

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast
Foley, Alabama
March 16, 2025

HYMNS

Prelude

Cinde & Steve Pettey

The Lamb

Children's Choir

There is a wideness

Hymnal 1982 #469

Lord Christ when first

Hymnal 1982 #598

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

LESSONS

A reading from Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

The word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness. Then he said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." But he said, "O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." He brought him all these and cut them

in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him. When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates."

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People ***Thanks be to God.***

Psalm 27 *Read responsively by whole verse*

1 The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear? *
the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid?

**2 When evildoers came upon me to eat up my flesh, *
it was they, my foes and my adversaries, who stumbled and fell.**

3 Though an army should encamp against me, *
yet my heart shall not be afraid;

**4 And though war should rise up against me, *
yet will I put my trust in him.**

5 One thing have I asked of the LORD; one thing I seek; *
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life;

**6 To behold the fair beauty of the LORD *
and to seek him in his temple.**

7 For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe in his shelter; *
he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling and set me high upon a rock.

**8 Even now he lifts up my head *
above my enemies round about me.**

9 Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation with sounds of great gladness; *
I will sing and make music to the LORD.

**10 Harken to my voice, O LORD, when I call; *
have mercy on me and answer me.**

11 You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face." *
Your face, LORD, will I seek.

**12 Hide not your face from me, *
nor turn away your servant in displeasure.**

13 You have been my helper; cast me not away; *
do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.

**14 Though my father and my mother forsake me, *
the LORD will sustain me.**

15 Show me your way, O LORD; *
lead me on a level path, because of my enemies.

**16 Deliver me not into the hand of my adversaries, *
for false witnesses have risen up against me, and also those who speak malice.**

17 What if I had not believed that I should see the goodness of the LORD *
in the land of the living!

**18 O tarry and await the LORD's pleasure;
be strong, and he shall comfort your heart;**

A reading from Philippians 3:17-4:1

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL

7:30 am Gospel Acclamation

Lord to whom shall we go.

You have the words of eternal life.

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Luke 13:31-35

Some Pharisees came and said to Jesus, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.

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

LENTEN PROGRAMS

THE SEASON OF LENT IS NEAR. PLEASE BRING A FRIEND AND JOIN US FOR OUR SPECIAL EVENTS DESIGNED TO HELP YOU LIVE INTO A HOLY LENT.

TUESDAYS IN LENT–HOLY READING
***THE DREAM OF GOD* BY VERNA DOZIER**
10AM IN PERSON AND 6PM ON ZOOM

WEDNESDAYS IN LENT–MARCH 12, 19, 26 & APRIL 2 AT 5:30PM
SOUP & SANDWICH SUPPER WITH PROGRAM
THE TASKS OF LENT IN THE PARISH HALL
TAIZE PRAYER AT 6:15PM
ANNUAL FISH FRY –APRIL 9 AT 5:30PM

THURSDAYS IN LENT–NOON
ECUMENICAL LENTEN BROWN BAG LUNCH AND DEVOTION
THE FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT
PINE STREET PARK (CORNER OF PINE & LAUREL)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

For healing: Dianne, Barbara, Ben, Linda, Adrienne, Amy, , Eloise, Gwen, Rosellen, Ralph, Pat, Lynn, Vera, Marilyn, Massey, Nancy, Arlene, Betsy, Sandy, Kirsten, Meg, Kate, Sarah, Wayne, Stacey and those who care for them.

For those serving in the military: Gerromy, Noel, Taylor, Wayne & those serving with them.

For those in prison: for the prisoners, staff and families of prisoners and staff at Century Correctional Institution, Century, FL.

SAINT PAUL'S THIS WEEK

TODAY

- 7:30 am Holy Eucharist
- 9 am Formation Class
- 9 am Choir Practice
- 10 am Holy Eucharist
- 7 pm NA Meeting

MONDAY

- Noon NA Meeting
- 8 pm AA Meeting

TUESDAY

- 10 am Holy Reading

WEDNESDAY

- 10:30 am Pastor Brent's Bible Study
- Noon Holy Eucharist with Healing Service
- 3:15 pm to 4:15 pm Children's

- Choir Practice
- 5 pm to 5:30 pm Choir Practice
- 5:30 Soup Supper with Program
- 6:15 Taize Prayer
- 7 pm NA Open Meeting

THURSDAY

- Noon Ecumenical Brown Bag Lunch with Devotion- Pine Street Park
- Noon NA Meeting
- 8 pm AA Open Meeting

SATURDAY

- 10 am AA Meeting

REMEMBER EMI WHEN YOU SHOP

Canned fruits & vegetables (no green beans or green peas) tuna & tuna helper.

BLESSING BOX

Our Blessing Box is in need of donations of food and toiletries. Drop off on Sunday's in the Parish Hall or in the office during the week. You are always welcomed to put food & supplies directly into the Blessing Box

ECUMENICAL MINISTRIES FOOD PANTRY OPEN HOUSE

Thursday, March 20 from 11am to 12:30 pm

Join EMI for the Ribbon Cutting, Building Dedication and Open House of their new Food Pantry. This will be a chance for you to see where all the food you bring in on Sunday goes. 102 W. Spruce Street, corner of 59 & Spruce.

**St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Foley, AL
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There's a wideness in God's mercy

Contributors: Calvin Hampton, Rick McNeely

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Lord Christ when first thou came to earth

Contributors: Walter Russell Bowie

Text: © 1966, Abingdon Press

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