

SAINT PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Sharpsburg, Maryland

Rite II 23 March 2025

Holy Eucharist: Third Sunday of Lent

Liturgy of the Word

Prelude: *If Thou But Trust In God To Guide Thee* by J.S. Bach
Hymn in Procession H 401
Opening Acclamation BCP 351
Decalogue BCP 350
Confession of Sin BCP 352
Kyrie (*sung*) H S96

Collect of the Day (*Remain Standing*)

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

First Lesson (*sit*) Insert
Psalm Insert
Second Lesson Insert
Sequence Hymn (*stand*) H 648
The Gospel Lesson Insert
Sit
The Sermon
The Nicene Creed BCP 358
The Prayers of the People, Form III (*Kneel or Stand*) BCP 385
The Peace (*Stand*)
Announcements

During Lent the Church is not decorated with flowers as a sign of the penitential season.

The Holy Communion

Offertory: *What Wondrous Love* by Arlen Clarke
Doxology: H 380 st. 3

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A BCP 361
Sanctus H S130
The Lord's Prayer BCP 364
The Breaking of the Bread H S164

Communion of the People of God

All baptized persons may receive communion in this Church.

Hymn during Communion H 635
The Post-Communion Prayer BCP 365

Benediction and Dismissal

Closing Hymn H 685
The Blessing (*Stand*)
Dismissal (*Remain Standing*) BCP 366
Postlude: *The God Of Abraham Praise* by Paul Manz

Service Participants

Rector	The Rev. Connor Newlun
Organist	Meya Collings
Chalicer/Acolyte	Dante Willis/Alyssa Newlun
Greeter	Donna Miner/Kathy Anderson
Lector/Intercessor	Katie Beall/Stephanie Gumm
Camera Operator	Robbie Shaw
Altar Guild	Tim Valerio/Patty Wibberley

Vestry

2023 – 2025: Michael Arant and Anne-Marie McCullough
2024 – 2026: Heidi Tennant and Tom Wibberley
2025 – 2027: Elyssa Doub, Robbie Shaw and Dante Willis

Leadership

Senior Warden: Sandy Miner *Junior Warden:* Randy Short
Treasurer: George Ashbaugh *Registrar:* Anne-Marie McCullough
ECW President: Rebecca Bright-Willis *Altar Flowers:* Tim Valerio
Altar Guild: Tim Valerio and Barbara Bussard

Announcements and Upcoming Events

- **Easter Flowers:** Order forms are in the bulletin today and will be available until April 13. Donations for flowers are a free will offering, checks should be left in the alms basin. Fr. Connor needs to have the memorial forms returned by 4/13.
- **Children's Program this Sunday 3/23 during worship.**
- **Community Breakfast at 9:20 April 6**
- **Spring Clean Up April 12 10am-2pm**
- The **UTO** collection continues through Lent with the ingathering on Easter Sunday April 20. The focus this year is on welcoming the stranger.
- **Holy Week and Easter**
Palm Sunday 4/13 Community worship in Town Square 9:30
Palm Sunday 4/13 special liturgy at St. Paul's 10am
Maundy Thursday 4/17 Holy Eucharist and stripping of the Altar 7pm
Good Friday 4/18 special liturgy at Noon
Easter Sunday 4/20 Community worship in Sharpsburg Park 6:30 am
Easter Sunday 4/20 Holy Eucharist 10am followed by an egg hunt.
- **Special worship features in Lent:** You will notice a few different things in the Sunday liturgies for Lent. On the first Sunday of Lent, we use the great litany rather than prayers of the people. A form of this litany was the first piece of liturgy written in English (1544) when the Church of England began using the vernacular. On the second, third and fourth Sundays of Lent, we use the penitential order with the Ten Commandments. Finally, on the fifth Sunday of Lent we use the penitential order with an exhortation to worthy reception of holy communion. The exhortation is meant to be a reminder of the sacredness of the sacrament and the privilege we have in receiving it.

Our priest is available for pastoral care, visitation to sick and shut-ins, and emergencies. Fr. Connor can be reached by phone at 703-470-9638 or email: priest@stpaulssharpburg.com. He is at the church most Thursdays 10:00am – 1:00pm.

Scripture Lessons: 3LentC

First Lesson: Exodus 3:1-15

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the Lord said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the

Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain."

But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I am who I am." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I am has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you':

This is my name forever,
and this my title for all generations."

Psalm 63:1-8

- 1 O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; *
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,
as in a barren and dry land where there is no
water.
- 2 Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place,
*
that I might behold your power and your glory.
- 3 For your loving-kindness is better than life itself; *
my lips shall give you praise.
- 4 So will I bless you as long as I live *
and lift up my hands in your Name.
- 5 My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness, *
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,

- 6 When I remember you upon my bed, *
and meditate on you in the night watches.
- 7 For you have been my helper, *
and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.
- 8 My soul clings to you; *
your right hand holds me fast.

Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the

testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

Gospel Lesson: Luke 13:1-9

At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them--do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

St. Paul's Episcopal Church



Now faith, hope and love abide these three and the greatest of these is love. 1Cor. 13.13



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