



Saint Mary's Episcopal Church
The First Sunday in Lent
Holy Eucharist
Sunday, February 22, 2026
11:00am

Welcome to Saint Mary's! We are glad you are joining us today for either in person or online worship. If you're new to the Episcopal Church, know that we follow an ancient and enduring pattern of worship called Liturgy, which is designed to give glory to God and draw people closer to God. We sing and pray together, and stand, sit and kneel at different times using our bodies, minds and voices as we worship in the Spirit. All of those directions are in this guide, which is drawn from the Book of Common Prayer you see in the pew racks in front of you. We have communion every Sunday (and sometimes more often!) and everyone is invited to the altar, regardless of membership or from what denomination they've come. If you haven't been baptized, or aren't sure you're ready to receive communion, we invite you to come forward for a blessing and talk to a priest after the service about getting baptized. For more information about Saint Mary's, please see our website at www.stmaryshighpoint.org or check out our [Facebook Page](#).

Voluntary

L'Organiste

César Franck

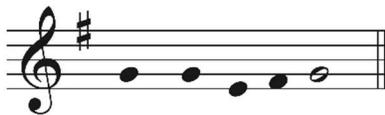
Welcome and Announcements

Please stand at the sound of the bell.

The Great Litany

from *Enriching Our Worship*

Holy God, Creator of heaven and earth,



Have mer-cy on us.

Holy and Mighty, Redeemer of the world,

Have mercy on us.

Holy Immortal One, Sanctifier of the faithful,

Have mercy on us.

Holy, blessed and glorious Trinity, One God,

Have mercy on us.

From all evil and mischief; from pride, vanity and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred and malice; and from all evil intent,



Sa-vior, de-liv-er us.

From sloth, worldliness and love of money; from hardness of heart and contempt for your word and your laws,

Savior deliver us.

From sins of body and mind; from deceits of the world, flesh and the devil,

Savior deliver us.

From famine and disaster; from violence, murder, and dying unprepared,

Savior deliver us.

In all times of sorrow; in all times of joy; in the hour of our death and at the day of judgment,

Savior deliver us.

By the mystery of your holy incarnation; by your birth, childhood and obedience; by your baptism, fasting and temptation,

Savior deliver us.

By your ministry in word and work; by your mighty acts of power; by the preaching of your reign,

Savior deliver us.

By your agony and trial; by your cross and passion; by your precious death and burial,

Savior deliver us.

By your mighty resurrection; by your glorious ascension; and by your sending of the Holy Spirit,

Savior deliver us.

Hear our prayers, O Christ our God.



Hear us, O Christ.

Govern and direct your holy Church; fill it with love and truth; and grant it that unity which is your will.

Hear us, O Christ.

Give us boldness to preach the gospel in all the world, and to make disciples of all the nations.

Hear us, O Christ.

Enlighten your bishops, priests and deacons, especially Sarah, Sean, Sam, Jennifer, Robert, and Louis Patrick, with knowledge and understanding, that by their teaching and their lives they may proclaim your word.

Hear us, O Christ.

Give your people grace to witness to your word and bring forth the fruit of your Spirit.

Hear us, O Christ.

Bring into the way of truth all who have erred and are deceived.

Hear us, O Christ.

Strengthen those who stand; comfort and help the fainthearted; raise up the fallen; and finally beat down Satan under our feet.

Hear us, O Christ.

Guide the leaders of the nations into the ways of peace and justice.

Hear us, O Christ.

Give your wisdom and strength to Donald, the President of the United States, Josh, the Governor of this state, and Cyril, the Mayor of this city, that in all things they may do your will, for your glory and the common good.

Hear us, O Christ.

Give to the Congress of the United States, the members of the President's Cabinet, those who serve in our state legislature, and all others in authority the grace to walk always in the ways of truth.

Hear us, O Christ.

Bless the justices of the Supreme Court and all those who administer the law, that they may act with integrity and do justice for all your people.

Hear us, O Christ.

Give us the will to use the resources of the earth to your glory and for the good of all.

Hear us, O Christ.

Bless and keep all your people,

Hear us, O Christ.

Comfort and liberate the lonely, the bereaved and the oppressed.

Hear us, O Christ.

Keep in safety those who travel and all who are in peril.

Hear us, O Christ.

Heal the sick in body, mind or spirit, especially Clara, Susan, Sam, Eamon, David, Jane, Denni, Shirley, Greg, Ray, for all those on our parish prayer list and for all those on the Daughters of the King prayer list, and provide for the homeless, the hungry and the destitute.

Hear us, O Christ.

Guard and protect all children who are in danger.

Hear us, O Christ.

Show your compassion on prisoners, hostages and refugees, and all who are in trouble.

Hear us, O Christ.

Forgive our enemies, persecutors and slanderers, and turn their hearts.

Hear us, O Christ.

Hear us as we remember those who have died, and grant us with them a share in your eternal glory.

Hear us, O Christ.

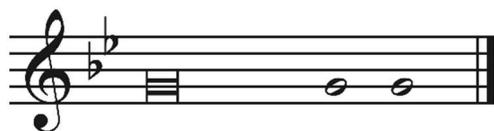
Give us true repentance; forgive us our sins of negligence and ignorance and our deliberate sins; and grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit to amend our lives according to your word.

Hear us, O Christ.

The Choir sings the following once, then all repeat twice.



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.



(reciting note) A - men.

Children depart for Children's Chapel.

The Word of God

The Lessons

A reading from the Book of Genesis

2:15-17; 3:1-7

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

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

5:12-19

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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 142 Lord, who throughout these forty days

The Gospel

Matthew 4:1-11

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

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

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.

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev'd Louis Patrick Mua

The Nicene Creed

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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.

Confession of Sin

The 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.**

The Peace

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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.

The Holy Communion

Anthem at the Offertory

Civitas sancti tui facta est deserta:
Sion deserta facta est:
Jerusalem desolata est.

William Byrd

Your holy city has become a wilderness.
Zion has become a wilderness.
Jerusalem has been made desolate.

The Great Thanksgiving

p. 361

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People



Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

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.**

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

People and Celebrant

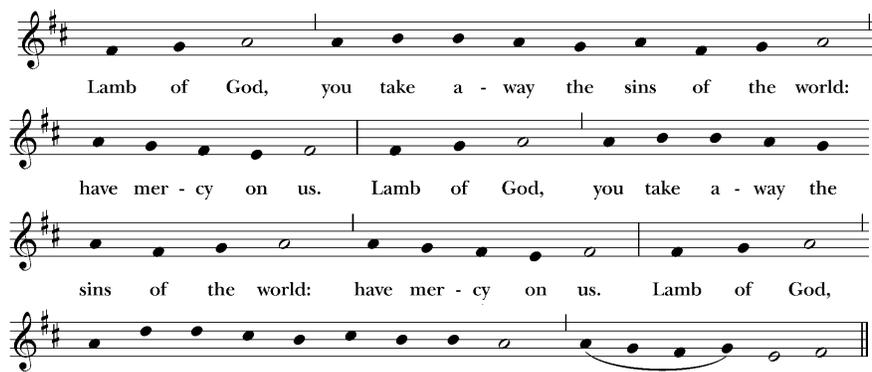
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**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into 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

Agnus Dei

David Hurd



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 says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Music at the Communion

Motet

Thomas Tallis

Salvator mundi, salva nos:

Saviour of the world, save us:

Qui per crucem et sanguinem

you who through the cross and your blood

Redemisti nos, auxiliare nobis,

redeemed us, help us

Te deprecamur, Deus noster.

We beg you, our God.

Post-Communion Prayer

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.

Solemn Prayer over the People

Celebrant: Bow down before the Lord.

Grant, Almighty God, that your people may recognize their weakness and put their whole trust in your strength, so that they may rejoice for ever in the protection of your loving providence; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Dismissal

p. 366

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 150 Forty days and forty nights

Voluntary

Novelette In C Major

Francis Poulenc

Participants in the Liturgy

Celebrant

The Rev'd Robert P. Travis

Preacher

The Rev'd Louis Patrick Mua

Lector

Adam Sparks

Eucharistic Ministers

Alicia Archibald, Candice Greig

Verger

Kathy Conrad

Acolytes

Lewis Biesecker, Henry Simcox

Choirmaster

Angelita Berdiales

Virtual Verger

Fritz Faulkson

Acknowledgements

Text for the liturgy from *The Book of Common Prayer*, New York: Church Publishing, 1979, 231, 355-365, 388-389; Search committee prayer: *Prayers for Pastor & People*, Compiled and edited by Carl G. Carlozzi, New York: Church Publishing Incorporated, 1984, 139. Used with permission. The Bible text is from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, © 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA, and used by permission. Originated in riteplanning.com, © 2020 Church Publishing Inc. All rights reserved. The following music is reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE # A-716676. All rights reserved. Sanctus and Agnus Dei by David Hurd, © 1985, David Hurd. Memorial Acclamation Plainsong, Te Deum Tone; adapted and © Richard Proulx.

Amanda Gane – Senior Warden
Jason Johnson
Julian Weston
Will Moore
Patrick Simcox
Ellen Walsh
Mike Boggs - Clerk

Vestry 2026
Tim Yates – Junior Warden
Alicia Archibald
Dale Strayhorn
Lenora Sparks
Mark Penley
Kathy Conrad

Keeping in Prayer this Week: We pray for those whose needs are closely linked with ours and for those who suffer from any sickness, grief or distress, also remembering and praying for those on our parish prayer list, including Helen Congdon, Linda Nitz, Emily Finch Johnson, Anne Miressi, Trish, Thea Oglesby, Steve, Jerri Phillips, Elizabeth White, Richard Glover, Rick and Margaret Lewis, Frankie Gurganus, Nancy Jenkins, Kathy, Diane Kearns, Joan Cardwell, Bill Fenn, Cheryl Warren, Debbie Ewing, Barry, Pat Hayes, Clara Blythe, Susan Hayne, Sam Hawley, Robert Eamon Kelly, David Stewart, Jane Gill-Shaler, Denni Mikola, Shirley, Greg Denison, Ray, Hannah, Linda Focarelli, Carter, Tom Peterson, Loyd, Mike Hennen, Connie Strader, Em, Kim Williams and family, Land Hurley, Erin McDonough, Gary King, Betty Jean and Les Ipock, Kim Susnik, Kim, Carlin, Jess, Claire, Katharyn Ernst, Laura Covington Marsh, Suzanne Swadener, Belen Perez, the family of Robert Swab, Brenda B, Ben and Meredith Jenkins and family, Diane Rankin, Stephanie Gardner-Cole, Angel Berdiales, Mike Cook, Judy Jarrell, James Pardue, Laura Simcox.

About St Mary's Prayer List: St Mary's maintains a published prayer list, which is added to the service leaflet and to the e-news each week. To add someone, please secure permission to use either the first and/or last names from the person to be added, and then contact Denise Story at 336.884-4730 or by email at admin@stmaryshighpoint.org. Denise needs your name and contact information so we can get pastoral updates periodically. Individuals will be updated at the end of the month unless the request is renewed, which you are welcome to do at any time.

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