Leader For those in positions of public trust especially Donald our President, and Bill our Governor, that they may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Leader For all who live and work in this community, we pray to you, O Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Leader For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Leader For this congregation for those who are present, and for those who are absent, that we may be delivered from hardness of heart, and show forth your glory in all that we do, we pray to you, O Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Leader For our enemies and those who wish us harm, and for all whom we have injured or offended, we pray to you, O Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Leader For all who have commended themselves to our prayers; for our families, friends, and neighbors; that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health, we pray to you, O Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Leader For [*Here the intercessor adds the specific intercessions and thanksgivings of the congregation*], we pray to you, O Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Leader For all who have died in the communion of your Church, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord.

People Lord, have mercy.

Leader Rejoicing in the fellowship of blessed Paul, and all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

People To you, O Lord our God.

Silence.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

THE PEACE

The people stand.

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

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY | *My Eyes for Beauty Pine*
The people sit.

Elizabeth and Thomas Coxhead

My eyes for beauty pine,
My soul for Goddës grace:
No other care nor hope is mine,
To heaven I turn my face.

One splendour thence is shed
From all the stars above:
'Tis named when God's name is said,
'Tis Love, 'tis heavenly Love.

And every gentle heart,
That burns with true desire,
Is lit from eyes that mirror part
Of that celestial fire.

[Robert Bridges, 1890]

THE DOXOLOGY
The people stand.

Hymnal 380 v. 3

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

BCP p. 361

The Celebrant says

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift us 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 him thanks and praise.

The Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS (*Franz Schubert*)

S 130

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

The People stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, 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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP p. 364

The Celebrant continues

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

Celebrant and People

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, forever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

BCP 364

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

give us your peace, give us your peace.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

NOTE ON RECEIVING COMMUNION: *All baptized Christians are invited to receive the sacrament regardless of age or denomination. Those who have not been baptized are welcome to receive a blessing—indicate your desire for a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. Intercessory prayer teams are available to pray with you at the back of the nave.*

COMMUNION MUSIC | *O God, Beyond All Praising*
 Nancy Bieschke, *flute*

Charles Callahan

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP p. 365

The people kneel or stand. The Celebrant says
 Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SOLEMN PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

Let us bow down before the Lord.

The ministers and people kneel. The Celebrant then prays

Keep this your family, Lord, with your never-failing mercy, that relying solely on the help of your heavenly grace, they may be upheld by your divine protection; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

POST-COMMUNION HYMN | *Lift high the cross (Crucifer)*

Hymnal 473

The people stand.

The Deacon, or the Celebrant, dismisses the People with these words

Let us bless the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

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The Rev. Dr. Kristine Blaess, Rector

The Rev. Michael Whitnah, Associate Rector

The Rev. Funmi Odidi, Volunteer Priest Associate

The Rev. Deacon Josh Wilson, Pastoral Resident

Dr. Sean Vogt, Director of Music

Lectors: Kris McCusker, Gary Wilkes

Intercessor: Cleve Harrison

Chalice Bearer: Jim Calder, Marta Van Hoose

Prayer Team: David Loucky, Nancy Loucky, Michael Sykes, Tanya Sykes

Acolytes: Isaac Dickey, Caroline Stewart, JB Roach, Nich Roach

Ushers: Debbie Harris, Donna Gunter

Altar Guild: Gina Garner, Jim Calder, Beverly Calder, Holly Cunningham, Krystal Marsh, Macie Peek, Mary Hooper

Technical Team: Don Whitfield, Matt Uhles

PRAYER CONCERNS

For those with cancer: Anne, Betsy, Dennis, Earl, Jeff, Katarina, Leigh, Lois, Margaret, Mark, Marsha, Mary Beth, Matt, Maxine, Molly, Pat, Sage, Sherry, Tiffany, Tim, and Trevor.

For those in cancer remission: Andie, Jim, and Mandy.

For those healing from surgery: Aidan, James, Jim, Linda, and Wayne.

For those with disabilities, their families, and their caregivers.

For those experiencing mental health issues.

For those with other needs: Alyssa, Arthur, Beverly, Bernice, Bobby, Byrena, The Chaney Family, Chloe, Cindy, Dan, David, Dimitri, Don, Elsie, Greg, Jane, Jess, Emily, Erika, Hannah, Henry, Jack, Jerry, Kandace, Kim, Kristin, Lisa, Marcie, Marion, Martha, Miranda, Nico, Nicole, The Peyton Family, Poston, Ray, Vanessa, Waylon, and Zach.

For those imprisoned including: Abu-Ali, Charlie, Corinio, Gregory, Joe, Michael Tyrone, and Tyler.

For those experiencing homelessness including: Adrienne, Andrea, Carol, Cindy, Connie, Deborah, Donna, Jacki, Jeri, Jessica, Joe, Kanasha, Kelsey, Kimberley, Kristi, Laura, Leanna, Lori, Melissa, Renada, Sharon, Tiffany, and Trista.

For all veterans and those in military service and their families, including: Benjamin, Brianna, Chris, Evan, Jeffrey, Josh, Kaitlin, Topher, Trevor, and Sean.

WORSHIP AND CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

- 7:30 a.m. | Rite I Service with Gospel Piano
- 8:45 a.m. | Rite II Ancient and Modern Service with Children's Church
- 10:00 a.m. | Christian Education Hour
 - Rector's Forum | Sundays, 10:00 a.m. | Redeeming Time: The Book of Common Prayer and the Christian Life
 - Adult Confirmation Class | begins Sunday, February 22 | 9:45 a.m. | Christian Education Rooms 2-3, Parish Hall, 1st floor. This course explores the question, "What does it mean to belong to the Episcopal Church and to St. Paul's?" It is designed for people who wish to commit themselves to this parish as their faith community, who want to know more about it, or who are already confirmed but want to strengthen their understanding. Please contact David Rowe at drowe@bellsouth.net or 615-631-1088.
 - Adults: Parents' Group | Wise Room, Parish Hall, 2nd floor
"To become a parent is to be entrusted with something infinity precious: a human life." Join us for a rich exploration of Holly Taylor Coolman's book, *Parenting: The Complex and Beautiful Vocation of Raising Children*.
 - Children: Catechesis: Atrium I (Age 3-Kindergarten), Atrium II (Grades 1-3), & Atrium III (Grades 4-5) | Parish Hall, 2nd floor
 - Youth: Sunday School | With Rector's Forum in the Parish hall during Lent
- 11:00 a.m. | Rite II Service with choir, organ, and livestream

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Scatter Survey

Let's have a conversation about how reaffirming our faith on Sunday helps inform how we live our lives the rest of the week. We're inviting everyone to take part in the Made to Flourish Scatter Survey. This short survey is designed to help churches understand an important question: Where are our people Monday through Saturday? Scan the QR code to the left to access the Scatter Survey. We want to hear from you!

Lenten Soup Suppers | Wednesdays | 5:30-7:00 pm. | Parish Hall

During Lent, we gather on Wednesday evenings to enjoy a potluck soup supper and teaching. This year, a team of lay leaders will facilitate reflections on Jesus' journey to the Cross, the *Via Delarosa*, using scripture, artwork, and prayer. Everyone is welcome to purchase "Praying the Stations of the Cross" by Margaret Parker and Katherine Sonderegger, the study guide for our sessions. Join us as we walk together with Jesus. Use the QR code to sign up to bring soup!



Evening Prayer with the Great Litany | Wednesdays | 5:00 p.m. | St. Andrew's Chapel.

"Good Lord, deliver us." During this solemn season of Lent, come pray the ancient words of the Great Litany. We offer this extended time of intercession and supplication trusting that sovereign grace of God holds us fast "especially in times of war, or of national anxiety, or of disaster" (BCP pg. 154).

Stations of the Cross | Fridays during Lent | 6:00 p.m. | Nave

Walk through the Nave and pray ancient prayers of devotion, contemplating the divine sacrifice of the cross.

Men's Club | Thursday, March 5 | 5:30 p.m. fellowship; 6:00 p.m. dinner | Parish Hall

Ken Hadley will supply fried chicken for the entree. Join us for a time of fellowship. Contact Ken 631-920-5300 for side dish suggestions or any questions you may have.

Over 70 Birthday Luncheon | Tuesday, March 10 | 11:30 a.m. | Parish Hall

Senior parishioners (70+), please mark your calendars for the Senior Luncheon celebrating you. You can sign up on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall or by contacting the front office (615-893-3780 or frontoffice@stpaulsmurfreesboro.org). For more information about the luncheon or how to help contact Kelly Goodman (kellyogoodman@comcast.net).

Offering

To make an offering online with your debit/credit card, scan the QR code with your smart phone camera. A link will appear, click on it to open our website's giving page. You can select the fund you want to give to (i.e. pledge fulfillment, general offering, CONNECT, etc.) and leave a note in the memo line, if desired. Text giving is also available, text GIVESTPAULS to 73256 (ex., GIVESTPAULS \$100).

