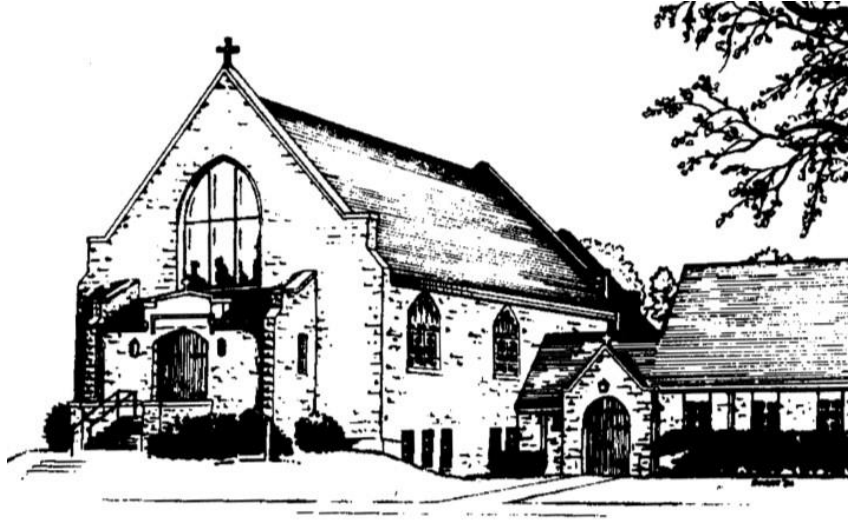


The Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 17, 2024



St. Paul's Episcopal Church

P.O. Box 2255
Batesville, Arkansas, 72503

Main Street at Fifth
870-793-2203

Today's Ministers

<i>Officiant:</i>	Mr. Cameron Gillespie
<i>Chalice bearer:</i>	Ms. Kay Forrest
<i>Lector:</i>	Ms. Brenda Bittle
<i>Acolyte:</i>	Ms. Ardis Gillespie
<i>Ushers:</i>	Mr. Gary Perkey & Mr. Tim Dunlap
<i>Choir Director & Organist:</i>	Mr. Kristian Ameigh
<i>Technical Support:</i>	Mr. Steve Massey
<i>Altar Guild:</i>	Ms. Jo Cargill-Krug & Ms. Donna Fagan

This Week's Community Meal (3/20/2024): Team Wray

The Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion: Rite Two

The Word of God

Entrance Hymn 628: *Help Us, O Lord, To Learn*

1 Help us, O Lord, to learn the truths your word im - parts: to
2 Help us, O Lord, to live the faith which we pro - claim, that
3 Help us, O Lord, to teach the beau - ty of your ways, that

stu - dy, that your laws may be in - scribed up - on our hearts.
all our thoughts and words and deeds may glo - ri - fy your Name.
yearn - ing souls may find the Christ and live a life of praise.

Today's service begins on Page 355 in the Book of Common Prayer.

The people standing (as able), the Officiant says

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;

People: His mercy endures for ever.

The Officiant says

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Kyrie - Sung (S91)

Officiant and People

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.
Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Collect of the Day

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

First Reading

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Lector: A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 51:1-13

- 1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; *
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
- 2 Wash me through and through from my wickedness *
and cleanse me from my sin.
- 3 For I know my transgressions, *
and my sin is ever before me.
- 4 Against you only have I sinned *
and done what is evil in your sight.
- 5 And so you are justified when you speak *
and upright in your judgment.
- 6 Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, *
a sinner from my mother's womb.
- 7 For behold, you look for truth deep within me, *
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.
- 8 Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; *
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.
- 9 Make me hear of joy and gladness, *
that the body you have broken may rejoice.
- 10 Hide your face from my sins *
and blot out all my iniquities.
- 11 Create in me a clean heart, O God, *
and renew a right spirit within me.
- 12 Cast me not away from your presence *
and take not your holy Spirit from me.
- 13 Give me the joy of your saving help again *
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

Second Reading

Hebrews 5:5-10

Lector: A reading from Paul's letter to the Hebrews.

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

“You are my Son,
today I have begotten you”;

as he says also in another place,

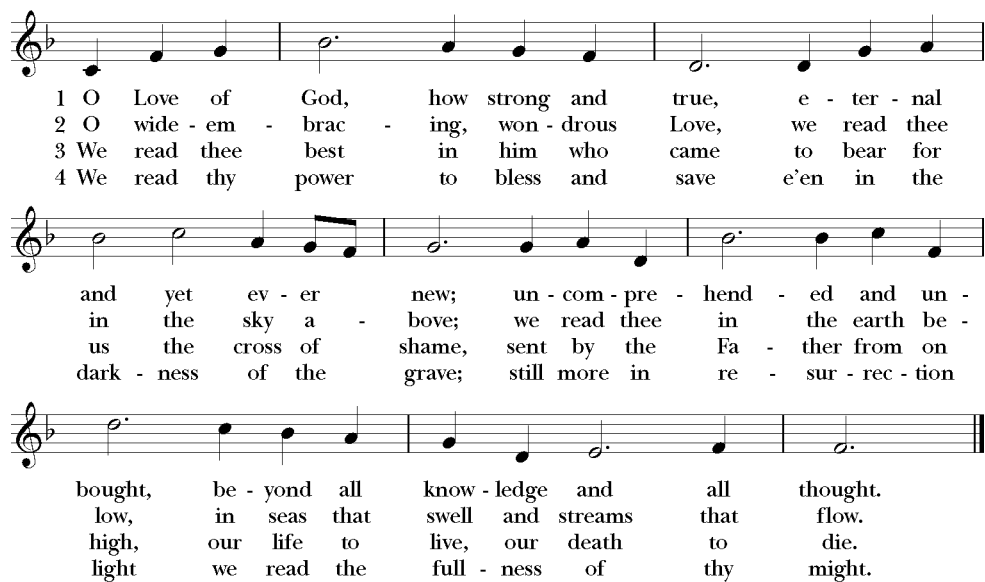
“You are a priest forever,
according to the order of Melchizedek.”

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

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

Sequence Hymn 455: O Love of God, How Strong and True



1 O Love of God, how strong and true, e - ter - nal
2 O wide - em - brac - ing, won - drous Love, we read thee
3 We read thee best in him who came to bear for
4 We read thy power to bless and save e'en in the
and yet ev - er new; un - com - pre - hend - ed and un -
in the sky a - bove; we read thee in the earth be -
us the cross of shame, sent by the Fa - ther from on
dark - ness of the grave; still more in re - sur - rec - tion
bought, be - yond all know - ledge and all thought.
low, in seas that swell and streams that flow.
high, our life to live, our death to die.
light we read the full - ness of thy might.

Third Reading

John 12:20-33

There is no procession. The Lector reads the third reading, using the same form as the first two.

Lector: A reading from the Gospel according to St. John

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon Read by Cameron Gillespie*

Nicene Creed *found on page 358 in the Book of Common Prayer*

All stand, as the People and Officiant say together.

**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, Form IV – *found on page 388 in the Book of Common Prayer*

People kneeling, as able, the Leader and People pray responsively

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
Hear our prayer.

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

Hear our prayer.

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

Hear our prayer.

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.

We pray especially for Peyton Olson and her work in Kenya.

We pray for our wardens, vestry, and those who will choose a rector for this parish, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for God's people and equip us for our ministries.

We give thanks for those celebrating birthdays, especially Rhonda Mundy, Susan Dempsey, Laura Hance, and Tim Dozier.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation **especially:** Jamie Bridgers, Ann Rhodes, Jim & Deb Johnson, Patricia Smith, Joan Davidson, Matt Stephenson, John & Susan Dempsey, Isabelle Tenace, Ellen Massey, Martha Healey, Bill Olson, and Royce Haigwood.

We pray also for family and friends for whom our prayers have been requested: Jim Wilson, Jay, Autumn Celestine, Kitten Lawless, DeAnna McCool, Robin Goertz, Gerry Goertz & Jinny Goertz, Tom & Kathy Celestine, Mary Myers, Mason Evans, Mark & Jennifer, Susan, Ken Ortman, Jody Gayle, Stacey Lindsey, Tara Nance, the Sweet Family, Rebecca Ward, Annalynn Hart, Melvin & Jennie Smith, Howard Crosby, Pat Spence, Camryn Dempsey, Gina Layne, David Smith, Loresa Snow, Bill Waldrip, Lucy Harris, Adam M, Dwayne & Audra Stott, and GW Earle.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

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

Hear our prayer.

The Officiant adds the following Collect:

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Confession

The Officiant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Officiant 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 Officiant remains kneeling and says

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

Peace

All stand. The Officiant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

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

Announcements

The Holy Communion

The Officiant may begin the Offertory with the following or another Offertory sentence.

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Offertory Anthem: *Not Far Beyond the Sea, Nor High* Samuel Wesley

Doxology: 43 v.4

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow: praise him, all creatures here below: praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

The people's offerings of money or other gifts are received. The officiant reverently places the offerings on the altar. The Officiant opens the tabernacle, reverently places the ciborium containing the consecrated bread on the altar, and pours the consecrated wine from the flagon into the chalice.

The Officiant then continues

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Officiant

**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 Officiant 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.

The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.

Communion Hymn: Father, We Thank Thee Who Hast Planted

After Communion, the Officiant says


Let us pray.

Officiant and People


B.C.P 365:

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.**


Post Communion Hymn 448: *O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High*



1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high, how pass - ing
2 For us bap - tized, for us he bore his ho - ly
3 For us he prayed; for us he taught; for us his
4 For us to wick - ed hands be - trayed, scourged, mocked, in
5 For us he rose from death a - gain; for us he
6 All glo - ry to our Lord and God for love so



1 thought and fan - ta - sy, that God, the Son of
2 fast and hun - gered sore; for us temp - ta - tions
3 dai - ly works he wrought; by words and signs and
4 pur - ple robe ar - rayed, he bore the shame - ful
5 went on high to reign; for us he sent his
6 deep, so high, so broad; the Trin - i - ty whom



1 God, should take our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake.
2 sharp he knew; for us the tempt - er ov - er - threw.
3 ac - tions, thus still seek - ing not him - self, but us.
4 cross and death; for us gave up his dy - ing breath.
5 Spi - rit here to guide, to strength - en, and to cheer.
6 we a - dore for ev - er and for ev - er - more.

Dismissal

Officiant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

Organ Postlude

*This morning's sermon is from Sermons That Work, a ministry of the Office of Communication of The Episcopal Church. It was written by Rev. Ken Kesselus, author of John E. Hines: Granite on Fire, is retired from full-time, active ministry and lives with his wife, Toni, in his native home, Bastrop, Texas.

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