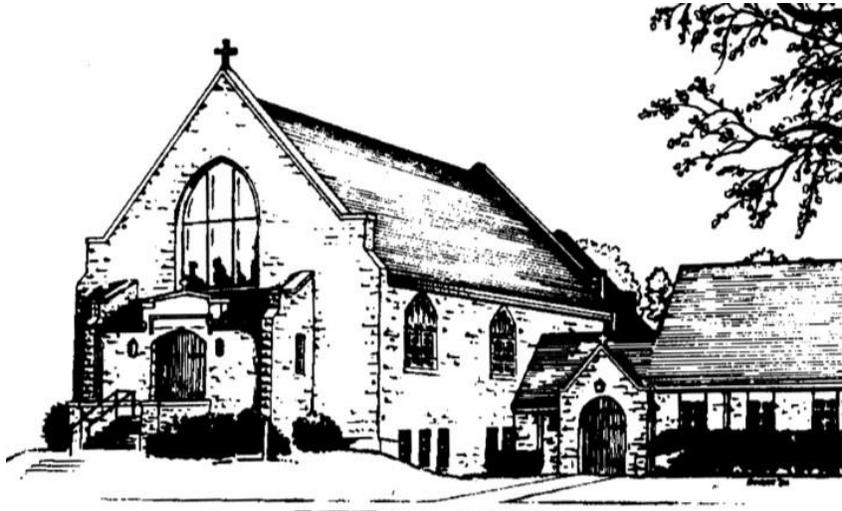


# First Sunday in Lent

February 22, 2026



## St. Paul's Episcopal Church

P.O. Box 2255

Batesville, Arkansas, 72503

[stpaulsbatesville.org](http://stpaulsbatesville.org)

482 E. Main St.

870-793-2203

### Today's Ministers

<i>Celebrant:</i>	Rev. Carolyne Adhola
<i>Eucharistic Minister:</i>	Steve Massey
<i>Ushers:</i>	Mike Smith & Fuller Bumpers
<i>Organist &amp; Choir Director:</i>	Kristian Ameigh
<i>Technical Support:</i>	David Taverner
<i>Altar Guild:</i>	Paul & Laura Hance

This Week's Community Meal (2/25/2026): **Team Bumpers**

# The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

## The Word of God

### Opening Hymn: 149

*Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church*

*Unison or harmony*

1 E - ter - nal Lord of love, be - hold your Church  
2 So dai - ly dy - ing to the way of self,  
3 If dead in you, so in you we a - rise,

walk - ing once more the pil - grim way of Lent,  
so dai - ly liv - ing to your way of love,  
you the first - born of all the faith - ful dead;

led by your cloud by day, by night your fire,  
we walk the road, Lord Je - sus, that you trod,  
and as through ston - y ground the green shoots break,

moved by your love and toward your pres - ence bent:  
know - ing our - selves bap - tized in - to your death:  
glo - rious in spring - time dress of leaf and flower,

far off yet here— the goal of all de - sire.  
so we are dead and live with you in God.  
so in the Fa - ther's glo - ry shall we wake.

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

The people standing (as able), the Celebrant says

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;  
*People*      **His mercy endures for ever.**

The Celebrant 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 (Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us) S91**

*Celebrant 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**

*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.

*People*      **And also with you.**

*Celebrant*      Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **Old Testament**

**Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7**

A reading from the book of Genesis.

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the

tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.”

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God say, ‘You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?’” The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.’” But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 32**

- 1 Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, \*  
and whose sin is put away!
- 2 Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt, \*  
and in whose spirit there is no guile!
- 3 While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, \*  
because of my groaning all day long.
- 4 For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; \*  
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.
- 5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you, \*  
and did not conceal my guilt.
- 6 I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." \*  
Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.
- 7 Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; \*  
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.
- 8 You are my hiding-place;  
you preserve me from trouble; \*  
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.
- 9 "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; \*  
I will guide you with my eye.
- 10 Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; \*  
who must be fitted with bit and bridle,  
or else they will not stay near you."
- 11 Great are the tribulations of the wicked; \*  
but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.
- 12 Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD; \*  
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

## Epistle

## Romans 5:12-19

A reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

As sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned-- sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## Sequence Hymn 685: *Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me*

*vs 1 & 2 before the spoken Gospel*

1 Rock of a - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee;  
2 Should my tears for ev - er flow, should my zeal no lan - guor know,  
3 While I draw this fleet-ing breath, when mine eye - lids close in death,

let the wa - ter and the blood from thy wound - ed side that flowed,  
all for sin could not a - tone: thou must save, and thou a - lone;  
when I rise to worlds un - known and be - hold thee on thy throne,

be of sin the dou-ble cure, cleanse me from its guilt and power.  
in my hand no price I bring, sim - ply to thy cross I cling.  
Rock of a - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.

## Gospel

## Matthew 4:1-11

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written,

‘One does not live by bread alone,  
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written,

‘He will command his angels concerning you,’  
and ‘On their hands they will bear you up,  
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’”

Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

‘Worship the Lord your God,  
and serve only him.’”

Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

*Celebrant:* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## *Verse 3 only of Sequence Hymn sung*

## Sermon

Rev.Carolyn Adhola

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

*All stand, as the People and Celebrant 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 I— *found on page 383 in the Book of Common Prayer***

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord, have mercy.”

For the peace from above, for the loving kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

For our Bishop, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

For this city Batesville, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

For seasonable weather, and for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

For those who travel on land, on water, or in the air [or through outer space], let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

For all members of our parish and especially for: Jamie Bridgers, Ann Rhodes, Jim & Deb Johnson, Patricia Smith, Joan Davidson, Matt Stephenson, John & Susan Dempsey, Ellen Massey, Bill Olson, Cindy Perkey, Isabelle Tenace, Dana & Bob Teichart, Mabelle Christiansen, Martha Healey, Mike Mundy, Natalie Molineaux, and Marilyn Smith.

And we pray for our family and friends for whom our prayers have been requested: Kitten Lawless, DeAnna McCool, Robin Goertz, Gerry Goertz & Jinny Goertz, Tom & Kathy Celestine, David Smith, Lucy Harris, Adam M, Charlotte, Daniel & Steven King, Sherry Snow, Mark Higginbotham, Danny Yeager, Shannon Bohnert, Micah Jordon, Rodney Brady, John V. Miller, Ben Handford, Jim Reynolds, Peggy Comer, Kristin, Georgina Mosser, Kristi Smith, Raymond Staggs, Gary & Phylis Bratton, Connie Barnett, Q, James & Lois Work, Wilma, Mitchell Dobson, Sharon Runyan, Eleanor, Shelly & Heath Wooldridge, Linda Brewer, Sarah Mosser, Nicole Haskins, Linda Healey Morgan, Sandra Coe, the Teague Family, Kera Cook & family, Jacqueline Levy, Gina, Linda, Autumn & Our Father's Table, Hank Pearce, Sharon Santangelo and Ellie & Clarke, let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, especially David Carpenter, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

For the absolution and remission of our sins and offenses, let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

***Lord, have mercy.***

Defend us, deliver us, and in thy compassion protect us, O Lord, by thy grace.

***Lord, have mercy.***

In the communion of St. Paul's and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

***To thee, O Lord our God.***

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

## **CONFESSION OF SIN (BCP p. 359)**

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*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.*

## **Peace**

*All stand. The Celebrant 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**

## **OFFERTORY SENTENCE (BCP p. 376)**

*The Celebrant says*

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High.

*Psalms 50:14*

**Offertory:** *It Is Well with My Soul*

Phillip Bliss



## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION (BCP P. 362)**

*The people stand or kneel.*

*The Celebrant 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 Celebrant 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:

*Celebrant and People*

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

## **EPICLESIS (BCP p. 363)**

*The Celebrant 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. AMEN.

*The Celebrant then continues*

## THE LORD'S PRAYER (BCP p. 363)

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

*People and Celebrant*

**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.**

## Breaking of the Bread

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.*

*A period of silence is kept.*

## FRACTION ANTHEM (BCP p. 364)

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*therefore let us keep the feast.*

## *Agnus Dei (S163)*

**BCP p. 407**

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.

*The Celebrant may say the following **Invitation** (BCP p. 364)*

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.

**Communion Anthem:** *Forty Days and Forty Nights*

**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (BCP p. 365)**

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

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.***

## BLESSING (BCP p. 366)

*The Priest blesses the people, saying*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

## Post Communion Hymn 559: *Lead Us, Heavenly Father, Lead Us*

1 Lead us, heaven - ly Fa - ther, lead us o'er the world's tem -  
2 Sa - vior, breathe for - give - ness o'er us; all our weak - ness  
3 Spi - rit of our God, de - scend - ing, fill our hearts with

pes - tuous sea; guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,  
thou dost know; thou didst tread this earth be - fore us;  
heaven - ly joy; love with ev - ery pas - sion blend - ing,

for we have no help but thee, yet pos - ses - sing  
thou didst feel its keen - est woe; yet un - fear - ing,  
plea - sure that can nev - er cloy; thus pro - vid - ed,

ev - ery bless - ing, if our God our Fa - ther be.  
per - se - ver - ing, to thy pas - sion thou didst go.  
par - doned, guid - ed, noth - ing can our peace des - troy.

## Dismissal (BCP p. 366)

*Celebrant* Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* *Thanks be to God.*

## Organ Postlude