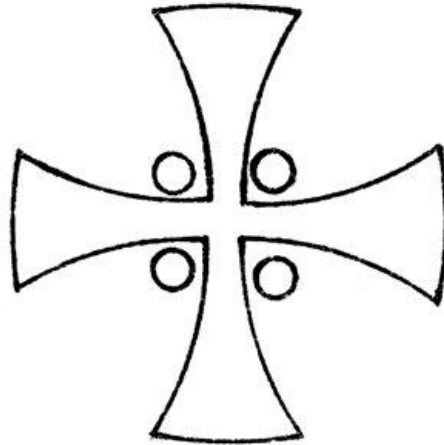


Have mercy on me, O God



**In your great compassion
blot out my offenses**

Psalm 51:1

The Holy Eucharist for the Season of Lent, 2025

10:00 am

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Foley, AL

Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS ARE AVAILABLE FROM AN USHER

The Season of Lent

The word *lent* comes from an Old English word which simply means *spring*. In other languages the name of this season is related to the numeric term for *forty* which relates better to its purpose.

Lent commemorates the forty days that Our Lord spent in fasting and prayer after his baptism by John. It echoes the forty years that the Children of Israel spent in the desert journeying toward their promised land. It is a time of preparation to celebrate the miracle of Easter.

The tradition of each person having their own *Lenten Rule* is connected with Lent being the time when converts to the faith prepared to be baptized at Easter. Those already baptized undertake self examination and self denial in preparation for renewing their Baptismal Vows at the Easter liturgy.

Sunday worship during Lent has a character of penitence and is more somber than at other times of the year. In the sermons and hymns of Lent one hears a great deal about sin and repentance. Music tends to be simple and in a minor key. Following ancient custom during Lent we refrain from using flowers and the word *alleluia*. We exchange silver communion vessels for ones made from pottery.

The liturgical color of Lent is purple which is meant to be a color of sorrow and a reminder of the royal robes placed on Christ after his trial.

Our Lenten liturgy begins with a silent procession and the Penitential Order which includes the recitation of the Decalogue (Ten Commandments).

Lent is traditionally a time when people take advantage of the Sacramental Rite of Confession. Confessions are heard any time by appointment with the Rector.

The Liturgy of the Word

Prelude

Silent Entrance *The People stand at the ringing of the bell.*

Presider Blest be the God of our salvation.

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

The Decalogue *The People kneel as they are able.*

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

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

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

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Honor your father and your mother.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit murder.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit adultery.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not steal.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not be a false witness.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Confession of Sin

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

Let us humbly confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *Silence is kept for a time.*

Presider and People

Most holy and merciful Father:

we confess to you and to one another

and to the whole communion of Saints in heaven and on earth,

that we have sinned by our own fault and 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, mind and strength.

We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.

Accept our repentance, Lord, for the wrong we have done.

Restore us, good Lord, and accomplish in us the work of your salvation,

This we ask through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.

Absolution

Presider

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of Christ's holy Church, and by his authority committed to me, I declare to you the entire forgiveness of your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The People stand as they are able.

The musical notation consists of two staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff has three measures: the first measure is labeled 'Cantor or Choir' and contains the lyrics 'Lord, have mer - cy.'; the second measure is labeled 'All' and contains 'Lord, have mer - cy.'; the third measure is labeled 'Cantor or Choir' and contains 'Christ, have mer - cy.'. The second staff has three measures: the first measure is labeled 'All' and contains 'Christ, have mer - cy.'; the second measure is labeled 'Cantor or Choir' and contains 'Lord, have mer - cy.'; the third measure is labeled 'All' and contains 'Lord, have mer - cy.'.

Setting: From the Litany of the Saints; adapt. Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

Presider The Lord be with you.

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

Presider Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day ***The Collect and Lessons are found on the blue weekly insert***

The Lessons *The People are seated for the Lessons.*

Gospel Verse *The People stand.*

Re - turn to God with all your heart, the Source of grace and
mer - cy; Come, seek the ten - der faith - full - ness of God.

Sermon

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.*

Prayers of the People

Leader

Gracious and Loving God, you hate nothing you have made, your steadfast mercy sustains us and all of creation. With confidence in your loving kindness we bring before you our prayers and concerns, asking your will to be done here on earth as it is in heaven.

You led your chosen people through the wilderness to a land of goodness, lead now your Church, chosen in Christ to be citizens in your new creation, as we seek to live faithfully among the temptations and trials of this life. Lord, in your mercy. ***Hear our prayer.***

You have called this parish community together and united us by your Spirit, grant that this season of Lent may be a time to deepen and renew our commitment to being ambassadors for Christ, as we seek to reconcile all that is broken and fractured in ourselves and in the world around us. Lord, in your mercy. ***Hear our prayer.***

Your love for us in Christ makes no distinctions between people yet we continue to be divided by nationalities, race, class, by prejudice and discrimination. Open our hearts and minds to see where we have stood in the way of your will and grant us the strength to amend our ways. Lord in your mercy. ***Hear our prayer.***

Your son wept over Jerusalem. Look with compassion on all the places that are torn by strife, war, or poverty. Gather those who suffer into the safe embrace of your arms. Lord in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Jesus, your Beloved, knew hunger during his time in the wilderness. We pray for all who hunger or are in any need or trouble. Give us compassionate hearts and the will to meet those needs. Lord in your mercy. ***Hear our prayer.***

Your Son restored Lazarus to life. Welcome into your arms of mercy those who have died and grant them new life in the company of all your saints. Lord in your mercy. ***Hear our prayer.***

You know the secrets of our hearts, and so now in the silence of our hearts we place before you those people and concerns that we harbor, asking for your will to be done. *A time of silence is kept.* Lord in your mercy. ***Hear our prayer.***

The Presider adds a concluding collect.

The Peace

Presider The Peace of Christ be always with you.

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

The People offer one another signs of Christ's peace.

The Liturgy of the Table

Offertory Sentence

Offertory Hymn *see weekly insert*

Presentation *The People stand as the offerings are presented at the Altar*

refrain

You sat-is-fy the hun-gry heart with gift of fin-est wheat: come give to us, O

verse

sav-ing Lord, the bread of life to eat. As when the shep-herd calls his sheep they

repeat refrain

know and heed his voice; so when you call your fam-'ly Lord, we fol-low and re-joice.

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

The Presider proceeds

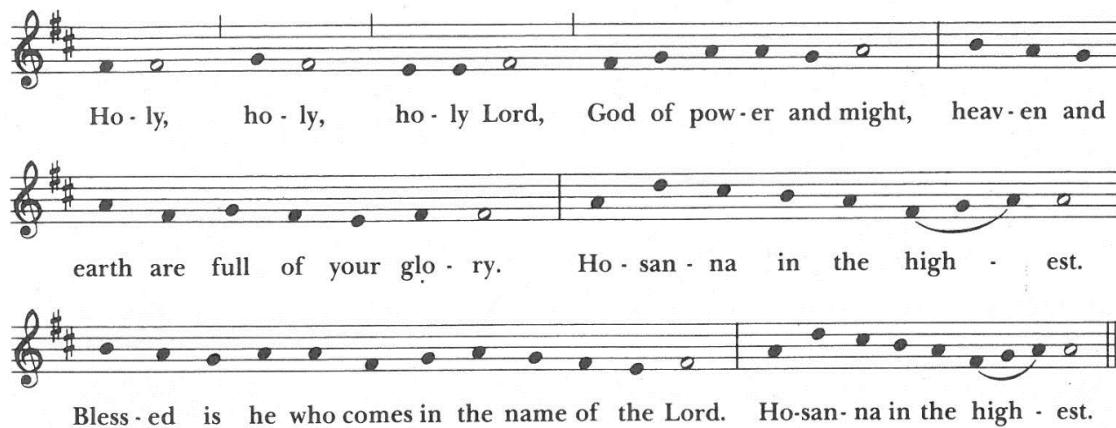
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every- where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

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.

or this

You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, heav - en 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.

The people stand or kneel.

Then the Presider continues

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

At the following words concerning the bread, the Presider is to hold it, or to 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.

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:

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.

People **AMEN.**

Presider

And now, we pray with confidence as our Savior Christ has taught us,

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 Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Presider We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

People ***We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread***

Fraction anthem

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Prayer of Humble Access *Said by all.*

We do not presume to come to this your Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your Table. But you are the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

The Invitation to Communion

Presider

You who do truly and earnestly repent of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbor, and intend from this moment to live a new life walking humbly in God's holy ways; Draw near with faith, and take this holy Sacrament to your comfort.

The Communion of the People

Hymn at Communion *See weekly insert.*

Post Communion Prayer

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth as a people forgiven, healed, and renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Solemn Collect for Lent

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Lenten Benediction

Presider Bow down before the Lord.

Lent 1

Grant, Almighty God, that your people may recognize their weakness and put their whole trust in your strength, so that they may rejoice for ever in the protection of your loving providence; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lent 2

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

Lent 3

Look mercifully your people, Almighty God, that by your great goodness they may be governed and preserved evermore; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lent 4

Look down in mercy, Lord, on your people and grant that those whom you have nourished by your Word and Sacraments may bring forth fruit worthy of repentance; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lent 5

Look with compassion, O Lord, upon this your people; that, rightly observing this holy season, they may learn to know you more fully, and to serve you with a more perfect will; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Announcements

Hymn *see weekly insert*

Dismissal

Presider God's grace has nourished us to continue our journey.

People ***We will press on toward the call of Christ.***

Presider Our journey is one of service to all.

People ***May we see the face of Christ in all whom we serve.***

Presider Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People ***With thankful hearts we will go.***

Clergy and Staff

The Right Rev. Russell Kendrick, Bishop
Penny Seawell, Parish Administrator

The Rev. Dr. Brent Norris, Pastor
Helen Rodgers, Dir. of Music

Vestry

Karen Walters, Sr Warden
Gwen Bobe
Dianne Cotton
Cinde Pettey
Larry Parton, Treasurer

George Waller Jr. Warden
Diedre Cowart
Henry Seawell
Jim Trest
Katherine Allen, Clerk

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Foley, AL
Service music for Lent 2024
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Lord, have mercy

Setting: From the Litany of the Saints; adapt. Richard Proulx (b 1937)
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Gospel Verse/Return to God

Words and Music: Marty Haugen
Now the Feast and Celebration
©1991 GIA Publications

Gift of finest wheat

Words: Omer Westendorf
Music: Robert E. Kreutz
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Sanctus

setting from: *New Plainsong*, David Hurd (b. 1950)
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Fraction Anthem/Lamb of God

Setting: from *New Plainsong*, David Hurd (b. 1950)
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