



THE HOLY EUCHARIST

FOR THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 22, 2026

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS & ASCENSION

4520 LUCAS AND HUNT RD, ST. LOUIS, MO 63121



WELCOME! KARIBU!

God brought you here!

Scattered into a world that does not always see our worth, we gather as God's beloved at The Episcopal Church of All Saints and Ascension. We gather to remember who we are and whose we are. We bring the fragments of our lives, our joys and our sorrows, our weariness and our hope, to be healed and made whole in Jesus Christ.

Rooted in the rich heritage of the Episcopal tradition and shaped by the beauty, brilliance, and resilience of our African American history, we come together as a people of praise. Here, the faith of the ancestors steadies us. Here, the songs of our foremothers and forefathers rise again on our lips. Here, the Spirit meets us in dance and in song, in prayer and in proclamation, in silence and in holy celebration.

We seek to be a place of healing, where wounded spirits find restoration and broken hearts find balm. We seek to be a place of empowerment, where gifts are named, voices are lifted, and leadership is nurtured. We seek to embody Black excellence, not as pride apart from God, but as the radiant reflection of the Divine image within us, cultivated through faith, discipline, creativity, and love.

In this sacred space, we support one another in mutual care and accountability. We testify to God's goodness in the midst of struggle. We proclaim a Gospel that liberates, restores, and sends us forth.

And when our worship ends, our work continues. Strengthened at the altar and stirred by the Spirit, we follow Jesus out into the world carrying with us the courage of the ancestors, the wisdom of those who have gone before, and the unshakable hope of the Resurrection.

God brought you here! Welcome home.



GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD.

Gathering Song/Music

28

Down at the Cross

1. Down at the cross where my Sav-ior died, Down where for cleans-ing from
2. I am so won-drous-ly saved from sin, Je-sus so sweet-ly a-
3. O, pre-cious foun-tain that saves from sin, I am so glad I have
4. Come to this foun-tain so rich and sweet; Cast your poor soul at the

1. sin I cried; There to my heart was the blood ap-plied;
2. bides with-in; There at the cross where He took me in;
3. en-tered in; There Je-sus saves me and keeps me clean;
4. Sav-ior's feet; Plunge in to-day, and be made com-plete;

Glo-ry to His name. Glo-ry to His name. — Glo-ry to His name! —

There to my heart was the blood ap-plied; Glo-ry to His name.

Words: Elisha A. Hoffman (1839-1929)
Music: John H. Stockton (1813-1877)

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Presider Blessed be the God of our salvation.

People **Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins. Amen.**

Presider Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

CALLING TO THE ANCESTORS

During the calling to the Ancestors, a drum rhythm sounds between the calls.

Presider In this journey of Lent, we call to the Ancestors, the dreamers, the seekers, the agitators.

People **We call on their strength, their fortitude, their courage as we walk this way.**

The Presider and people face East.

Presider From the East, where the sun rises and hope is born again, we remember the dreamers, those who trusted in freedom they did not live to see, who prayed toward a brighter dawn. In this Lenten season of repentance and renewal, we lean on their steadfast hope.

People **Ancestors of hope, stand among us.**

The Presider and people face South.

Presider From the South, land of suffering and song, we honor those who bore injustice yet lifted spirituals that carried faith through the fire. As we walk the wilderness road of Lent, may their courage strengthen us.

People **Ancestors of courage, stand among us.**

The Presider and people face West.

Presider From the West, across the waters of sorrow, we remember the stolen ones our ancestors carried in chains, yet never abandoned by God. As we journey toward the cross, we trust the One who entered suffering and rose with healing in his hands.

People **Ancestors of faith, stand among us.**

The Presider and people face North.

Presider From the North, place of resilience and rebuilding, we call on the elders who taught us dignity, who built churches from prayer and perseverance. In this holy season, may their wisdom guide our repentance and our hope.

People **Ancestors of wisdom, stand among us.**

All face toward the altar.

Presider With the ancestors surrounding us, Christ before us, and the Spirit within us, let us walk the Lenten path together and worship the Holy One who brings life out of death. **Amen.**

Presider God of our ancestors and God of our becoming, you call us from bondage into freedom, from wilderness into promise, from death into life.

People **Gather us in your mercy and set our feet upon your holy way.**

SONG OF LAMENT: "GUIDE MY FEET"

(Each week in lent a different verse is sung)

1., 6. Guide my feet while I run this race,
Guide my feet while I run this race,
Guide my feet while I run this race, for I
don't want to run this race in vain!

2. Hold my hand... 3. Stand by me... 4. I'm your child... 5. Search my heart...

Text: African-American spiritual
Tune: African-American spiritual; harm. by Diana Kodner, b. 1957

CONFESSION OF SIN

(A brief silence is kept.)

Deacon In this season of Lent, let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor, trusting in the mercy of the One who hears our cries.

Silence is kept

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 honored the sacrifices of those who came before us. We have forgotten the songs that sustained us. We have grown weary in the struggle for justice and slow to love one another. Forgive us, we pray. Create in us clean hearts, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Strengthen us to walk the Lenten road with humility and courage, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Presider May 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.

Presider God is with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

The Presider prays the collect of the day.

Presider Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Deacon May the Word of God always be heard in this place. May the experience of our spiritual ancestors be valued in this place. May the Good News of love be proclaimed in this place.

People **May the mystery of Christ unfold before us, may the words of salvation revive us, and may the Spirit of Truth guide us. Let us hear once more the stories of our redemption.**

All are seated.

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF EZEKIEL 37:1-14

The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD."

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act," says the LORD.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM OF THE DAY: PSALM 130

- 1 Out of the depths have I called to you, O LORD;
LORD, hear my voice; *
let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.
- 2 If you, LORD, were to note what is done amiss, *
O Lord, who could stand?
- 3 For there is forgiveness with you; *
therefore you shall be feared.
- 4 I wait for the LORD; my soul waits for him; *
in his word is my hope.
- 5 My soul waits for the LORD,
more than watchmen for the morning, *
more than watchmen for the morning.
- 6 O Israel, wait for the LORD, *
for with the LORD there is mercy;
- 7 With him there is plenteous redemption, *
and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF ROMANS 8:6-11

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law-- indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.
People ***Thanks be to God.***

The Holy Trinity

365

1 Come, thou al - might - y King, help us thy Name to sing,
 2 Come, thou in - car - nate Word, by heaven and earth a - dored;
 3 Come, ho - ly Com - fort - er, thy sa - cred wit - ness bear
 4 To Thee, great One in Three, the high - est prais - es be,

help us to praise. Fa - ther whose love un-known all things cre -
 our prayer at - tend: come, and thy peo - ple bless; come, give thy
 in this glad hour: thou, who al - might - y art, now rule in
 hence ev - er - more; thy sov - ereign ma - jes - ty may we in

at - ed own, build in our hearts thy throne, An - cient of Days.
 word suc - cess; stab - lish thy right - eous - ness, Sa - vior and friend.
 ev - ery heart, and ne'er from us de - part, Spi - rit of power.
 glo - ry see, and to e - ter - ni - ty love and a - dore.

Words: Anon., ca. 1757, alt.

Music: Moscow Felice de Giardini (1716-1796); harm. *The New Hymnal*, 1916,
 based on *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1875, and Lowell Mason (1792-1872)

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THE PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL: JOHN 11:1-45

Deacon Beloved, God is with you.

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

Deacon The holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.

People ***Glory to you Lord Christ.***

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

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

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

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

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

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

THE SERMON

THE REV. RENEE L. FENNER

OUR AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Deacon Let us affirm our faith in the One, Holy and Living God. *Silence is kept for a time.*

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

People ***We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Creator, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Creator. Through him all things were made.***

Deacon 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 became truly human.

People ***In his life among us, he proclaimed good news to the poor, liberty to the captives, sight to the blind, and release to the oppressed.***

Deacon Jesus ate with outcasts, forgave sinners, challenged injustice, and embodied the boundless love of God.

People ***In word and deed, he revealed the reign of God drawing near.***

Deacon 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 Creator.

People ***He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.***

Deacon We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Creator and the Son. With the Creator and is worshiped and glorified. Who has spoken through the Prophets.

People ***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:

A sung refrain may be offered during the prayers.

Deacon Trusting in the God who walked with our mothers and fathers through fire and flood, who parted seas and made a way out of no way, let us offer our prayers for the Church and for the world.

Refrain

Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se - cure from all a - larms;
lean - ing, lean - ing, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

Leader For the holy Church of God throughout the world; for Sean our Presiding Bishop, for Deon our Bishop, for this Diocese, and for all bishops, priests, and deacons; for lay leaders, elders, and young prophets; that the Church may be a shelter in the time of storm, a light in the darkness, and a freedom song for all who long for deliverance; let us pray to the Lord.

Leader For this nation, and for all who bear the weight of leadership; for those who sit in seats of power, that they may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God; that every valley of inequality be lifted and every mountain of oppression made low; let us pray to the Lord.

Leader For the peace of the world; for lands torn by war and communities divided by fear; for places where children cry and mothers weep; that swords may be beaten into plowshares and we may study war no more; that God would trouble the waters of injustice and bring healing to the nations; let us pray to the Lord. **Refrain.**

Leader For this city and for our neighborhoods; for teachers and students, workers and caregivers; for those seeking employment and those building new beginnings; that our streets may be places of safety, our homes places of laughter, and our churches places where everybody is somebody; let us pray to the Lord.

Leader For the sick and the suffering; for those bowed down by grief, addiction, incarceration, or despair; for those who feel like motherless children a long way from home; that Christ, the Man of Sorrows, would sit beside them, rock them in the cradle of his love, and remind them that trouble don't last always; let us pray to the Lord.

Leader For those who have gone before us in the faith, our ancestors and all the saints; for those whose names we speak now, either aloud or in the silence of our hearts. (*Silence is kept.*) May

they rest in that bright land where there is no more crying and no more pain, where the tree of life is blooming and the saints go marching in; let us pray to the Lord. **Refrain.**

Additional prayers may be offered silently or aloud.

Presider God of our weary years and our silent tears, you have brought us thus far by faith. Hear the prayers we offer, spoken and unspoken, and keep us singing as we journey toward the cross and the empty tomb; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

Jesus Is All the World to Me

1. Je - sus is all the world to me. My life, my joy, my
 2. Je - sus is all the world to me, My friend in tri - als
 3. Je - sus is all the world to me, And true to Him I'll
 4. Je - sus is all the world to me, I want no bet - ter

1. all; _____ He is my strength from day to day, With -
 2. sore; _____ I go to Him for bless - ings, and He
 3. be; _____ Oh, how could I this friend de - ny, When
 4. friend; _____ I trust Him now, I'll trust Him when Life's

1. out Him I _____ would fall: _____ When I am sad, to
 2. gives them o'er _____ and o'er; _____ He sends the sun - shine
 3. He's so true _____ to me? _____ Fol - low - ing Him I
 4. fleet - ing days _____ shall end: _____ Beau - ti - ful life with

1. Him I go. No oth - er one can cheer me so;
 2. and the rain. He sends the har - vest's gold - en grain;
 3. know I'm right. He watch - es o'er me day and night;
 4. such a friend. Beau - ti - ful life that has no end;

1. When I am sad He makes me glad, He's my friend. _____
 2. Sun - shine and rain, har - vest of grain, He's my friend. _____
 3. Fol - low - ing Him by day and night, He's my friend. _____
 4. E - ter - nal life, e - ter - nal joy, He's my friend. _____

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER-Prayer A

Presider The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Presider

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:

Presider and People

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Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly
ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Presider

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:

Presider and People

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The Presider 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 AND ASHE!**

THE GREAT AMEN (SUNG)

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

***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

Presider Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People ***Therefore let us keep the feast.***

FRACTION ANTHEM

Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Presider 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 COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

(All are invited to God's Table. You may come forward to receive the Body of Christ or to receive a blessing. Some may wish to remain in your seats. Please use this time to quietly sit and pray or join in the singing of the hymn.)

(Those at home may, if they wish, say this prayer:)

In union, O God, with the faithful of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. We present to you our souls and bodies with the earnest wish that we may always be united to you. And since we cannot now receive you sacramentally, we beseech you to come spiritually into our hearts. We unite ourselves with you and embrace you with all the love of our souls. Let nothing ever separate you from us. May we live in you, and may you live in us, both in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN

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The Holy Spirit

1 Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life a - new,
2 Breathe on me, Breath of God, un - til my heart is pure,
3 Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am whol - ly thine,
4 Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I nev - er die;

that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.
un - til with thee I will one will, to do or to en - dure.
till all this earth - ly part of me glows with thy fire di - vine.
but live with thee the per - fect life of thine e - ter - ni - ty.

Words: Edwin Hatch (1835-1889), alt.
Music: *Nova Vita*, Lister R. Peace (1885-1969)

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THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Presider

Eternal God, God of our weary years and silent tears, we thank you for feeding us with the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation. At this table we have tasted freedom, we have touched the faith of our ancestors, we have been strengthened by the Spirit of Christ.

People

Send us now into the world, to walk in the strength of those who came before, to sing the songs they taught us, to labor for justice, to rejoice in hope, and to live as your beloved community, until your dream of freedom and wholeness is fulfilled for all people, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen and Ashe.

THE BLESSING

Presider

Life is short and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those whom we love or those who walk this way with us. So, be swift to love and make haste to be kind and may the Divine Mystery that is beyond our ability to know be your companion along the way. And may the blessing of God Almighty, the grace of Christ the Son and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

35

O How He Loves You and Me

1. O how He loves you and me.
2. Je - sus to Cal - vary did go,

1. O how He loves you and me;
2. His love for the worlds to show;

1. He gave His life, what more could He give;
2. What He did there brought hope from de - spair;

1. O how He loves you, O how He loves me,
2. O how He loves you, O how He loves me,

1. O how He loves you and me.
2. O how He loves you and me.

THE SENDING

Deacon Sisters and brothers, we have gathered at Christ's table with the saints, we have prayed with our faithful ancestors, we have walked the Lenten road toward the cross, and tasted again the mercy of God.

People **We do not go alone. The cloud of witnesses surrounds us. The songs of our grandmothers and grandfathers steady our steps.**

Deacon As they kept the faith in days of trial, so now we are called to keep the faith; to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God.

People **Ancestors who dreamed of freedom, who sang through sorrow, who trusted God when the night was long, when the way was hard, when hope was dim, walk with us now.**

Deacon Christ goes before you in the streets and in the struggle. The Spirit goes within you, stirring holy courage. The God of our weary years goes behind you, guarding and guiding your way.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Deacon Go forth into the world to lift every voice, to let your light shine, and to run with perseverance the race that is set before you. Go in peace to love and serve our God!

People **Thanks be to God. Amen and Ashe!**

We are grateful to the Rt. Rev. Deon K. Johnson who wrote this Lenten Afrocentric liturgy for us, the beloved community of All Saints and Ascension. Thank you, Bishop!

TODAY'S LITURGICAL LEADERS

Presider

The Rev. Renee L. Fenner, Rector

Deacon

The Rev. Dr. Dn. Valerie E. Patton

Worship Leader

Betty Brown

Reader

Alexia Dukes

Acolyte

Stanley Merridith

Ushers

*Allen Dukes
Charles Henderson*

Minister of Music

Terrell Thompson

Choir Members

*Adrienne Dillon, Walter Fox, Michael Griffin, Stanley Johnson, Barrie Jones,
Helen Owens, and Mabelle West*

OUR MISSION AND VISION STATEMENTS

Mission Statement: *To be the Light of Christ that builds relationships in our congregation,
our community, and with our God.*

Vision Statement: *Finding Christ in Relationships*

Vestry Wardens

Senior Warden-Gaylard Williams (2027)

Co-Junior Wardens-Betty Brown

Dawn Johnson

Vestry Clerk

Margarett Williams

Class of 2027

Adrienne Dillon

Sondra Harrell

Class of 2028

Michael Griffin

Stanley Merridith

Class of 2029

Betty Brown

Dawn Johnson

Treasurer

Rickey Mabry

Convention Delegates

Adrienne Dillon (2027)

Caroline Moore (2027)

Alternate Delegate

Donna Black (2027)



LIFTING UP OUR VOICES

"I refuse to accept the view that mankind is so tragically bound to the starless midnight of racism and war that the bright daybreak of peace and brotherhood can never become a reality ... I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word."

—Martin Luther King, Jr.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER LIST

We are always ready to pray for family members, friends, neighbors and all those in need of our prayers.

Delphine Booker	Canon Desiree Brattin	Ann Bradley
Lisa Bradley	Harold Briggs	Linette Cayetano
Chris Crittenden	Bessie Clemmons	Jacky Dew
Rick Earley	Ronald Hawkins	Michael Griffin
Renee Griffin	Stella Hughes	Erika Jones
Greg Kelley	Amber King	Winifred Lemmie
Regina Lewis	Johnetta Martin	Diana Oliver
Helen Owens	Betty Patton	Michelle Pendelton
Gwen Perry	Everett Quinn	Marion Robinson
Rick Rollins	Florence Ross	Lisa Shelley
Laura Smith	Patricia Thomas	David Westfall
Annie White	Antoinette Williams	James Williams, Sr.
Bill Young		

We continue to pray for all those who are still affected by last year's tornado. We pray especially for our adopted family and so many others. Our prayers also continue for all veterans and those who are currently serving in the military, especially:

Sgt. Omar Fernandes (Brantley)-United States Air Force
Captain Jovonny Carrion-United States Army
Staff Sgt. Ashley Cole-United States Air Force
Captain Steven C. Roberts, II – United States Air Force Reserve
The Rev. Jamal Scarlett-Lieutenant Commander and Navy Chaplain
Major Christopher Westfall-United States Air Force

We will keep the practice of keeping names on our prayer list for six weeks. If you would like to include someone on our prayer list, please fill out a 'Prayer Request Form' located at the Ushers' station. Thank you!

REMEMBER OUR ADOPTED FAMILY

Please remember our adopted family in the new year! Our family consists of a single mother and her two daughters, ages 18 and 21. We can continue our monetary fund to help pay for repairs to their home. We can provide food and personal items, and gift cards to stores such as Schnuck's, Target, Walmart, Walgreens, Kohl's, and Aldi's. "Whatever you do to the least of them; you do unto me (Matthew 25:40)."

EASTER EGG HUNT CANDY

Donations of two bags of candy will be greatly appreciated for the Easter Egg Hunt scheduled on Saturday, April 4, 2026. The candy will be placed in plastic eggs.

WOMEN OF THE PASSION

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Carondelet (St. Louis), invites the community to a powerful Holy Week meditation entitled "Women of the Passion" on Tuesday, March 31 at 7:00 p.m. The evening will guide participants through three meditations and the Stations of the Cross, told through first-person reflections of women from the Gospel story. Voices such as Pilate's wife, the widow with the mite, the woman with the flow of blood, the bent-over woman, the woman taken in adultery, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of Jesus will bring new perspective and depth to the Passion narrative. St. Paul's is located on 6528 Michigan Ave. This event is free and open to the public.

UTO INGATHERING SERVICE

"Gracious God, we give our thanks to you"

Reminder: Our United Thank Offerings will be blessed at our **Ingathering** during the Eucharist on **April 12**, the Second Sunday of Easter, so please turn in your "filled" UTO Blue Boxes or envelopes during the Offertory on or before that date. Contact Nancy Hamilton for more information about UTO.

DISCERNMENT DAY

Mark your calendars for Saturday, May 2, 2026, 10am-4pm for a diocesan-wide Discernment Day at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 110 N. Warson Road. Are you being called to lay ministry, diaconal ministry, priestly ministry or to religious life? This gathering is designed for anyone exploring a new call to ministry and seeking to learn more about the discernment and formation process. Registration is now open until April 15, and the cost is \$10. Please see the diocesan website for more information.

SAFE CHURCH, SAFE COMMUNITY

It's that time again! This is a reminder that Vestry members and ALL church leaders (especially those who are in close contact with children and teens) are to do 'Safe Church, Safe Community' training. The training is to be done every three years.

However, every year EVERYONE in leadership is expected to re-read and review the policies! Please let Rev. Renee know by April 12, 2026, whether you have taken the training or have re-read the policies. Please **DO NOT** submit your names individually to the diocesan offices.

ASA FOOD MINISTRY – FEED THE NEED

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ! Thank you for your generosity in feeding our brothers and sisters in the beloved community who are food-insecure! The need is becoming increasingly significant as we continue to partner with the Urban League and as decisions are made in our national government. We want the following items to restock our food pantry:

Paper Products

Paper Towels

Toiletries

Toothpaste, Bar Soap, Deodorant

Canned Vegetables or Meal

Chili, Spaghetti and Meatballs, Vegetables, Corn, Carrots, Peas, Baked Beans, Great Northern Beans, Chicken Noodle Soup, Vegetable Soup

Canned or Packet Meat or Protein

Peanut Butter, Tuna, Chicken Breast, Vienna Sausage, Spam, Luncheon Loaf

Starches

Mac and Cheese, Rice, Spaghetti

Breakfast

Packaged cereal (oatmeal, grits, Cream of Wheat)

When purchasing canned items, please consider getting pull-tops, as many do not have can openers.

ASA FOOD MINISTRY – FEED THE NEED - INDOOR FOOD PANTRY and GARDEN

We want to reopen our indoor Food Pantry soon! We are looking to begin on the 3rd Wednesday of each month from 10 am to 12 pm. Volunteers need to be available from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm. We are seeking two volunteers to serve as liaisons to our potential clients.

In spring 2026 (probably late March or early April, depending on the weather), we will plant our vegetable garden. We will need 2-4 volunteers. The volunteers would clean, plant, and maintain the garden. The estimated time commitment is 2 hours per session. For more details, please get in touch with Deacon Valerie.

SIBLING SUPPORT NETWORK

Do not forget that help is there for those dealing with the loss of a sibling due to violent crime. For more info and survey, please go to: [sibling support network.org](http://sibling-support-network.org) or contact Cheeraz Gormon for more information – cgormon@gmail.com.

ALTAR FLOWERS

During the season of Lent we will not decorate our worship space with flowers. Why? To remind us of Jesus' time in the desert. However, we encourage you to please consider sponsoring altar flowers at Easter and all Sundays following. You can make a dedication to your deceased loved ones or give recognition to living loved ones or in thanksgiving for God's blessings. Check out our website or see an usher for a form!

COFFEE HOUR/FELLOWSHIP SIGN UP

Coffee Hour allows us time to fellowship with each other after Eucharist. Thank you to those who have sponsored a Coffee Hour thus far. Please think about signing up with another parishioner to provide treats for this fun event. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex. Refreshments may consist of fruits, pastries/Danish, juice, coffee, tea, and other goodies. **Please note that hosts are also responsible for cleanup.**

COMPLETING OFFERING ENVELOPES

PLEASE HELP make the Tellers' job a lot easier by doing the following:

- Write your name on each envelope.
- Write your number on the envelope if you are not using the one assigned to you.
- See Deborah Dukes or Betty Brown if you do not remember your number.
- If you are writing a check, include the check number in the top right corner.
- If you are paying with cash, please write "Cash" in the top right corner instead of a check number.
- Use one envelope for one donation.
- If your donation is for anything other than your pledge, **PLEASE**, include on

the envelope what it is for, i.e., ECW Dues, Men's Club, etc.

PAYPAL

Did you forget to bring your pledge with you to church? Or perhaps you cannot attend one of the Eucharists on Sunday morning. Then you should consider using Pay Pal to send in your pledge/contribution. It's fast, easy, and a guaranteed safe way to contribute. Some of our parishioners are already taking advantage of this service. For more information, go to our website and click on the "Connect Tab" and then click on "Online Contributions."

ADDITIONAL WORSHIP AND STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

ASA EVENING PRAYER – EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 6:00 PM

<contact parish office for Zoom login info>

ASA BIBLE STUDY

Please join our weekly Bible Study group every Thursday at 10:00 am. We will be discussing Women of the Bible, so come ready to learn and share your insights. I believe that studying God's Word as a group will strengthen our Faith and will help us relate His Words to our lives in today's world. Joyce Crittenden, Leader.

<contact parish office for Zoom login info>

HOLY WEEK SERVICES



PALM SUNDAY, March 29, 9:00 am-Liturgy of the Palms and Holy Eucharist

TUESDAY IN HOLY WEEK, March 31, 7:00 pm - "Women of the Passion" at St. Paul's, Carondelet

MAUNDY THURSDAY: April 2, Joint Service at 6:00 pm at All Saints and Ascension with St. Stephen's and the Vine – Holy Eucharist w/Foot washing

GOOD FRIDAY: April 3, Joint Service at 6:00 pm at St. Stephen's and the Vine, 33 Clay Ave in Ferguson-Good Friday Solemn Service

SATURDAY GREAT EASTER VIGIL: April 4, at 6:30 pm, at Christ Church Cathedral, 1210 Locust St. in St. Louis

EASTER SUNDAY: April 5, 9:00 am-Festive Holy Eucharist

4520 Lucas and Hunt Road
Saint Louis, Missouri 63121
314-367-2314
allsaintsascension.com
allsaintsadminasst@sbcglobal.net