

# HOLY EUCHARIST RITE I

*March 29, 2026 8:00 A.M.*



*Palm*  
SUNDAY

# THE LITURGY OF THE PALMS

*Presider* Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord.

**BCP 270**

*People* **Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.**

*Presider* Let us pray.

Assist us mercifully with your help, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts, whereby you have given us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## A READING FROM THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

**MATTHEW 21:1-11**

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, "Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey." The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!" When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?" The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Presider* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*Then the Presider continues*

It is right to praise you, Almighty God, for the acts of love by which you have redeemed us through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. On this day he entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph, and was proclaimed as King of kings by those who spread their garments and branches of palm along his way. Let these branches be for us signs of his victory, and grant that we who bear them in his name may ever hail him as our King, and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life; who lives and reigns in glory with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Presider*  
*People*

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

*Presider*  
*People*

Let us go forth in peace.  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**



# THE WORD OF GOD

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP 319

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

*The Presider reads one of the following*

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith:

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all they heart, and with all they soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hand all the Law and the Prophets. *Matthew 22:37-40*

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us; but if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *1 John 1:8,9*

Seeing that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need. *Hebrews 4:14,16*

## CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP 320

*Presider* Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

**Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep, we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, we have offended against thy holy laws, we have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, spare thou those who confess their faults, restore thou those who are penitent, according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord; and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.**

## ABSOLUTION

BCP 321

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*Presider* Lord, have mercy.  
*People* **Christ, have mercy.**  
*Presider* Lord, have mercy

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

*The Collect of the Day, Psalm and readings can be found in the insert.*

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

### A READING FROM THE BOOK OF THE PROPHET ISAIAH

ISAIAH 50:4-9A

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM 31:9-16 (said in unison)

INSERT

### A READING FROM THE LETTER TO THE PHILIPPIANS

PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## THE PASSION ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Matthew: Hear the passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew. One of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said,

Judas: What will you give me if I betray him to you?

Matthew: They paid him thirty pieces of silver. And from that moment he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying,

**Disciples: Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?**

Matthew: Jesus said,

Jesus: Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, 'The Teacher says, My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.'

Matthew: So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal. When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve; and while they were eating, he said,

Jesus: Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me.

Matthew: And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another,

**Disciples: Surely not I, Lord?**

Matthew: Jesus answered,

Jesus: The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born.

Matthew: Judas, who betrayed him, said,

Judas: Surely not I, Rabbi?

Matthew: Jesus replied,

Jesus: You have said so.

Matthew: While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said,

Jesus: Take, eat; this is my body.

Matthew: Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying,

Jesus: Drink from it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.

Matthew: When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. Then Jesus said to them,

Jesus: You will all become deserters because of me this night; for it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.' But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you to Galilee.

Matthew: Peter said to him,

Peter: Though all become deserters because of you, I will never desert you.

Matthew: Jesus said to him,

Jesus: Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.

Matthew: Peter said to him,

Peter: Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.

Matthew: And so said all the disciples. Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples,

Jesus: Sit here while I go over there and pray.

Matthew: He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated. Then he said to them,

Jesus: I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me.

Matthew: And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed,

Jesus: My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what

you want.

Matthew: Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter,

Jesus: So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

Matthew: Again he went away for the second time and prayed,

Jesus: My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.

Matthew: Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. Then he came to the disciples and said to them,

Jesus: Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.

Matthew: While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying,

Judas: The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him.

Matthew: At once he came up to Jesus and said,

Judas: Greetings, Rabbi!

Matthew: and kissed him. Jesus said to him,

Jesus: Friend, do what you are here to do.

Matthew: Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested him. Suddenly, one of those with Jesus put his hand on his sword, drew it, and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. Then Jesus said to him,

Jesus: Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then would the scriptures be fulfilled, which say it must happen in this way?

Matthew: At that hour Jesus said to the crowds,

Jesus: Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But all this has taken place, so that the scriptures of the prophets may be fulfilled.

Matthew: Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas the high priest, in whose house the scribes and the elders had gathered. But Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest; and going inside, he sat with the guards in order to see how this would end. Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they might put him to death, but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward and said,

Witnesses: This fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.'

Matthew: The high priest stood up and said,

High Priest: Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?

Matthew: But Jesus was silent. Then the high priest said to him,

High Priest: I put you under oath before the living God, tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God.

Matthew: Jesus said to him,

Jesus: You have said so. But I tell you, From now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.

Matthew: Then the high priest tore his clothes and said,

High Priest: He has blasphemed! Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy. What is your verdict?

Matthew: They answered,

**Priests: He deserves death.**

Matthew: Then they spat in his face and struck him; and some slapped him, saying,

**Priests: Prophecy to us, you Messiah! Who is it that struck you?**

Matthew: Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A servant-girl came to him and said,

Servant Girl 1: You also were with Jesus the Galilean.

Matthew: But he denied it before all of them, saying,

Peter: I do not know what you are talking about.

Matthew: When he went out to the porch, another servant-girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders,

Servant Girl 2: This man was with Jesus of Nazareth.

Matthew: Again he denied it with an oath,

Peter: I do not know the man.

Matthew: After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter,

**Crowd: Certainly you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you.**

Matthew: Then he began to curse, and he swore an oath,

Peter: I do not know the man!

Matthew: At that moment the cock crowed. Then Peter remembered what Jesus had said: 'Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.' And he went out and wept bitterly.

When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people conferred together against Jesus in order to bring about his death. They bound him, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate the governor.

When Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned, he repented and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders. He said,

Judas: I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.

Matthew: But they said,

**Priests: What is that to us? See to it yourself.**

Matthew: Throwing down the pieces of silver in the temple, he departed; and he went and hanged himself. But the chief priests, taking the pieces of silver, said,

**Priests: It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since they are blood money.**

Matthew: After conferring together, they used them to buy the potter's field as a place to bury foreigners. For this reason that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah, 'And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of the one on whom a price had been set, on whom some of the people of Israel had set a price, and they gave them for the potter's field, as the Lord commanded me.'

Matthew: Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him,

Pilate: Are you the King of the Jews?

Matthew: Jesus said,

Jesus: You say so.

Matthew: But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. Then Pilate said to him,

Pilate: Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?

Matthew: But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed. Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. At that time they had a notorious prisoner, called Jesus Barabbas. So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them,

Pilate: Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?

Matthew: For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him,

Pilate's wife: Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him.

Matthew: Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. The governor again said to them,

Pilate: Which of the two do you want me to release for you?

Matthew: And they said,

**Crowd: Barabbas.**

Matthew: Pilate said to them,

Pilate: Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?

Matthew: All of them said,

**Crowd: Let him be crucified!**

Matthew: Then he asked,

Pilate: Why, what evil has he done?

Matthew: But they shouted all the more,

**Crowd: Let him be crucified!**

Matthew: So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying,

Pilate: I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves.

Matthew: Then the people as a whole answered,

**Crowd: His blood be on us and on our children!**

Matthew: So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified. Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying,

**Soldiers: Hail, King of the Jews!**

Matthew: They spat on him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him. As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; then they sat down there and kept watch over him. Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, 'This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.' Then two bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying,

**Crowd: You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross.**

Matthew: In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying,

**Crowd: He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to; for he said, 'I am God's Son.'**

Matthew: The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way. From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice,

Jesus: Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?

Matthew: that is,

Jesus: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Matthew: When some of the bystanders heard it, they said,

**Crowd: This man is calling for Elijah.**

Matthew: At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. But the others said,

**Crowd: Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him.**

Matthew: Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many. Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said,

Centurion: Truly this man was God's Son!

Matthew: Many women were also there, looking on from a distance; they had followed Jesus from Galilee and had provided for him. Among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who was also a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus; then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. So Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock. He then rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

The next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate and said,

Priests: **Sir, we remember what that impostor said while he was still alive, 'After three days I will rise again.' Therefore command the tomb to be made secure until the third day; otherwise his disciples may go and steal him away, and tell the people, 'He has been raised from the dead,' and the last deception would be worse than the first.**

Matthew: Pilate said to them,

Pilate: You have a guard of soldiers; go, make it as secure as you can.

Matthew: So they went with the guard and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone.

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

BCP 329

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 For Sarah, the Archbishop of Canterbury; Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Brian, our Bishop; Jonathan, Bishop of our companion diocese of South Dakota; Bailey and Laura, our clergy; Adam, our seminarian; 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 Donald, our President and Bill, our Governor 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.

In the Diocese of East Tennessee, we pray for Christ Church, Rugby and St. Andrew's, Maryville. In our companion Diocese of South Dakota, we pray for: St. John's, Deadwood, our sister parish; Holy Comforter, Lower Brute; St. John the Baptist, Crow Creek; St. Paul, Vermillion. We also pray for Blessed Redeemer, Howe Creek and Our Most Merciful Savior, Santee, Nebraska.

We pray for the Diocese of Haiti, St. John the Evangelist Church and Medical Clinic. In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Anglican Church of Melanesia.

We pray for those in assisted living: Jo Ann Baker, Dianne Davis; Roger Derby; Horia and Shafik Iskander; Allan Reiss; Mary Rhoades.

We pray for our parish members: Wes and Judith Delaney; Roger Derby; Peggy DeVan; Dan DiGregorio

We pray for the women and men who are currently serving in the armed forces at home and abroad, especially Brian Bustle; Courtenay Clary; Reid Hartman; Robert Manrod; Alex Mol; Christopher Zunan.

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.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Stephen, St. Alban, and all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate.  
**Amen.**

## **BLESSINGS FOR BIRTHDAYS AND WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES**

### **THE PEACE**

**BCP 332**

*Presider*      The peace of the Lord be always with you  
*People*        **And with thy spirit.**

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### **OFFERTORY**

### **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER I**

**BCP 333**

*The people remain standing. The priest then says,*

*Presider*      The Lord be with you.  
*People*        **And with thy spirit.**

*Presider*      Lift up your hearts.  
*People*        **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

*Presider*      Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.  
*People*        **It is meet and right so to do.**

*Then the Presider proceeds,*

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who for our sins was lifted high upon the cross, that he might draw the whole world to himself; who by his suffering and death became the author of eternal salvation for all who put their trust in him.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

## SANCTUS

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts: Heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord, Hosanna in the highest.**

*The people kneel or stand. Then the Presider continues,*

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Presider is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.*

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of

praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. *AMEN.*

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

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**BCP 336**

**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 Presider breaks the consecrated Bread and maintains a moment of silence.*

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

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.

**PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS**

**BCP 337**

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.*

*Facing the people, the Presider says the following Invitation*

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

**THE DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION**

*All baptized are welcome to receive communion. All are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing.*

*After Communion, the Presider says*

Let us pray.

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

**BCP 339**

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.*

**SENDING FORTH THE EUCHARISTIC VISITOR**

*Presider* In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go, may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

*People* **Though we are many, we are one, because we share one bread and one cup.**

## THE SOLEMN COLLECT

Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who lives and reigns for ever and ever. *Amen.*

## THE DISMISSAL

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

*The Ambry Candle is given to the glory of God*

## THOSE WHO SERVE TODAY - MARCH 29, 2026

	8:00 A.M.	10:30 A.M.
<b>CRUCIFER</b>		Tate Cavender
<b>ACOLYTES</b>	Jamey Kennedy	Teddy Dantzler, James Henry Norman
<b>LECTORS</b>	Roni Boyd	Leah Bailey
<b>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS</b>	Jamey Kennedy	Ben Shassere, Caleb Justice
<b>USHERS</b>	John Cox, Jim Rousey	Ed Johnson, Judith Delaney
<b>GREETERS</b>	Rhonda Ashburn	Michael Trank
<b>COUNTERS</b>		Betsy Ellis, Beth Bailey
<b>EUCCHARISTIC VISITOR</b>	Judith Delaney	
<b>ALTAR GUILD</b>	Nancy Anderson, Linda Felton, Susan Meredith, Karen Yearwood	
<b>AV TECH</b>	Matthew Doane	
<b>SOURCE MATERIAL</b>	The source material for this service is the Book of Common Prayer, Year A	
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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS - SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2026**

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Please send any bulletin, e-news or calendar announcements by Wednesday, April 1. Fully edited pertinent information, including dates, times, location(s) should be sent to [editor@ststephensor.org](mailto:editor@ststephensor.org). This email goes to both the Parish Office, and Rob Steele III, our E-News editor. Final content is at the discretion of clergy and staff.

### **LOOSE PLATE OFFERING**

**TODAY**

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The loose plate offering for the month of March will go towards Laundry Blessings - a new Outreach ministry. See the e-news for more details.

### **COFFEE AND CONVERSATION**

**TODAY**

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Join us for Coffee and Conversation today after both services.

### **LECTIONARY STUDY**

**EVERY SUNDAY**

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The lectionary study meets each Sunday at 9:30 a.m. in the Pollard Room to discuss the gospel from the day's insert. Discussion is light but informative. Each class is led by a class member who volunteers. Come experience how enriching this Lectionary class can be to your Bible study and understanding.

### **BLESSING BOX IN ACTION!**

**ITEMS NEEDED THIS WEEK**

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Thank you to everyone who is supporting the Blessing Box! Please remember the Blessing Box when you shop. This week, we are requesting donations of small cans/packs chicken or tuna and toilet tissue. They can be placed in the little red wagon in the narthex.

### **MITE BOXES**

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Mite Boxes are available in the Narthex and Hospitality area and will be throughout Lent. Donations will go to the Episcopal Relief and Development Fund (ERDF). More information can be found in the eNews.

### **ADULT EDUCATION THIS SUNDAY**

**TODAY**

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In addition to the Lectionary Study, Fr. Bailey will be leading a series through today titled "Slowing Down to See Hope." It is a course designed by Bailey, inspired by 20 years of pastoral conversations and by some of our recent conversations about our new mission statement at St. Stephen's, on how we can realize God's big hopes for our own lives - and those of our future generations - in the midst of the insane schedules we keep. While the class is for all generations of adults, it will have some emphasis for those who are still navigating the world of raising kids. The format will have a short presentation that will introduce a topic for conversation for the rest of the class. For example, one of the topics will be how we can build meaningful friendships beyond our family that help nourish our deep need for authentic fellowship which gets squelched by all the things we always need to do. The class will be held at 9:30 each Sunday and run through the whole month of March.

This Wednesday will be the final free Lenten Simple Soup Supper. We will be serving Taco Soup, Vegetarian Chili with all the fixings, and Swamp Cabbage Soup. Supper is from 5:30-6:30 and also includes breads and crackers, spreads and fruit

**LIVING WELL THROUGH LENT**

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This Lenten season, we're gathering for *Living Well Through Lent*, a program from Living Compass that invites us to tend to the deeper dimensions of our faith as we move toward Easter. There's space for everyone here—whether you're new to Lenten practices or a longtime traveler of this path. And choir members, you'll have time to leave for practice. This is the kind of gathering that reminds us that formation happens not in isolation, but in community. Together, we're making space for what matters most. These Lenten devotional booklets will be available in the narthex and in the hallway outside of the nave. Wednesdays @ 6:00 p.m. Dinner at 5:30 p.m. Facilitators: Davyda Hammond & Emily Doane

**ECUMENICAL CENTERING PRAYER GROUP**

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All are invited to an ecumenical Centering Prayer group every Tuesday at 2:00 p.m. in the chapel. We will begin with a brief time of introduction and checking in followed by a period of sitting silence for 20 minutes. For more information, contact Carol Gardner, 865-304-2093 or [gardnerwc73@gmail.com](mailto:gardnerwc73@gmail.com)

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

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"Reconciliation of a Penitent, or Penance, is the rite in which those who repent of their sins may confess them to God in the presence of a priest, and receive the assurance of pardon and the grace of absolution." This practice, known as Confession in other traditions, recognizes that sometimes we need to hear someone tell us how much God loves us after we have done something terrible to others or to ourselves.

You are invited as part of your Lenten journey to consider making an appointment with Fr. Bailey for Reconciliation. Unlike Confession where the priest and penitent enter booths, you would simply sit with Fr. Bailey in the chapel or Nave, have some conversation, and then participate in the liturgy together (found on p. 447 in the Prayer Book). The rite usually takes around 15-20 minutes. To be clear, anything spoken within the service of Reconciliation is strictly confidential. Please e-mail Fr. Bailey or call the office to set up a time if you are interested.

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## **ULSTER PROJECT**

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The Ulster Project is currently recruiting teens age 15, to host a teen from Northern Ireland in their home for 3 weeks this summer. The program is free to attend and includes service projects, shared worship services, leadership building, whitewater rafting, Dollywood, and more! Dates are June 26 - July 17, 2026.

Contact: [ulstereasttenn@gmail.com](mailto:ulstereasttenn@gmail.com) for additional information. More information and applications can be found at: [www.ulsterprojecteasttennessee.org](http://www.ulsterprojecteasttennessee.org).

## **TAKE ONE, LEAVE ONE**

**LOWER HALLWAY**

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Our former priest, David Lovett, had the idea of setting up a "Take One, Leave One" library that would provide a book exchange among parishioners wanting to know more about Christian writers or just enjoy a good read. The idea is to pick up a good book, and then, next visit, leave one. The little shelf now has a Librarian/Book Store operator in Deb Johnson, who will keep the shelves fresh and interesting. So next time you have a few moments, and find yourself next to the Lovett Lending Library, take a look and find a selection that interests you! These shelves are found in the lower hallway near Dorothy's Box.

## **MAUNDY THURSDAY VIGIL**

**APRIL 2**

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Each year at St. Stephen's, we invite our members and any guests you wish to bring to sit in vigil following the Maundy Thursday service (which will be Thursday, April 2 at 7 PM). At the conclusion of the service, we practice sitting in silence (whether prayer, reading, or reflection) in the Nave as we remember Jesus praying and asking his disciples to wait with him in the Garden of Gethsemane. While you are welcome to come and go as you please, our goal is to fill up all the "shifts" so that someone is there at all times. Sign-ups begin at 9 PM and go in 1-hour increments that end at 7 AM. You may sign up in one of two ways: 1) call the church office at 865-483-8497; or 2) sign up on the physical form in the hallway outside the side entrance of the Nave. For security, we will ask Oak Ridge police to frequently circulate through the parking lot that evening. All doors but one (the ramp entrance) will be locked.

## **EASTER EGG HUNT**

**APRIL 5**

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As part of our Easter Sunday celebration, we are looking forward to our annual Easter Egg hunt! First, we are asking parishioners to help contribute candy for the Easter egg hunt. Obviously the candy needs to be small enough to fit inside an egg. We will have boxes for collecting the candy set up in the narthex and in the parish hall beginning this Sunday.

The Easter Egg hunt will start outside the front doors of the church at 10:30. We will ask our families to gather by that time. Before we commence the Easter Egg hunt, Fr. Bailey will "unearth" the Alleluias that were buried in the garden beside the steps to the church at the beginning of Lent.

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE HIGHLIGHTS - MARCH 29 - APRIL 4

Parish Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Monday - Thursday.

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DATE	TIME	EVENT
Monday, March 30	9:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting
	6:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross
Tuesday, March 31	10:00 a.m.	Tuesday Bible Study
	11:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist and Healing Service
	2:00 p.m.	Centering Prayer In-person
	6:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross
Wednesday, April 1	8:30 a.m.	Men's Group
	5:30 p.m.	Lenten Soup Supper
	6:00 p.m.	Lenten Study
	7:00 p.m.	Compline
Thursday, April 2	7:00 p.m.	Foot Washing/HE/Stripping of Altar
	9:00 p.m. - 7:00 a.m.	Keeping Watch Vigil
Friday, April 3	Noon - 3 p.m.	Seven Last Words
	7:00 p.m.	Good Friday Liturgy
Saturday, April 4	9 a.m.	Holy Saturday Liturgy (Chapel)
	10 a.m.	Easter Music Rehearsal
Sunday, April 5	<b>6:00 a.m.</b>	<b>The Great Vigil of Easter</b>
	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Easter Day Choral Eucharist</b>
	10:00 a.m.	Parish Brunch
	10:30 a.m.	Easter Egg Hunt
	<b>11:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Easter Day Choral Eucharist</b>





## STAFF

THE REV. BAILEY NORMAN, RECTOR  
THE REV. LAURA HENRIK, ASSOCIATE PASTOR  
THE REV. DR. STEVE DAMOS, PASTORAL ASSOCIATE  
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## VESTRY

SENIOR WARDEN - LEAH BAILEY (2025) • JUNIOR WARDEN - BEN SHASSERE (2026)  
BETSY ELLIS - SECRETARY • ALAN LIBY - TREASURER (2026)  
CLEON HARTMAN, ASHLEY HILLIS, ROGER JOHNSON, COURTNEY MANROD (2025)  
CRAIG BRENT, TYLER WALKER (2026) BETH BAILEY, CAROL KING, JULIE WEBBER (2027)  
THE RT. REV. BRIAN COLE, BISHOP • THE DIOCESE OF EAST TENNESSEE



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