

**St. Paul's Episcopal Church**  
**Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast**  
**Foley, Alabama**  
**March 5, 2023**

**Hymns**

**Silent Entrance**

**"As Moses lifted"**

**"Purify my heart**

**"Light high the cross"**

**Renew Song Book #132**

**Renew Song Book #187**

**Hymnal 1982 #473**

**The Collect of the Day**

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**

**Numbers 21: 4-9**

From Mount Hor the people of Israel set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, 'Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.' Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, 'We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us.' So Moses prayed for the people. And the LORD said to Moses, 'Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.'

So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

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

**Psalm 121** *Read responsively*

1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*  
from where is my help to come?

**2 My help comes from the LORD, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.**

3 He will not let your foot be moved \*  
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

**4 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \*  
shall neither slumber nor sleep;**

5 The LORD himself watches over you; \*  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,

**6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \*  
nor the moon by night.**

7 The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; \*  
it is he who shall keep you safe.

**8 The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \*  
from this time forth for evermore.**

**Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you

the father of many nations”) —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

*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 John.*

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

**John 3:1-17**

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? “Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may

not perish but may have eternal life. "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

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

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*For healing:* Adrienne, Al, Alice, Ame, Bernice, Bill, Butch, Carol, Chuck, Dave, Dennis, Devin, Donna, Eloise, Esther, Fred, Freda, Henry, Jenny, Jerry, John, Kate, Kathy, Kim, Kirsten, Lane, Larry, Leigh, Margaret, Marilyn, Massey, Meg, Mike, Milton, Myrna, Nelda, Nicolas, Rita, Rosellen, Sandy, Sarah, Sherry, Steve, Terry, Tony, Vera, Wayne and those who care for them.

*For those serving in the military:* Fury, Gerromy, Chris, Noel, Drew, Dalton, Kyle, Brad, Ben, Taylor, Jacob, Andrew, Neil, Wayne, & those serving with them.

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

*For birthdays:* Meg Scott, Lynn Callaway, Donnie Bobe.

*For anniversaries:* Patti & Clark Stewart, Ralph Buck & Lynn Callaway and Anthony & Katie Goodson.

# **This Weeks Announcements**

## **SAINT PAUL'S THIS WEEK**

### ***SUNDAY***

- 7:30 am-Holy Eucharist
- 9 am-Formation
- 9 am-Choir Practice
- 10 am-Holy Eucharist
- 6 pm-Iglesia Nueva Jerusalem
- 7 pm-NAR-NON & NA Open Meetings

### **MONDAY**

- 8 pm-AA Meeting

### **TUESDAY**

- 10 am Prayer Shawl Meeting (Education Building)
- 10 am-2 pm Red Cross Blood Drive (Parish Hall)

### **WEDNESDAY**

- 10:30-Bible Study

- Noon-Holy Eucharist with Healing
- 6 pm-Lenten Supper with Worship & Program
- 7 pm-NA-Open Meeting

### **THURSDAY**

- 10 am Galileans Meeting
- 4 pm-Women's Bible Study
- 6 pm-Choir Practice
- 6 pm-AA Meeting
- 8 pm-AA Open meeting

### **FRIDAY**

- 6 pm-Iglesia Nueva Jerusalem

### **SATURDAY**

- 9 am to Noon-Parish Work Day
- 10 am-AA Meeting

## **THE AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE AT ST. PAUL'S**

The Red Cross will be holding a Blood Drive here at St. Paul's on Tuesday, March 7 from 10 am to 2 pm in the Parish Hall. Contact [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) to register.

### ***LENTEN ART PROJECT***

During Lent we will be doing an art project based on the Stations of the Cross. An individual, family, or group takes one of the Stations and creates a visual representation based on their prayer and meditation. We will use these Stations on Good Friday. Some of the Stations have already been claimed. You may claim a Station on Wednesday or on Sunday during Lent. If you have any questions contact Pastor Brent.

## **LENT 2023 AT ST. PAUL'S**

**Mark Your Calendars for Upcoming Events and Worship Services**

**WEDNESDAYS IN LENT - 8, 15 AND 22 - 6 PM**

**FELLOWSHIP SUPPER AT 6 PM WITH EVENING WORSHIP AT 6:30PM**

**PROGRAM OR ART PROJECT AFTER**

**ANNUAL FISH FRY - MARCH 29 AT 6 PM**

### **PARISH WORK DAY 3/11/23**

Next Saturday in preparation renovations & repairs on our buildings, we need help moving furnishings and supplies from the Outreach Building & other areas. We will be working from 9 am until Noon.

**PLANTING OUR AGAPE GARDEN 3/18/23**

Trixie & John Foley have graciously offered to provide an area for a garden on their property for our St. Paul's family. The plot is ready for us to get together to plant our vegetables on 3/18/23 at 10 am. Please come to dig in the dirt. There is also a portion designated for children.

### **BLESSING BOX AT SAINT PAUL'S**

Saint Paul's own Blessing Box needs to be filled! This box can have nonperishable items such as cereal, snack food, baby food, Pop-Tarts and canned items. A bin will be in the Parish hall and the office for items.

### **ONLINE DIRECTORY CHANGE**

The online directory that was in use before our new, current system will cease working in late February. If you have not switched over to the new Church Connect directory please do so. If you need help getting online access please let the office know.

### **EMI SUPPLIES NEEDED THIS WEEK**

Pancake Mix, Syrup, powdered milk, tuna helper and canned tuna.

### **BRING TISSUE, DISINFECTANT WIPES AND LYSOL SPRAY FOR THE FOLEY SCHOOLS**

There is a bin in the Parish Hall to put these items.

## Copyright and Streaming Notice

March 5, 2023

### **As Moses raised the serpent**

Contributors: Marie J. Post

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### **Purify my heart -cli**

Text and tune: Jeff Nelson

© 1993 Heartservice music admin. MARANATHA! MUSIC

CCLI ##529542

### **I love the Lord**

Richard Smallwood, arr. Nolan Williams, Jr.,

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### **Lift high the cross**

Contributors: George Kitchin, Michael Newbolt, Sydney Nicholson

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