

# Preparing for the Service

*Welcome to a time of quiet reflection  
in order to prepare for worship.*

*Focus on the Lord. Pray for your own  
concerns. Pray for our church. Pray  
for our world.*

# **The Fourth Sunday in Lent**

March 15, 2026

*Renewed Ancient Text (BCP 2019)*

*All stand for a silent procession.*

# The Acclamation

## BCP 145

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

*People* **His mercy endures  
for ever.**

# **Collect for Purity**

## **BCP 124**

**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 Decalogue**  
**BCP 100**

*The congregation kneels.*

God spoke these words and said: I am the Lord your God. You shall have no other gods but me.

**Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

You shall not make for yourself  
any idol.

**Lord, have mercy upon us, and  
incline our hearts to keep this  
law.**

You shall not take the Name of  
the Lord your God in vain.

**Lord, have mercy upon us, and  
incline our hearts to keep this  
law.**

Remember the Sabbath day and  
keep it holy.

**Lord, have mercy upon us, and  
incline our hearts to keep this  
law.**

Honor your father and your  
mother.

**Lord, have mercy upon us, and  
incline our hearts to keep this  
law.**

You shall not murder.

**Lord, have mercy upon us, and  
incline our hearts to keep this  
law.**

You shall not commit adultery.

**Lord, have mercy upon us, and  
incline our hearts to keep this  
law.**

You shall not steal.

**Lord, have mercy upon us, and  
incline our hearts to keep this  
law.**

You shall not bear false witness  
against your neighbor.

**Lord, have mercy upon us, and  
incline our hearts to keep this  
law.**

You shall not covet.

**Lord, have mercy upon us, and  
write all these, your laws, in our  
hearts, we beseech you.**

# The Exhortation

## BCP 147

*The congregation may be seated.  
The priest addresses the  
congregation with the Exhortation.*

# The Confession and Absolution of Sin

Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

*Silence*

*The Deacon and People kneel as able and pray*

**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.**

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to 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 131**

*The priest stands and says one of the Comfortable Words, as assurance of God's forgiveness of us.*

**The Trisagion**  
**as arranged by Fernando Ortega**

**Holy God,  
Holy and mighty,  
Holy immortal one,  
Have mercy,  
Have mercy on us.**

**Holy God,  
Holy and mighty,  
Holy immortal one,  
Have mercy,  
Have mercy on us.**

**Holy God,  
Holy and mighty,  
Holy immortal one,  
Have mercy,  
Have mercy on us.**

# The Collect for the Day

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

**People** **And with your spirit.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*The Celebrant prays the Collect  
of the Day*

# The First Reading

## 1 Samuel 16:1-13

*After the reading:*

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

# Psalm 23

**<sup>1</sup> The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.**

**<sup>2</sup> He makes me lie down in green pastures.**

**He leads me beside still waters.**

**3 He restores my soul.  
He leads me in paths of  
righteousness  
for his name's sake.**

**4 Even though I walk through the  
valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil, for you are with  
me;  
your rod and your staff, they  
comfort me.**

**5 You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.**

**6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

# The Second Reading

## Ephesians 5:1-14

*After the reading:*

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

# The Gradual Song

**Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent**

**H324**

**Let all mortal flesh keep silence  
and with fear and trembling stand  
ponder nothing earthly minded  
for with blessing in his hand**

**Christ our God to earth  
descendeth  
our full homage to demand.**

# The Gospel Reading

## John 9:1-13, 28-41

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel (†) of  
our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to John.

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

*After the Gospel:*

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

*Gospeler:* Jesus said to His disciples,  
“Let the children come to me; do not  
hinder them,

***People:* For to such belongs the  
kingdom of God.**

*Gospeler:* Let us pray together:

**O Lord Jesus Christ, who took little children into your arms and blessed them: Bless the children of this church, that they may grow up in godly fear and love.**

**Give them your strength and guidance day by day, that they may continue in your love and service to their lives' end. Grant this, O blessed Savior, for your own Name's sake. Amen.**

# The Gradual Song

**Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence**

**H324**

**King of kings yet born of Mary  
as of old on earth He stood  
Lord of lords in human vesture  
in the Body and the Blood**

**He will give to all the faithful  
His own self for heavenly food.**

# The Sermon

# The Nicene Creed

BCP 127

*An ancient statement of the core beliefs of  
the Christian faith*

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, visible and invisible.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus  
Christ,**

**the only-begotten 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,  
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit  
and 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,  
who with the Father and the Son  
is worshiped and glorified,  
who 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 128

*After each bidding:*

*Reader* Lord, in your mercy:

***People* Hear our prayer.**

*Celebrant prays closing prayer*

# The Peace

## BCP 131

*Celebrant* The Peace of the Lord  
be always with you.  
***People*** **And with your spirit.**

*Celebrant says the Offertory  
Sentence*

# **Offertory Song**

**A Stable Lamp Is Lighted**

**H104**

**A stable lamp is lighted  
whose glow shall wake the sky  
the stars shall bend their voices  
and every stone shall cry**

**And every stone shall cry  
and straw like gold shall shine  
a barn shall harbor heaven  
a stall become a shrine**

**This child through David's city  
shall ride in triumph by  
the palm shall strew its branches  
and every stone shall cry**

**And every stone shall cry  
though heavy, dull and dumb  
and lie within the roadway  
to pave His kingdom come.**

**Yet He shall be forsaken  
and yielded up to die  
the sky shall groan and darken  
and every stone shall cry**

**And every stone shall cry  
for stony hearts of men  
God's blood upon the spearhead  
Gods love refused again.**

**But now as at the ending  
the low is lifted high  
the stars shall bend their voices  
and every stone shall cry.**

**And every stone shall cry  
in praises of the Child  
by whose descent among us  
the worlds are reconciled.**

# **The Doxology**

**Doxology (Old 100th)**

**H380**

**Please Stand**

**Praise God from whom all  
blessings flow**

**Praise Him all creatures  
here below.**

**Praise Him above ye  
heavenly hosts**

**Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Amen.**

*The celebrant receives the offering  
and blesses it to be used for the  
purposes of the Gospel.*

*The celebrant then washes their  
hands with the help of an acolyte,  
and prays that God might use their  
hands to provide for His people  
through the Eucharist.*

# The Sursum Corda

## BCP 132

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with your spirit.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

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

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the  
Lord our God.

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

*The priest continues the prayer,  
speaking of one of the many  
reasons why it is right to give God  
thanks and praise.*

# **The Sanctus**

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord  
Lord God of power and might  
Heav'n and earth are full  
full of your glory.**

**Hosanna, hosanna, Hosanna  
Hosanna in the highest  
Blessed is He Who comes  
Who comes in the name of the  
Lord.**

**Hosanna, hosanna, Hosanna  
Hosanna in the highest.**

# **The Prayer of Consecration**

**BCP 132**

*Unforgetting who God is and what  
He has done for us, and all of His  
creation, in and through His Son,  
Jesus Christ*

Therefore we proclaim the mystery  
of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**



# The Lord's Prayer

BCP 134

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

**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 Fraction

## BCP 135

*The celebrant breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.*

# The Prayer of Humble Access

BCP 135

*Celebrant and People together say*

**We do not presume to come to this,  
your table, O merciful Lord, trusting  
in our own righteousness, but in  
your abundant and great mercies.**

**We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table; but you are the same Lord, whose character is always to have mercy.**

**Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord,  
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son  
Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood,  
that our sinful bodies may be  
made clean by his body, and our  
souls washed through his most  
precious blood, and that we may  
evermore dwell in him, and he in  
us. Amen.**

# **The Agnus Dei**

## **Jessurun**

**Lamb of God You take away the  
sin of the world  
have mercy on us**

**Lamb of God You take away  
the sin of the world  
have mercy on us**

**Lamb of God You take away the  
sin of the world  
grant us Your peace.**

# The Ministration of Communion

BCP 136

Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.

JOHN 1:29<sup>T</sup>, REVELATION 19:9

*All baptized Christians are welcome and encouraged to take Communion.*

*If you do not wish to receive Communion, we invite you to come forward, cross your arms, and receive a blessing.*

*Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.*

*A prayer team is available in the narthex to pray for healing or other concerns.*

# **The Lord's My Shepherd**

**© Thankyou Music**

**The Lord's my Shepherd  
I'll not want  
He makes me lie in pastures green  
He leads me by the  
still, still waters,  
His goodness restores my soul.**

**And I will trust, I will trust in You  
I will trust, I will trust in You  
endless mercy follows me  
goodness will lead me home.**

**He guides my ways in  
righteousness  
and He anoints my head with oil  
and my cup, it overflows with joy  
I feast on His pure delights.**

**And I will trust, I will trust in You  
I will trust, I will trust in You  
endless mercy follows me  
goodness will lead me home.**

**And though I walk  
the darkest path  
I will not fear the evil one  
for You are with me and Your rod  
and staff  
are the comfort I need to know.**

**And I will trust, I will trust in You  
I will trust, I will trust in You  
endless mercy follows me  
goodness will lead me home.**

**I Am the Bread of Life**

**H335**

**I am the bread of life  
they who come to Me shall not  
hunger  
they who believe in Me  
shall not thirst  
No one can come to Me  
unless the Father draws him.**

**And I will raise them up  
and I will raise them up  
and I will raise them up  
on the last day.**

**I am the resurrection  
I am the life  
they who believe in Me  
even if they die  
they shall live forever.**

**And I will raise them up  
and I will raise them up  
and I will raise them up  
on the last day.**

**In Christ Alone**

**© Thankyou Music**

**Please Stand**

**In Christ alone my hope is found**

**He is my light my strength my**

**song**

**this cornerstone, this solid ground**

**firm through the fiercest**

**drought and storm**

**What heights of love  
what depths of peace  
when fears are stilled  
when strivings cease  
my Comforter my All in All  
here in the love of Christ I stand.**

**In Christ alone Who took on flesh  
fullness of God in helpless Babe  
this gift of love and righteousness  
scorned by the ones He came to  
save**

**'Til on the cross as Jesus died  
the wrath of God was satisfied  
for every sin on Him was laid  
here in the death of Christ I live.**

**There in the ground His body lay  
Light of the world by darkness  
slain  
then bursting forth in glorious Day  
up from the grave He rose again!**

**And as He stands in victory  
sin's curse has lost its grip on me  
for I am His and He is mine  
bought with the precious blood of  
Christ.**

**No guilt in life no fear in death  
this is the power of Christ in me  
from life's first cry to final breath  
Jesus commands my destiny**

**No power of hell  
no scheme of man  
can ever pluck me from His hand  
'til He returns or calls me home  
here in the power of Christ  
I'll stand.**

# Post-Communion Verse

## BCP 136

*The Celebrant offers a sentence of Scripture from the day's readings, as a reminder that what we have received from the table is the same reality we received from the Word.*

# Silent Prayer

*We take time to open ourselves to any word from the Lord, either for ourselves or for the congregation.*

# **The Post Communion Prayer**

**BCP 137**

**Heavenly Father, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious body and blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;**

**and for assuring us in these holy  
mysteries that we are living  
members of the body of your Son,  
and heirs of your eternal Kingdom.**

**And now Father, send us out to do  
the work you have given us to do,  
to love and serve you as faithful  
witnesses of Christ our Lord.  
To him, to you, and to the Holy  
Spirit, be honor and glory, now and  
forever. Amen.**

# **Announcements**

**We desire to be a church family  
that forms disciples, lives  
generously, and shares the love of  
God in our neighborhoods**

**Today**

Thank you for joining us for worship  
today!

Join us for fellowship after the  
service.

# **Ways to Connect**

**Fellowship Meal** - after the service

**Small Groups** - see Sermon Notes

**Formation in a Secular Age** - Fridays  
in Lent, 6-8pm @ the Hughes home  
in Santee

**Holy Week** - March 29-April 4

# Prayer over the Congregation

*Deacon*      Bow down before  
the Lord

*The congregation kneels. The celebrant prays a prayer for the congregation.*

# **Beneath the Cross of Jesus**

**H498**

**Beneath the cross of Jesus  
I fain would take my stand  
the shadow of a mighty rock  
within a weary land**

**A home within the wilderness  
a rest upon the way  
from the burning of  
the noontide heat  
and the burden of the day.**

**Upon the cross of Jesus  
mine eyes at times can see  
the very dying form of One  
Who suffered there for me**

**And from my smitten heart with  
tears**

**these wonders I confess  
the wonder of His glorious love  
and my unworthiness.**

# The Dismissal

## BCP 138

*Deacon* Let us bless the Lord.

***People* Thanks be to God.**

