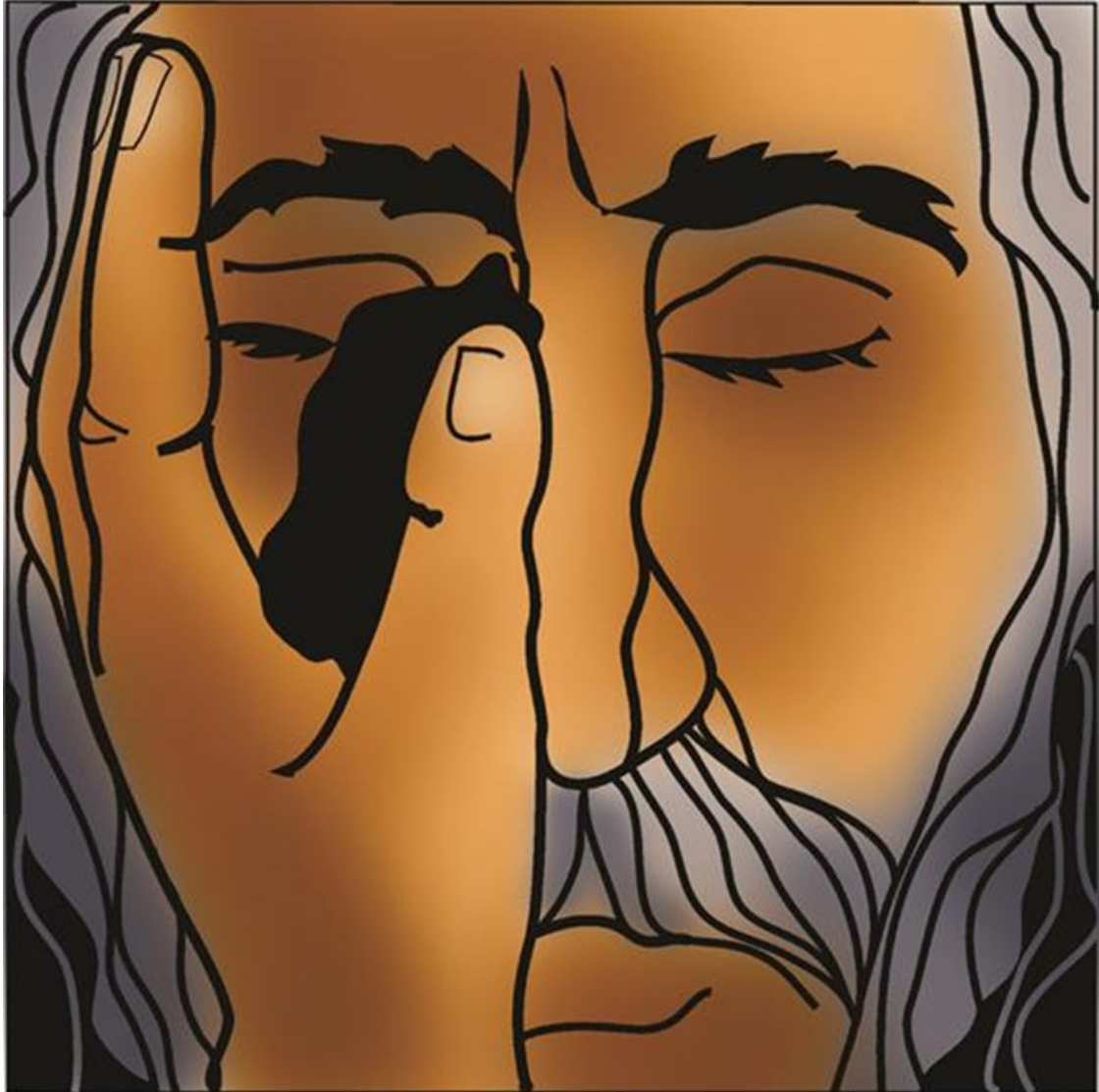


Service of Holy Eucharist
The fourth Sunday in Lent



March 19, 2023
9:00 AM

St. Mary's Episcopal Church
W. Columbia, Texas
(979) 345-3456
www.stmaryswestcolumbia.com

The Rev. Paul B. Wehner, Interim Rector

We welcome all friends and visitors to worship with us this morning. St. Mary's is "The Mustard Seed Church," where out of a small number, great things will grow for the glory of God.

If you would like to receive more information about life within our community, please fill out a Visitor's Card on the table in the Narthex or entry, so that we may get in touch with you this week. You can hand the card to the priest or usher as you leave or leave it in your pew.

Ministers of the Service

Celebrant/Preacher	The Rev. Paul Wehner
Chalice Bearer	Shyanne Roddy
Lector	Dani Mikel
Prayers of the People	Gwynne Olson
Music	Grace Culbreath
Crucifer	Travis Prater
Usher	AJ Mikel
Altar Guild	Theata Miller, Sherry Wehner
Technical Support	Amber Prater
Hospitality	Colleen Matocha

Rev. Paul Wehner is our Interim Rector during the current transition time. He will be in the church office on Tuesdays from 8:30 – 5:00, or can meet at other times by appointment. Please do not hesitate to drop in or to call and schedule a time to meet and talk or pray with Fr. Paul. Call the church office or his cell phone: 409-766-0088.

Prelude

Grace Culbreath, Organ

Opening Prayer

The Reverend Paul Wehner

Processional Hymn

There's a wideness in God's mercy

Hymn #470

1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy like the wide-ness of the sea;
 2 There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heaven;
 3 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sure of the mind;

there's a kind-ness in his jus - tice, which is more than lib - er - ty.
 there is no place where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment given.
 and the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.

There is wel - come for the sin - ner, and more gra - ces for the good;
 There is plen - ti - ful re - demp - tion in the blood that has been shed;
 If our love were but more faith - ful, we should take him at his word;

A

there is mer - cy with the Sa - vior; there is heal - ing in his blood.
 there is joy for all the mem - bers in the sor - rows of the Head.
 and our life would be thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of the Lord.

Penitential Order: Rite II

BCP p. 351

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People His mercy endures for ever.

The Decalogue *(kneeling or sitting)*

BCP p. 350

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.

BCP p. 352

Priest

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, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *1 John 1:8,9*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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 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.**

TRISAGION

Celebrant Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One,

People **Have mercy upon us.**

Celebrant Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One,

People **Have mercy upon us.**

Celebrant Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One,

People **Have mercy upon us.**

The Collect of the Day *(kneeling or sitting)*

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Children two years old through 5th grade are invited to follow the cross to Sunday School . They will return during the Peace.

The Lessons

Our First Reading is from 1 Samuel (16:1-13)

The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord." But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before

Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God

Psalm 23 (in unison)

King James Version

BCP p. 476

The Lord is my shepherd; * I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; * he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul; * he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his Name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; * for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; * thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, * and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Our Second Reading is from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians (5:8-14)

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Unison or harmony

1 I come with joy to meet my Lord, for -
 2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to
 3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each
 4 And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His
 5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound, we'll

1 giv - en, loved, and free, in awe and won - der
 2 find, as all are fed, the new com - mu - ni -
 3 proud di - vi - sion ends. That love that made us
 4 pres - ence, al - ways near, is in such friend - ship
 5 go our dif - ferent ways, and as his peo - ple

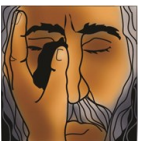
1 to re - call his life laid down for me.
 2 ty of love in Christ's com - mun - ion bread.
 3 makes us one, and stran - gers now are friends.
 4 bet - ter known: we see, and praise him here.
 5 in the world, we'll live and speak his praise.

Gospeler The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (9:1-41)

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

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be

revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."



When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him,

"Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept

saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet." The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him." So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out. Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Nicene Creed (standing)

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.

Lent Prayers of the People

Reader With confidence and trust let us pray to the Lord, saying, “**Lord, have mercy**” after each intercession.

Reader For the peace from above, for the loving kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, we pray to you, Lord God.
Lord have mercy.

Reader For justice and peace in the world and for the unity of all people, we pray to you, Lord God.
Lord have mercy.

Reader For the welfare of the holy Church of God; for Michael, our presiding bishop; Andy, Jeff, Hector, and Kai our bishops; Paul, our priest; and for the people of St. Mary's Church; we pray to you, Lord God.
Lord have mercy.

Reader For our president, Joseph, for the leaders of nations, for all in authority in this time of uncertainty, and for love and charity in the world, we pray to you, Lord God.
Lord have mercy.

Reader For our enemies and those who wish to do us harm; and for all whom we have injured or offended, we pray to you, Lord God.
Lord have mercy.

Reader For the men and women of our armed forces everywhere, especially Ricky Wallace, Luis Cassells, and Aidan Vrazel, that they may be strengthened in their trials, have courage to face the perils which beset them and be given a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be, we pray to you, Lord God.

Lord have mercy.

Reader We give you thanksgiving for your many blessings; offering our thanks, we pray to you, Lord God.

Lord have mercy.

Reader For those celebrating their birthdays, especially Tommy Cantrell and Theata Miller, and those celebrating their anniversaries, we pray to you, Lord God.

Lord have mercy.

Reader For refugees, prisoners, and all in danger; for the poor, the persecuted, the sick and all who suffer; Dan, Mary, Mike, Marglet, Theresa, Anne, Mary, Colleen, Clint, Bonnie, John, Doris, Parker, Vicki, Cody, Keri, Daniel, Jennifer, Carol, Danny, Nancy, Jenna, Duggan, Arlien, Bryce, Veronica, Debbie, Linda, Marion, Kim, David and those we now name silently or aloud,
. . . . that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, Lord God.

Lord have mercy.

Reader For all who have commended themselves to our prayers; for our families, friends and neighbors; that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health, we pray to you, Lord God.

Lord have mercy.

Reader For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, especially for those we now name silently or aloud,
.we pray to you, Lord God.

Lord have mercy.

Prayer for our Search Committee (said in unison)

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a rector for this parish, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Priest O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen**

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Welcome and Announcements

Discovery Camp Report—Abigail Roddy
Birthday and Anniversary Prayers

The Holy Communion

Celebrant All things come of thee, oh Lord,
All **And of thine own have we given thee.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER C

BCP p. 369

The People remain standing. In this prayer, the lines in bold are spoken by the People.

The Celebrant faces them and says

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Sanctus

Hymn #S-125

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.***

Hosanna in the highest. 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 remain standing or kneel. The Celebrant continues

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **Amen.**

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,
forever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

BCP p. 364

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

Celebrant Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:

People Have mercy on us.

Celebrant Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:

People Have mercy on us.

Celebrant Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:

People Grant us peace.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

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.

Please proceed down the center aisle to the Communion rail, where you may stand or kneel.

All that desire a closer relationship with Jesus Christ are invited to receive Communion.

The priest will put a wafer in your hand. If you desire wine, you may sip from the cup or lightly dip your wafer in the wine. If you prefer to receive only the bread or a blessing, so indicate by crossing your arms over your chest at the appropriate time. If you desire to receive Communion in your pew, please tell one of the ushers. The ministers will be pleased to bring the bread and wine to you.

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these or similar words.

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [**Amen.**]

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. [**Amen.**]

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP p. 365

Let us pray.

People and Celebrant (sitting or kneeling)

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.

Lenten Blessing:

The Celebrant says

Bow down before the Lord.

The people kneel or bow their heads as the Celebrant continues

Look down in mercy, Lord, on your people who kneel before you; 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.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you this day, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun-tain, whence the heal - ing
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor-dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land; I am weak, but thou art might - y;
 stream doth flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar
 fears sub - side; death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion,

hold me with thy power - ful hand; bread of hea - ven,
 lead me all my jour - ney through; strong de - liv - erer,
 land me safe on Ca - naan's side; songs of prais - es,

bread of hea - ven, feed me now and ev - er -
 strong de - liv - erer, be thou still my strength and
 songs of prais - es, I will ev - er give to

more, feed me now and ev - er - more.
 shield, be thou still my strength and shield.
 thee, I will ev - er give to thee.

The Dismissal (*Alleluia is omitted during Lent.*)

Priest Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People Thanks be to God. Amen.

2023 FLOWER SIGN UP

The forms to sign up for 2023 flower offerings are in the Narthex. Please stop by and sign up to honor or celebrate special days in your life. The cost is \$50, to be paid in advance.

For more information, contact the church office. (979-345-3456)

Prayers

Prayers for Healing: Dan, Mary, Mike, Marglet, Theresa, Anne, Mary, Colleen, Clint, Bonnie, John, Doris, Parker, Vicki, Cody, Keri, Daniel, Jennifer, Carol, Danny, Nancy, Jenna, Duggan, Arlien, Bryce, Veronica, Debbie, Linda, Marion, Kim, and David

Prayers for our men and women in the Armed Forces: Ricky Wallace, Luis Cassells, and Aidan Vrazel

Prayers for birthdays: Tommy Cantrell (22), Theata Miller (24)

Prayers for the Members of our Search Committee: Jackie Walker (chair), AJ Mikel, Colleen Matocha, Tracy Lane, Jennifer Schill, Bill Olson, and Shyanne Roddy

Announcements

1. We welcome all those visiting with us. If you need assistance, please ask one of the ushers for help.
2. Everyone is invited to the Parish Hall after the service for hospitality and fellowship.
3. First Communion class will be during the service with the children leaving the sanctuary before the readings and returning during the Peace.
4. Sunday school for youth and adults is after the service and hospitality. There will be supervised activities for the children so parents can attend.
5. Throughout Lent, St. Mary's will have a food drive to benefit the food pantries of Columbia Methodist Church and Society of St. Vincent de Paul. Baskets will be available in the Narthex and Parish Hall for canned goods, boxed food, diapers, paper products, and other non-perishable items.
6. Gwynne Olson will be leading a children's choir class after church for 15 minutes.
7. In the Narthex, there is a schedule of the services during Holy Week.
8. On Thursday, April 14th, after the Maundy Thursday service, there is a Prayer Vigil from 7:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. As disciples of today, we are the ones that Jesus asks to stay awake and watch as he prays and suffers in his final hours. We will take turns throughout the evening to be present in church with the sacrament of his Body and Blood. There is a sign up sheet with different times in the Narthex.
9. Brotherhood meets next Sunday at 7:30 a.m.
10. Saturday, March 25th, at 10:00 a.m. is Opening Ceremony for West Columbia Little League. St. Mary's will be recognized for their donation and Wade Roddy will be throwing out the first pitch with Trace Roddy catching.

11. San Jacinto Festival is April 21 and 22. St. Mary's will have a booth in the Kids' Zone. There are signup sheets for those who can help in the Narthex and Parish Hall. Please check your calendar and see what time you can volunteer. The slots are in two hour increments but you can sign up in more than one slot. We would like to have at least two people per shift.

12. We are now accepting donations for the Easter flowers. There are forms in the Narthex.



EASTER FLOWERS

It is time to order the Easter flowers that add to the beauty of our church at Easter. The suggested donation is \$15 per plant. Please return this form with your check to the church office or drop in the alms basin on Sunday. Call Dani at the church office with questions. (979) 345-3456

Deadline to order is April 2nd.

I wish to order _____ Easter Flowers. I enclose \$_____.

Name _____

Dedications: To the Glory of God and

In Memory of _____

In Thanksgiving for _____

Holy Week – April 2 -9, 2022

Palm Sunday – April 2nd (9:00 a.m.)

The Palm Sunday service will begin in the Prayer Garden beside the church. Following the Liturgy of the Palms, the congregation will process into the church, waving palm fronds and making joyful noises. The service includes the traditional reading of the Passion of Christ by members of our congregation.

Maundy Thursday – April 6th (6:00 p.m.)

Prayer Vigil - April 6th - April 7th (7:00 p.m. - 7:00 a.m.)

As disciples of today, we are the ones that Jesus asks to stay awake and watch as he prays and suffers in his final hours. We will take turns throughout the evening to be present in church with the sacrament of his Body and Blood. There is a sign-up sheet with different times in the Narthex.

Good Friday – April 7th (noon)

The Good Friday service commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus, the day when our Lord Jesus Christ suffered "death upon the cross so that we might be saved and become heirs with him of everlasting life." The liturgy of the day includes the Way of the Cross (a.k.a., Stations of the Cross), a moving reenactment of the walk that Jesus took from the place of his sentencing to the cross on Calvary. The service continues with intercession known as the solemn collects, and devotions before the cross. The Eucharist is not celebrated; instead, we will consume all of the reserved sacrament.

Holy Saturday – April 8th (9:00 a.m.)

The morning after the crucifixion, Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus took the body of Jesus and laid him in a new tomb. The liturgy this morning is a short prayer service that reminds us of the contribution of those two secret disciples. The service also offers prayers and encouragement for some of St. Mary's important disciples behind the scenes – our Altar Guild.

Easter - April 9th (9:00 a.m.)

Easter is the celebration of the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Our service will include the Flowering of the Cross, Following the service, we will have hospitality and our annual Easter egg hunt.