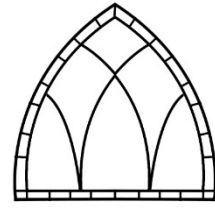


THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
OF THE REDEEMER
Shelby, NC



Sunday, March 23, 2025 – Third 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 VOLUNTARY (*Christ Lay in Death's Grim Prison – J. S. Bach*)

ENTRANCE HYMN *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation (H 390)*

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.

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.***

The Lessons

FIRST READING: Exodus 3:1-15

The people sit.

A Reading from the book of Exodus.

¹Moses 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. ²There 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. ³Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." ⁴When 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." ⁵Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." ⁶He 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.

⁷Then 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, ⁸and 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. ⁹The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. ¹⁰So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." ¹¹But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" ¹²He 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."

¹³But 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?" ¹⁴God 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.'" ¹⁵God 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."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 63:1-8

Remain seated.



¹O 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.
²Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, *
that I might behold your power and your glory.
³For your loving-kindness is better than life itself; *
my lips shall give you praise.
⁴So will I bless you as long as I live *
and lift up my hands in your Name.
⁵My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness, *
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,
⁶When I remember you upon my bed, *
and meditate on you in the night watches.
⁷For you have been my helper, *
and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.
⁸My soul clings to you; *
your right hand holds me fast.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

The people sit.

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

¹I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ²and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. ⁵Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.
⁶Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. ⁷Do 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." ⁸We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. ⁹We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. ¹⁰And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. ¹¹These 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. ¹²So if you

think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. ¹³No 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.

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

SEQUENCE HYMN *Eternal Lord of love, behold your Church (H 149)*

GOSPEL: Luke 13:1-9

All stand.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

¹At that very time there were some present who told [Jesus] about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ²He asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? ³No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. ⁴Or 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? ⁵No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.”

⁶Then 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. ⁷So 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?’ ⁸He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. ⁹If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

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

THE SERMON *The Rev. Anita Ware*

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

OFFERTORY HYMN *Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face* (H 318)

PRESENTATION HYMN *Praise God from whom all blessings flow* (H 380 v 3)

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 S 124 Holy, holy, holy

**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.**

POST-COMMUNION HYMN *I know not where the road will lead* (H 647)

DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

CLOSING VOLUNTARY (*Sleepers Awake – arr. Max Reger*)

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Upcoming Events

Sunday, March 23, Lent 3

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 24

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

Tuesday, March 25

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, March 26

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, March 27

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

8:00 p.m. Compline on Zoom

Saturday, March 29

9:30 a.m. Hike Church (Meet at the Restrooms at Broad River Greenway)

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.

Hike Church on Saturday, March 29th at 9:30 a.m. Meet at the Restrooms at Broad River Greenway