



St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Seeking to see and serve Christ in all persons

**The Fourth Sunday of Lent
March 10, 2024 • 10:30 AM
Holy Eucharist Rite II**

The service begins on page 350 of The Book of Common Prayer and is printed here in its entirety.

The Opening Hymn

The glory of these forty days
Hymnal 143

The Liturgy of the Word

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.
People God's mercy endures forever.

The Decalogue

Celebrant 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.

People *Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Celebrant You shall not make for yourself any idol.

People *Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Celebrant You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

People *Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Celebrant Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

People *Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Celebrant Honor your father and your mother.

People Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant You shall not commit murder.

People Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant You shall not commit adultery.

People Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant You shall not steal.

People Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant You shall not be a false witness.

People Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

People Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

The Celebrant continues

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.

The Kyrie

Hymnal S 91

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The First Reading ~ Numbers 21:4 - 9

From Mount Hor the Israelites set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The Psalm ~ 107:1 - 3, 17 - 22 (See page 12 of the bulletin.)

Sung by the choir and congregation alternating verses.

The Second Reading ~ Ephesians 2:1 - 10

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ-- by grace you have been saved-- and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God-- not

the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The Sequence Hymn

My faith looks up to thee
Hymnal 691

The Holy Gospel ~ John 3:14 - 21

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, “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. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Canon John Thompson-Quartey

A period of silent prayer.

The Nicene Creed

All say together

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 — Form IV

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Lector Lord, in your mercy
People Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Lector Lord, in your mercy
People Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Lector Lord, in your mercy
People Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Bless our Nominating Committee, Philip, Lisa, Kasey, Brother, Katie, J.J., and Bill, and our Vestry, Marianne, Tony, Marge, Anne, Mary Frances, Polly, Sarah, Elizabeth, and Roy that they may be guided by your Holy Spirit.

Bless those who celebrate birthdays this week, especially Kasey, Kelsey, Nicole, Kevin, and Wendy.

Lector Lord, in your mercy
People *Hear our prayer.*

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

Lector Lord, in your mercy
People *Hear our prayer.*

We commend to your mercy all who have died, especially Rena, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Lector Lord, in your mercy
People *Hear our prayer.*

The Prayer In Times of Conflict [*prayed by all*]

O God, you have bound us together in a common life. Help us, in the midst of our struggles for justice and truth, to confront one another without hatred or bitterness, and to work together with mutual forbearance and respect; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. {BCP page 824}

Celebrant continues with concluding collect

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Peace

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

The Announcements

The Blessings and Thanksgivings

The Offertory Sentence

The Holy Communion

The Offertory Anthem

God So Loved the World
John Stainer

The Presentation Hymn

Father, we thank thee who hast planted
Hymnal 302

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up 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.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you. 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:

The Sanctus

Hymnal S 124

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 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.

The Great Amen

Hymnal S 143



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

People and Celebrant

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.

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

The Fraction Anthem

Hymnal S 161

Holy Communion is offered via the common cup for sipping or intinction (dipping the wafer into the wine). Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. A mobility impaired individual can receive communion at your seat by raising your hand.

Celebrant The gifts of God for the People of God.

The Communion Anthem

Sweet Sacrament Divine

Rev. F. Stanfield

The Communion Hymn

Please stand at the last verse

My God, thou table now is spread

Hymnal 321

The Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant 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.

Prayer for those Not Receiving the Blessed Sacrament

[Adapted from Saint Augustine's Prayer Book. For those not present in the Nave.]

Blessed Jesus, in union with the faithful of every place and people and nation, I join in offering the sacrifice of my praise and thanksgiving to you. I believe that you are truly present in the Bread that has been blessed, broken and given. Since I cannot now receive this holy sacrament, I pray that you will come spiritually into my heart. Abide with me, that I may embrace you entirely, and submit myself to your love and mercy. Let me never be separated from you, that in my waking and in my sleeping I may know the comfort of your presence. I ask this for the sake of your love. *Amen.*

The Blessing

The Closing Hymn

Lift high the cross

Hymnal 473

The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People Thanks be to God.

Remember in your Prayers

A Prayer to Start My Day (From The Daughters of the King): Lord, You have given me another day of life; let me celebrate this day, and let me use it according to Your plan. I praise You, Father, for my life and for the friends and family members who make it rich.

Enable me to live each moment to the fullest as I give thanks for Your creation, for Your love, and for Your Son. Amen.

We pray for those with timely concerns: Roger Hines, Bo Warren, Gloria Crook, Ernie Williams, Andrew Davis, Saralyn Singletary, Bella Pacini, Connie Edge, Sue Woodward, Kathryn Martin, Ron Wilson, Bill Garrett, Madelyn Barrow, Karen Mosley, Barbara Marshall.

We pray for those with ongoing concerns: Greg Parsons, Annie Bulford, Kelsey Crow, Anne Murphy, Jim Myrick, Ashton Hughes, Lanie Mae Henderson, Lamar Toole, Elizabeth Briscoe, William ‘Parker’ Johnson, Al Williams, Paul Sherman, Robert Hicks.

We pray for the members of the Vestry: Marianne, Tony, Marge, Anne, Mary Frances, Polly, Sarah, Elizabeth, and Roy and for the Staff: Canon John, Nicole, Rhett, Dawn, Geoff, Cole, Nicole, Kimberly.

We pray for members of the Rector Nominating Committee: Philip Hand, Lisa Beerman, Kasey Bulford, Brother Massenburg, Katie McBride-Newman, J.J. Thomasson, and Bill Tudor.

We pray for members of our armed services and their families: Phil Kearney, Kevin Bradley, Joe Clay, Tom Choate, Linda Boyce, Dariel Johnson, Sean McGraw, Steven Puckett, Bill Tudor, Jr., Scott Woodward, Luke White, Tommy White, Zach Simkins, Jacob Britt, Morgen Davis, Luke Eason, Michael Rafferty, David Norwood, Arron Essex, Adam Harrison, Sam Vermilyea, Charles Mathews, Cameron Everett, Lanier Sealy, Beau Massenburg, Ryan Whitfield, Stephen Malcom, Victoria Eversoll, Trey Bland.

We give thanks for the lives of those celebrating birthdays this week: Kasey Bulford, Kelsey Crow, Nicole Edwards, Kevin Scott, and Wendy LeVan.

We pray for those who have died, especially Rena McMichael. Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them. Amen.

Service Participants

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| Vestry Person of the Week | Tony King |
| Vergers | Frankey Henderson & Brother Massenburg |
| Eucharistic Ministers | Wendy LeVan & Carolyn Masters |
| Acolytes | Lanie Mae Henderson (1st); Jude Henderson (2nd); Kate Howell (Banner); Jaden & Zach Reynolds (Torchbearers) |
| Reader(s) | Emily Benjamin |

Prayer Intercessors

Ushers

Altar Guild

Betsy Candler & Bill Harrison

Virginia Williams, Danny Brown, Mike Colpoys,

Taylor Josey, Mark LeVan, Justin Nieto, & John Tucker

Amanda Hand & Louise Howard

Parish Notices

Clean up Day: Join us on Saturday, March 16th at 9 am - 12 pm to help us clean up the sanctuary and grounds in preparation for Easter. If you can only stay an hour, please come. If you can't attend that day at all, let us know whether you can help before or after that date.

Men's Club: The St. Paul's Men's Club will hold it's monthly dinner/meeting, Sunday, March 17th at 6:00 PM in the Parish Hall. ALL men are cordially invited to help us solve all the problems of the world in one evening and celebrate St. Patrick's Day. Good comradery. Please contact Bob Heaberlin (770) 316-8533 or heabies5@numail.org if you plan to attend.

Everybody Dance: Join us in the Parish Hall every month on 3rd Tuesday from 9:00 - 9:45 am, experiencing a joyful dance-centered time facilitated by Anne Graner. For more details, visit Realm or review the Friday newsletter. The next session is March 19th.

Centering Prayer: Join us for a day of Contemplative Prayer and Meditation. Canon John and Seminarian, Nicole Walters, will lead this ancient prayer practice every third Tuesday of the month in the Transept Chapel at 5:30 pm for Centering Prayer. The next session is March 19th.

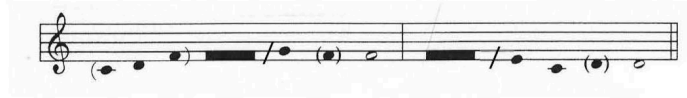
Holy Week and Easter: To view the schedule for Holy Week and Easter, sign up for an Easter Day bulletin dedication, along with various volunteer opportunities, please use the QR code.



Confirmation: Canon John will begin a six-week confirmation class using the book "I Will with God's Help." Parents who would like to have their children confirmed should speak with Canon John or email him at canonjohn@stpaulsnewnan.org as soon as possible. A date for the beginning of the classes will be shared later.

Lay Pastoral Care Training: We will be beginning training for pastoral care providers using the Community of Hope International (COHI) curriculum. If you are interested in becoming part of our pastoral care team, please speak with Canon John or email him at canonjohn@stpaulsnewnan.org.

Psalm 107:1-3,17-22



Choir 1 Give thanks to the LORD, for /he is good, *
and his mercy en/dures forever.

All 2 Let all those whom the LORD has redeemed /proclaim *
that he redeemed them from the hand /of the foe.

Choir 3 He gathered them out of /the lands; *
from the east and from the west, from the north and /from the south.

All 17 Some were fools and took to rebell/ious ways; *
they were afflicted because /of their sins.

Choir 18 They abhorred all manner /of food *
and drew near to /death's door.

All 19 Then they cried to the LORD in /their trouble, *
and he delivered them from /their distress.

Choir 20 He sent forth his word /and healed them *
and saved them /from the grave.

All 21 Let them give thanks to the LORD for /his mercy *
and the wonders he does /for his children.

Choir 22 Let them offer a sacrifice of /thanksgiving *
and tell of his acts with /shouts of joy.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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CLERGY AND Staff

Rev. Canon C. John Thompson-Quartey, Interim Rector; **Nicole Walters**, Seminarian; **Rhett Barnwell**, Organist/Choirmaster; **Dawn Harrison**, Music Associate; **Geoff Mattera**, Communications Director; **Cole Hankins**, Multimedia Associate; **Nicole Edwards**, Parish Administrator; **Kimberly Stokes**, Financial Administrator.

VESTRY

Marianne Lawhead, Senior Warden; **Tony King**, Junior Warden; **Marge Bass**, Health & Healing; **Anne Graner**, Outreach; **Mary Frances Honea**, Strategic Visioning; **Polly Hopkins**, Formation; **Sarah Huxford**, Stewardship; **Elizabeth Pape**, Parish Life; **Roy Reynolds**, Communications.

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