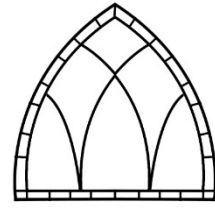


THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
OF THE REDEEMER
Shelby, NC



Sunday, March 30, 2025 – Fourth Sunday in Lent
Holy Eucharist: Rite Two – 9:30 a.m.

Welcome to Redeemer! We are delighted you have chosen to worship with us today. There are candles available at the devotional candle stand, located behind the pews on the right-hand side of the altar rail. Please feel free to light a candle representing your prayers or intentions for today, before the service or during communion.

The Word of God

OPENING ACCLAMATION

The people standing, the Presider says

Presider Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People **His mercy endures for ever.**

COLLECT FOR PURITY

The Presider may say

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

OPENING ANTHEM OR SONG OF PRAISE

Holy God,

Holy and Mighty,

Holy Immortal One.

Have mercy upon us.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

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

The Lessons

FIRST READING: Joshua 5:9-12

The people sit.

A Reading from the book of Joshua.

⁹The 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.

¹⁰While 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. ¹¹On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. ¹²The 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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 32

Remain seated.

¹Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, *
and whose sin is put away!

²Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt, *
and in whose spirit there is no guile!

³While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, *
because of my groaning all day long.

⁴For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; *
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.

⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you, *
and did not conceal my guilt.

⁶I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD.” *
Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

⁷Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; *
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.

⁸You 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.

¹⁰Do 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.”

¹¹Great are the tribulations of the wicked; *
but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.

¹²Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD; *
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

The people sit.

A Reading from Paul's Second letter to the Church in Corinth.

¹⁶From 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. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

All stand.

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

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

¹Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. ²And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

³So he told them this parable: ^{11b}“There was a man who had two sons. ¹²The 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. ¹³A 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. ¹⁴When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷But 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! ¹⁸I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands." ' ²⁰So 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. ²¹Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' ²²But 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. ²³And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

²⁵"Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' ²⁸Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹But 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. ³⁰But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' ³¹Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³²But 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.' "

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

THE SERMON *The Rev. Martha Richard*

THE CREED

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

We are called, especially during this holy season, to lift up all the needy world to God. Let us pray for those who are in need, saying: Lord, have mercy.

For the church, that during these days of Lent we may clear away much that is needless and become true ministers of reconciliation, praying especially for... let us pray to the Lord; **Lord have mercy.**

For this nation and all nations, especially... that we have the courage to give up war, bitterness and hatred, and live in harmony and peace, let us pray to the Lord; **Lord have mercy.**

For the outcasts, the alienated and rejected of this world, that all may come to know God's welcome to join us at the table, let us pray to the Lord; **Lord, have mercy.**

For this community, that we may seek the lost and rejoice when they are found, let us pray to the Lord; **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who are sick, for all the dying, for all who grieve, for all who are lonely, for those whose burden is too deep for words, especially... let us pray to the Lord; **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who have gone before us, family, friends, and neighbors, mighty saints and repentant sinners, especially... let us pray to the Lord; **Lord, have mercy.**

Mighty God, mercifully hear the prayers of your people. Give us zeal in our ministries and joy in our work, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Presider adds a concluding Collect.

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Deacon or Presider says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**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.

Healing Prayer offered at the Altar Rail.

THE PEACE

All stand.

Presider 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

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

The Presider says

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.
Ephesians 5:2

The Great Thanksgiving

SURSUM CORDA

The People remain standing.

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Facing the Holy Table, the Presider 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.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

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

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

The People stand or kneel.

The Presider 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.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

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:

Presider and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

EPICLESIS

The Presider 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.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

**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

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
therefore let us keep the feast.

INVITATION

The Presider says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

DISTRIBUTION

The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.

All are invited to God's Table. If you wish to receive communion, please come forward to the altar rail on either side. You may consume the wafer and sip from the larger chalice, or you may intinct (dip) your wafer in the wine from the smaller chalice before you consume it. It is perfectly OK to consume only bread if that is your preference. If you do not wish to consume the bread and wine but would like to receive a blessing, please come to the altar rail and cross your arms across your chest. Please use the hand sanitizer that is available up front or in your pew prior to coming to the altar rail. This will reduce the transmission of illnesses and protect those in our parish who are vulnerable. Thank you!

THE SENDING OUT OF LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

In the name of God and of this parish, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

We who are many are one body, because we share one Bread, one Cup.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

After Communion, the Presider says

Let us pray.

Presider 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

The Priest 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.**

DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

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Upcoming Events

Sunday, March 30, Lent 4

9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Coffee Hour immediately following Eucharist in the Narthex

11:00 a.m. Adult Formation in the Admin Parish Hall

1:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist at Navion Assisted Living (1425 E Marion St.)

Monday, March 31

4:00 p.m. Mindful Monday Walk with Anita

Tuesday, April 1

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer in the Chapel

10:30 a.m. Packing of Bags for Food Pantry

7:00 p.m. Tuesday Night Book Club on Zoom

Wednesday, April 2

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Shepherd's Table Lunch Distribution

12:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist in the Chapel with Pam

4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. Food Pantry Box Distribution

Thursday, April 3

5:30 p.m. Healing and Holy Eucharist in Chapel with Anita

8:00 p.m. Compline on Zoom

Formation Opportunities during Lent

Mindful Monday Walks with Anita Mondays at 4:00 p.m. March 3 through April 14.

Exploring Celtic Christianity Adult Formation Series throughout March.

Tuesday Redeemer Book Club Discussion on Zoom at 7:00 p.m. with Anita on March 11 through April 8. Our book selection is *Curveball* by Peter Enns.