

**THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT**

**March 16, 2025 10:00 a.m.  
Holy Eucharist Rite I  
[www.stthomasgreenville.org](http://www.stthomasgreenville.org)**



**ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

210 Church Street, Greenville, Alabama 36037

334.382.8914

**Clergy and Staff**

The Rt. Rev. Russell Kendrick, *Bishop of the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast*

The Rev. Linda Suzanne Borgen, *Rector*

Dr. Elizabeth French, *Organist*

Dent Neilson, *Verger*

Sharon Carson, *Parish Administrator*

Julie Smith, *Nursery Nanny*

**VESTRY**

Tammi Edwards ('25), Cleve Poole ('26), *Senior Wardens*,  
Carey Stallworth ('27), *Junior Warden*, Laura Watts ('27), *Clerk*,  
Cemira Powell, *Treasurer*, Mary Dearing ('26), Ann Garrett ('25),  
Amy Martin ('26), Mints McGowin ('27)

## The Liturgy of the Word

**Introit**

St Thomas Choir

**Opening Hymn**

*O Love of God, how strong and true*

H 455

**Celebrant** Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.

BCP 323

*People His mercy endureth for ever.*

The Celebrant says

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Kyrie**

S 91

*Celebrant and People*

Lord have mercy upon us. (3 times)

*Christ have mercy upon us.* (3 times)

Lord have mercy upon us. (3 times)

**Collect of the Day**

**Celebrant** The Lord be with you.

*People And with thy spirit.*

**Celebrant** Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from thy ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of thy Word, Jesus Christ thy Son; who with thee and the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

**The Lessons:**

**First Reading from Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18**

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 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. As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him. When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed

between these pieces. On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.”  
*People Thanks be to God.*

## Psalm 27

BCP 617

- <sup>1</sup> 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?
- <sup>2</sup> When the evildoers came upon me to eat up my flesh, \*  
it was they, my foes and my adversaries, who stumbled and fell.
- <sup>3</sup> Though an army should encamp against me, \*  
yet shall my heart not be afraid.
- <sup>4</sup> And though war should rise up against me, \*  
yet will I put my trust in him.
- <sup>5</sup> 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;
- <sup>6</sup> To behold the fair beauty of the Lord \*  
and to seek him in his temple.
- <sup>7</sup> 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.
- <sup>8</sup> Even now he lifts up my head \*  
above my enemies round about me.
- <sup>9</sup> Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation with sounds of great gladness; \*  
I will sing and make music to the Lord.
- <sup>10</sup> Harken to my voice, O Lord, when I call; \*  
have mercy on me and answer me.
- <sup>11</sup> You speak in my heart and say, “Seek my face.” \*  
Your face, Lord will I seek.
- <sup>12</sup> Hide not your face from me, \*  
nor turn away your servant in displeasure.
- <sup>13</sup> You have been my helper; cast me not away; \*  
do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.
- <sup>14</sup> Though my father and my mother forsake me, \*  
the Lord will sustain me.
- <sup>15</sup> Show me your ways, O Lord; \*  
lead me on a level path, because of my enemies.
- <sup>16</sup> Deliver me not into the hand of my adversaries, \*  
for false witnesses have risen up against me, and also those who speak malice.
- <sup>17</sup> What if I had not believed that I should see the goodness of the Lord \*  
in the land of the living!
- <sup>18</sup> O tarry and await the Lord’s pleasure; be strong, and he shall comfort your heart; \*  
wait patiently for the Lord.

## Second Reading from Philippians 3:17- 4:1

Brothers and Sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many lives 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.

The Word of the Lord.

*People Thanks be to God.*

## Sequence Hymn

*Take up your cross*

H 675

## Gospel Luke 13:31-35

**Celebrant** The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

*People Glory be to thee, O Lord.*

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 curses 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.’”

**Celebrant** The Gospel of the Lord.

*People Praise be to thee, O Christ.*

## The Sermon

The Reverend Linda Suzanne C. Borgen

## The Nicene Creed

BCP 326

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**

BCP 328

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, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments. 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, 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 those on our Parish Prayer List (page 10) and all those who in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear [especially \_\_\_\_\_], beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of Thomas and 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.*

## **Confession of Sin**

BCP 330

### **Celebrant**

Ye who do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: Draw near with faith, and make your humble confession to Almighty God.

### **Minister and People**

BCP 332

Almighty God,  
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
maker of all things, judge of all men:  
We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins  
and wickedness,  
which we from time to time most grievously have committed,  
by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty,  
provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.

We do earnestly repent,  
and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;  
the remembrance of them is grievous unto us,  
the burden of them is intolerable.

Have mercy upon us,  
have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;  
for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,  
forgive us all that is past;  
and grant that we may ever hereafter  
serve and please thee in newness of life,  
to the honor and glory of thy Name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### **Celebrant**

BCP 332

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### **The Comfortable Words**

BCP 332

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. Matthew 11:28

### **The Peace**

The Celebrant says to the people  
The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People And with thy spirit.*

## **The Holy Communion**

### **Offertory**

BCP 343

### **Celebrant**

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

Psalm 50:14

### **Offertory**

Dr. Elizabeth French

### **Doxology**

H 380, v 3

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creature here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### **The Great Thanksgiving**

**Celebrant** The Lord be with you.

*People And with thy spirit.*

**Celebrant** Lift up your hearts.

*People We lift them up unto the Lord.*

**Celebrant** Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

*People It is meet and right so to do.*

### **Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds**

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was in every way tempted as we are, yet did not sin; by whose grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer unto ourselves, but unto him who died for us and rose again. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and singing,

### **Sanctus**

S 125

*Celebrant and People*

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:  
Heaven and earth are full of thy Glory.  
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.  
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

Then the Celebrant continues

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him. And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. *AMEN.*

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to pray,

*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,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

BCP 337

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.  
A period of silence is kept.

**Celebrant** Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*People* Therefore let us keep the feast.

### **Agnus Dei**

S 158

*Celebrant and People*

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
grant us thy peace.

*Celebrant and People*

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. *Amen.*

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.

The Bread is given to communicants with these words:

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [*Amen*]

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. [*Amen*]

### **Communion Hymns**

*Glorify Thy Name*

A 45

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

A 50

*In My Life Lord*

A 51

## Prayer for Lay Eucharistic Visitor

**Celebrant** In the name of this congregation and our Lord Jesus Christ, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, so that those to whom you go share with us in this Holy Communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

*People* For we who are many are one body, because we all share one bread and one cup.

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

## Post Communion Prayer

BCP 339

*People and Celebrant*

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom.

And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

## The Blessing

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

## Recessional Hymn

*The God of Abraham Praise*

H 401

## The Dismissal

BCP 340

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

*People* Thanks be to God.

## Postlude

Dr. Elizabeth French