



## *St. Thomas' Episcopal Church*

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[stthomasbiblestudy.com](http://stthomasbiblestudy.com)  
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Sunday Bible Study at 9:45 a.m. in the church library  
Children's Sunday School at 10:15 a.m. in Cooper Hall  
Holy Eucharist at 11:00 a.m.

# The Third Sunday in Lent

March 20, 2022

## The Holy Eucharist

**Prelude**                      *But The Lord Is Mindful Of His Children*                      Mendelssohn

**Silent Procession**

**332 Hymn**                      *O God, unseen yet ever near*                      alternate tune: St. Flavian

## A Penitential Order

*Celebrant:* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People:* **His mercy endures for ever.**

*All kneel in silence.*

### **The Decalogue: Contemporary**

Hear the commandments of God to his people:

I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.

You shall have no other gods but me.

***Amen. Lord have mercy.***

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

***Amen. Lord have mercy.***

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

***Amen. Lord have mercy.***

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

***Amen. Lord have mercy.***

Honor your father and your mother.

***Amen. Lord have mercy.***

You shall not commit murder.

***Amen. Lord have mercy.***

You shall not commit adultery.

***Amen. Lord have mercy.***

You shall not steal.

***Amen. Lord have mercy.***

You shall not be a false witness.

***Amen. Lord have mercy.***

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

***Amen. Lord have mercy.***

*The Celebrant may read the following sentences:*

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all

your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these.” (Mark 12:29-31)

*The Deacon or Celebrant then says:*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister and People:*

**Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

*The Bishop when present, or 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.**

### **W 838 The Kyrie**

Hackett

**Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

### **The Collect of the Day**

*The Celebrant says to the people:* The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*The people sit.*

## The Word of God

### **The First Lesson Exodus 3:1-15**

*Lector* A reading from the book of Exodus.

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the LORD said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain."

But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The LORD, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you':

This is my name forever,  
and this my title for all generations."

*Lector* The word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God**

**Psalm 63:1-8** (read responsively by half verse)

- <sup>1</sup> O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; \*  
***my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,  
as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.***
- <sup>2</sup> Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, \*  
***that I might behold your power and your glory.***
- <sup>3</sup> For your loving-kindness is better than life itself; \*  
***my lips shall give you praise.***
- <sup>4</sup> So will I bless you as long as I live \*  
***and lift up my hands in your Name.***
- <sup>5</sup> My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness, \*  
***and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,***
- <sup>6</sup> When I remember you upon my bed, \*  
***and meditate on you in the night watches.***
- <sup>7</sup> For you have been my helper, \*  
***and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.***
- <sup>8</sup> My soul clings to you; \*  
***your right hand holds me fast.***

**The Epistle 1 Corinthians 10:1-13**

*Lector* A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an

example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

*Lector* The word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God**

*The people may stand.*

**685 Hymn**

**Rock of ages, cleft for me**

Toplady

**The Holy Gospel Luke 13:1-9**

*Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying*

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

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

At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them--do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

*After the Gospel, the Reader says*

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

*The people sit.*

**The Sermon**

*The people may stand.*

**The Nicene Creed**

**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

*Leader:* 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.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**People: Hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* 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.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**People: Hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* 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.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**People: Hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* 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.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**People: Hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially, **John Tolbert, Bobbie and Rendol Cobb, Julia Credle, Peggy Parker, Riley Raines, Mary Gillam, Rita Hoggard, Daniel Perry, Steve Wilson, Betty Hayden, Bill White, Ronnie Fisk, Bill Pridgen, and others known to us.**

Give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**People: Hear our prayer.**

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

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**People: Hear our prayer.**

*The Celebrant adds a concluding collect*

## **The Peace**

*The Celebrant says to the people*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**      *(Please stay in your pew.)*

## **Announcements**



## The Holy Communion

**The Offertory Anthem**      *Create A Pure Heart In Me*      Matsui  
(Please place your offering in the plate in the narthex as you enter or exit. During the anthem, the altar will be prepared for the Holy Communion.)

### **The Great Thanksgiving** *Eucharistic Prayer D*

*The people remain standing. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says:*

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.**

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever. Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance. Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,

*Celebrant and People*

**WLP 858**      **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
                  heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
                  Hosanna in the highest.  
                  Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
                  Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest.**

*The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues*

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation. Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be

our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new. And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all. When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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." Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

*Celebrant and People*

***We praise you, we bless you,  
we give thanks to you,  
and we pray to you, Lord our God.***

*The Celebrant continues*

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name. Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace. And grant that we may find our inheritance with all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,  
**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** *The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence  
is kept. Then may be sung or said*

**S164 Fraction Anthem**

Schubert

***Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.***

***Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.***

***Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world:  
give us your peace, give us your peace.***

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation:*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*And may add:*

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your  
hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

**Ministration of Communion**

*The bread and the wine will be offered in stations near the chancel steps. After the choir receives  
communion, the lectern side will receive first. Everyone should use the lectern side of the aisle going to  
communion; use the pulpit side of the aisle going back to your seat. We are using biodegradable cups for  
the wine. Please pick up your own cup, step away from the table, and then deposit the cup into the trash  
can located in the first pew. Please let an usher know if you prefer to have communion brought to you.*

**Post Communion Prayer**

*After Communion, all kneel and the Celebrant says:*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People:*

**Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living  
members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual  
food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.**

**Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage  
to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*The Bishop when present, or the Priest, may bless the people.*

**344 Hymn**

***Lord dismiss us with thy blessing***

Sicilian Mariners

### **Silent Procession**

*The Deacon, or the Celebrant, dismisses them*

***People Thanks be to God.***

**Postlude**

*O Man, Bemoan Thy Grievous Sin*

J. S. Bach

### **The Ministers of the Liturgy**

**Celebrant:** The Rev. Jim Horton

**Organist/choir director:** Tom Parker

**Lector:** Mike Spruill

**Acolyte:** Anne Hayes Trowell

**Altar Guild:** Kristy Copeland, Lucy Spruill

**Hostesses:** Lucy Horton, Tra Perry, Briley Rascoe

**Counters:** Dean Fisk, Mike Spruill

**Ushers:** Joe Rhea, Chip Warren

**Eucharistic Minister:** Marti Tyler

### **Announcements**

Lenten Studies continue on Wednesdays at 6 pm in the Parish Hall. We will have soup, sandwiches and a discussion of the lectionary readings from that day. We need volunteers to help with the meal preparations. Signup sheets are available in the Narthex. We look forward to seeing everyone and we will continue with safety protocols.

Don't forget to contact The Opportunity Shop for all your dry cleaning needs, 794-5595. They are using Rochelle Cleaners of Edenton.

The choir will rehearse on Sundays following the service of Holy Eucharist. Please consider joining the choir---new choir members are always welcome! For more information, please contact Tom Parker at [tparker27804@aol.com](mailto:tparker27804@aol.com).

All announcements to be included in the weekly bulletin may be sent to CB Guess at [edenhouse3@gmail.com](mailto:edenhouse3@gmail.com) by Wednesdays at noon.

To add or remove a name from the church's prayer list, please email Tom Parker at [tparker27804@aol.com](mailto:tparker27804@aol.com).

Thank you to everyone who has submitted your 2022 pledge. If you have not already done so, please consider prayerfully what God is calling you to give to St. Thomas in 2022. Pledge cards are available in the narthex and on the chest outside Cooper Hall.