



ST. JAMES

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Fourth Sunday in Lent “Laetare Sunday”
HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE I

March 30, 2025
8:00A.M.

***Welcome!** Whether you are a first-time visitor, longtime member, or somewhere in-between, welcome to this place where together we sing, read, pray, listen, and break bread in thanksgiving and praise of the living God whose love brings new life for us and for the world. **About the service:** An Episcopal worship service may seem difficult to follow if it is unfamiliar to you; please participate as you are able and ask someone near you for assistance if you need it. We use this leaflet and the red Book of Common Prayer (BCP). **For more information:** Fill out a welcome card, located in the pew rack, and drop it in the offering plate or return it by mail. Call the Parish Office at 225-387-5141 with questions about baptisms, weddings, membership, or any other needs.*

A PENITENTIAL ORDER

The people stand when the ministers of the service enter

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|---------------------------------------|---------|
| Opening Acclamation | BCP 319 |
| The Decalogue | BCP 317 |
| Summary of the Law | BCP 319 |
| Confession of Sin | BCP 320 |
| Trisagion <i>repeated three times</i> | BCP 324 |

The appointed Collect of the Day and Lessons are found on the next page.

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| The Sermon | The Rev. R. Lynn Hooks |
| The Nicene Creed | BCP 326 |
| The Peace | |
| Welcome & Announcements | |

THE HOLY COMMUNION

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|---------------------------|---------|
| Eucharistic Prayer I | BCP 333 |
| The Lord’s Prayer | BCP 336 |
| The Breaking of the Bread | BCP 337 |
| The Postcommunion Prayer | BCP 339 |
| The Blessing & Dismissal | BCP 340 |

Collect of the Day

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which giveth life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Joshua 5:9-12

A reading from the Book of Joshua.

The Lord said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day. While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

Lector The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Read responsively by half verse.

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.

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

A reading from Paul's second letter to the Corinthians.

From now on, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Lector The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

All stand.

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Gospeler The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

All the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." So Jesus told them this parable: "There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands."' So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate. "Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and

approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**



The Prayers of the People

Intercessor Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers, especially Sean, the Presiding Bishop; Shannon, our Bishop; Chris, Drew, Lynn, and Don, our priests; and Casey, our seminarian; that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments. In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the clergy and people of St. Andrew's Church and School, New Orleans.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, especially, Donald, our President; Jeff, our Governor; and Sid, our Mayor; that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor Laura, Martha, Jayne, Linda, Doug, Henri, Dan, Bodo, Rachel, Elise, Cate, Ed, Susan, those on our prayer list, and all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness or any other adversity.

O Lord and giver of life, receive our prayers for expectant mothers, especially Carrie Grace, Jordan, Caroline, Danyelle, Maddy, and Anna Katherine, that they may happily come to the time of birth, and serving thee in all things may rejoice in thy providence.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, especially Weezie Mullenix, Charles Colby, Lydia Champagne, Bob Israel, Tony Sonnier, and Harry Roberts, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace to follow the good examples of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**