



ST. PAUL'S
Est 1855
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
 Worship, Love, Live the Message

WORSHIP BULLETIN:
MARCH 16, 2025 **8:45 AM**
 Holy Eucharist Rite II Prayer A

Second Sunday in Lent

PENITENTIAL ORDER

ENTRANCE HYMN:

*The following is sung.
 Please refer to your hymnal*

**(H 142) Lord, Who Throughout These
 Forty Days**

OPENING ACCLAMATION: BCP p. 355

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all
 our sins/his Mercy endures forever.

People: Glory to God for ever and ever.

DECALOGUE BCP p. 350

The Decalogue is said, the People kneeling.

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.

*The Celebrant concludes with a sentence of
 scripture.*

CONFESSION OF SIN: BCP p. 355

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.**

TRISAGION:

*The following is sung.
Please refer to your hymnal*

(S 102) Holy God

COLLECT OF THE DAY: BCP p.357

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

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.**

FIRST READING: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

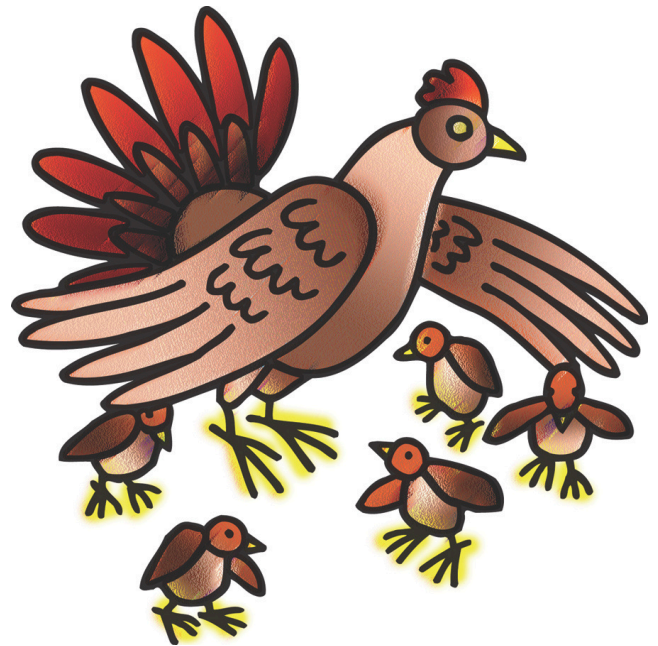
The people sit.

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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.



PSALM:**Psalm 27***Remain seated.*

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?**

When evildoers came upon me to eat up
my flesh, *

**it was they, my foes and my adversaries,
who stumbled and fell.**

Though an army should encamp against
me, *

yet my heart shall not be afraid;

And though war should rise up against me,
*

yet will I put my trust in him.

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;**

To behold the fair beauty of the Lord *

and to seek him in his temple.

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.

Even now he lifts up my head *

above my enemies round about me.

Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an
oblation

with sounds of great gladness; *

I will sing and make music to the Lord.

Hearken to my voice, O Lord, when I call; *

have mercy on me and answer me.

You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my
face." *

Your face, Lord, will I seek.

Hide not your face from me, *

**nor turn away your servant in
displeasure.**

You have been my helper;

cast me not away; *

**do not forsake me, O God of my
salvation.**

Though my father and my mother forsake
me, *

the Lord will sustain me.

Show me your way, O Lord; *

**lead me on a level path, because of my
enemies.**

Deliver me not into the hand of my
adversaries, *

**for false witnesses have risen up against
me,**

and also those who speak malice.

What if I had not believed

that I should see the goodness of the Lord *

in the land of the living!

Oh, tarry and await the Lord's pleasure;

be strong, and he shall comfort your heart;

*

wait patiently for the Lord.

SECOND READING: Philippians 3:17—4:1*Remain seated.*

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: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Silence may follow.

GOSPEL HYMN:

The following is sung.

Please refer to your hymnal

(H 152) Kind Maker of the World, O Hear

GOSPEL:**Luke 13:31-35***All stand.*

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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.'"

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

**THE SERMON:****The Rev. Annie Mertz****THE CREED:****BCP p.358***All stand.*

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.



THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

All remain standing

THE PEACE: BCP p.360

All stand.

Celebrant: 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

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES & TRANSITIONS:

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin anew. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE HOLY COMMUNION



OFFERTORY SENTENCE BCP p.376

OFFERTORY HYMN:

The following is sung.

Please refer to your hymnal

(H 150) Forty Days and Forty Nights

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

SURSUM CORDA: BCP p.361

The People remain standing.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.



PROPER PREFACE: BCP p.361

Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth...

...Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS:

*Celebrant and people
Please refer to your hymnal*

(S 124) Holy, Holy, Holy

BCP p.362

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...

...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.**

BCP p.370

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...

...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 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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD



FRACTION ANTHEM:

*The following is sung.
Please refer to your hymnal*

(S 163) Lamb of God

INVITATION

The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people. The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

COMMUNION HYMN:

*The following is sung.
Please refer to your hymnal.*

(H 10) New Every Morning is the Love

COMMUNION HYMN:

The following is sung.

(WLP 825) Bless the Lord My Soul

Bless the Lord my soul and bless God's holy name.
Bless the Lord my soul, Who leads me into life.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

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 Celebrant 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.**

RECESSIONAL HYMN:

*The following is sung.
Please refer to your hymnal*

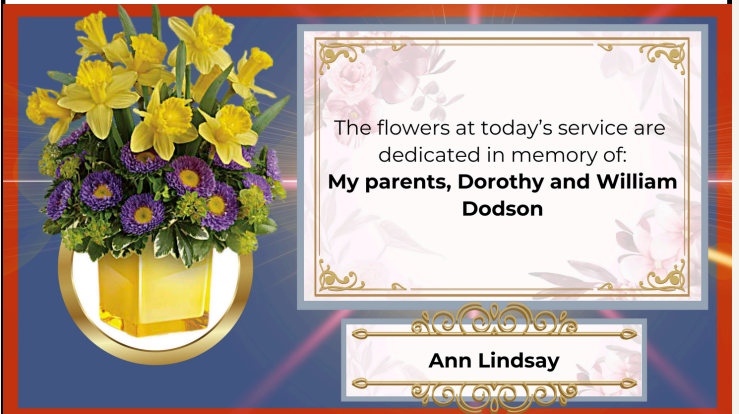
(H 147) Now Let Us All With One Accord

DISMISSAL

The Deacon or Celebrant will dismiss the people

Deacon: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.



The Lost Art of Kindness

Civility as a Christian Calling
video course with Bishop Marianne Budde

Zoom Lenten Series



Wednesdays at 7pm
March 12-April 2



WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Scan or click for our weekly announcements online!



* 2025 Zoom Lenten Series
The Lost Art of Kindness




* The St. Paul's Community Meal
Needs YOUR Help!



The deadline for submitting announcements is Wednesday at noon.
E-mail: admin@stpaulsbenicia.org Phone: (707) 745-0307

SIGN UP FOR OUR MAILING LIST:



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 (707) 745-0307  120 E J St. Benicia, CA

Please e-mail: admin@stpaulsbenicia.org for updates or additions

WE PRAY FOR GOD'S HEALING

Rev. Cn. Mary Goshert
Virginia & Gary Cady
Georgene Keeler
Kathy Albers
James Carr
Mark Park
Judith Mooney

WE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL



WE PRAY FOR THOSE SERVING IN OUR ARMED FORCES

Major Russ Morris, U.S.
Air Force Reserves
SFC Mike Moverley, 1st
Battalion 143rd Field
Artillery, U.S. Army
Warrant Officer
Brandon Niemann,
U.S. Army
Airman
Andrew Severa, U.S.
Air Force
SA Michelle Severa,
PA, Air National Guard
Staff SGT Jake
Sackett, U.S. Air Force
Major Xacasia Evans-
Walp, U.S. Army

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

3/16 Rev. Annie Mertz
3/16 Bill Markley
3/16 Ann Lindsay
3/18 Robin Silver
3/18 Donna Lawson

SERVING THIS WEEK:

Celebrant	The Rev. Annie Mertz	
Preacher	The Rev. Annie Mertz	
Deacon	The Rev. Beth Gaines	
	8:45 AM	11:00 AM
Music	Dr. Matthew Welch	Cameron De Palma
Lector	Karen Lowe	Marjorie Lowry
Intercessor	MaryFrances Kelly-Poh	Jim Wolf
LEM	MaryFrances Kelly-Poh	TBD
Healing Prayers	Judy Furlong	Rev. Nancy Bryan
Ushers	Lisa & Jorge Pena	Donna Patey & Helen Kennedy-Lazar
Altar Guild	Robin Silver & Susie Bonstin	
Flower Guild	Liz Stallings	
Office Angels	Jean Browne & Debbie Varson	
Verger	Jim Peterson	

PARISH LEADERSHIP

CLERGY:

The Rev. Annie Mertz, Rector
The Rev. Beth Gaines, Deacon
The Rev. Canon Mary Goshert, Associate Priest
The Rev. Pamela Higgins, Associate Priest
The Rev. Dr. Arthur Holder, Associate Priest

STAFF:

Dr. Matthew Welch, Traditional Music Director
Cameron De Palma, Contemporary Music Director
Eric Foster, Communications Director
Lisa Lannoy, Parish Administrator
Tim Markley, Archivist

VESTRY:

Lisa Pena, Senior Warden
Ed Curtis, Junior Warden
Jill Morris, Ann Lindsay, Donna Marshall, Gerri
MacGregor, Jim Peterson, Robert Vallejos, Kathryn
Gojack



NOTICE OF FILMING AND PHOTOGRAPHY

When you enter a St. Paul's Episcopal Church service or event, you enter an area where photography, audio, live streaming, and video recording may occur.

CALENDAR

The Second Sunday in Lent

6:30 am AA Meeting (U)
 8:45 am +Communion
 10 am Coffee Hour (P)
 10 am Godly Play (Elementary School) (U)
 10 am Youth Bible Study (Middle & High School) (U)
 11 am +Communion
 12 pm Coffee Hour (P)
 4 pm Meditation (P)
 8 pm AA (P)



MONDAY: 3/17

7 am AA Meeting (P)
 9 am +Morning Prayer
 4:30 pm Community Meal (P)
 8 pm AA Meeting (P)

TUESDAY: 3/18

7 am AA Meeting (P)
 9 am +Morning Prayer
 7 pm +GGSOC Practice
 7 pm Zoom Vestry Meeting

WEDNESDAY: 3/19

7am AA Meeting (P)
 9 am +Morning Prayer
 10 am +Communion
 11 am Bible Study (P)
 4:30 pm Community Meal (P)
7 pm 2025 Zoom Lenten Series

THURSDAY: 3/20

7am AA Meeting (P)
 7:30 am Coffee w/
 Rev. Annie
 9 am +Morning Prayer
 6 pm +Music Practice

FRIDAY: 3/21

7 am AA Meeting (P)
 9 am +Morning Prayer
 7 pm NA Meeting (P)

SATURDAY: 3/22

7 am AA Meeting (U)
 9 am Mandolin World
 Retreats Practice (U)

The Third Sunday in Lent

6:30 am AA Meeting (U)
 8:45 am +Communion
 10 am Coffee Hour (P)
 10 am Godly Play (Elementary School) (U)
 10 am Youth Bible Study (Middle & High School) (U)
 11 am +Communion
 12 pm Coffee Hour (P)
 4 pm +Mandolin World Retreats Concert
 8 pm AA (P)



KEY

+ = CHURCH
P = PARISH HALL
U = UNDERCROFT
R = RECTORY
K = KITCHEN