

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church
Madison, AL



The Fifth Sunday in Lent
11:00 March 17, 2024
Baptism

Fr. Chris Hartley, Rector
Fr. Dillon Green, Associate Rector
Rev. Lynn Bullard, Deacon
Tom Killian, Music Director
Susan Fletcher, Organist

Holy Eucharist with Holy Baptism, Rite II

Prelude

The Entrance Rite

The Opening Acclamation, *all standing*

Celebrant ✙ Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

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

Celebrant There is one Body and one Spirit;

***People* There is one hope in God's call to us;**

Celebrant One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

***People* One God and Father of all.**

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

***People* And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Liturgy of the Word

The First Reading

Jeremiah 31:31-34

A reading from the Book of Jeremiah

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law

within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 51:1-13

- 1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; *
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
- 2 Wash me through and through from my wickedness *
and cleanse me from my sin.
- 3 For I know my transgressions, *
and my sin is ever before me.
- 4 Against you only have I sinned *
and done what is evil in your sight.
- 5 And so you are justified when you speak *
and upright in your judgment.
- 6 Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, *
a sinner from my mother's womb.
- 7 For behold, you look for truth deep within me, *
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.
- 8 Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; *
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.
- 9 Make me hear of joy and gladness, *
that the body you have broken may rejoice.
- 10 Hide your face from my sins *
and blot out all my iniquities.
- 11 Create in me a clean heart, O God, *
and renew a right spirit within me.

- 12 Cast me not away from your presence *
and take not your holy Spirit from me.
- 13 Give me the joy of your saving help again *
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

The Second Reading

Hebrews 5:5-10

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, “You are my Son, today I have begotten you”; as he says also in another place, “You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek.”

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn #441 “In The Cross Of Christ I Glory”

Choir & Congregation

The Holy Gospel

John 12:20-33

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

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

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears

much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

<i>Deacon</i>	The Gospel of the Lord.
<i>People</i>	Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

Fr. Chris

The Baptismal Rite

<i>Celebrant</i>	The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.
<i>Sponsors</i>	I present Sophie Richard to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?
<i>Parents and Godparents</i>	I will, with God’s help.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?
<i>Parents and Godparents</i>	I will, with God’s help.

Celebrant Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Parents and Godparents I renounce them.

Celebrant Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Parents and Godparents I renounce them.

Celebrant Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Parents and Godparents I renounce them.

Celebrant Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Parents and Godparents I do.

Celebrant Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Parents and Godparents I do.

Celebrant Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Parents and Godparents I do.

All rise as able when the Celebrant addresses the People.

Celebrant Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support this person in her life in Christ?

People **We will.**

Celebrant Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?

People **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, ✠ the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?
People **I will, with God's help.**

Prayers for the Candidates

Celebrant Let us now pray for this person who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

Leader Deliver her, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Open her heart to your grace and truth.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Fill her with your holy and life-giving Spirit.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Keep her in the faith and communion of your holy Church.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Teach her to love others in the power of the Spirit.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Send her into the world in witness to your love.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Bring her to the fullness of your peace and glory.
People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Celebrant Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. ***Amen.***

Hymn #296 “We Know That Christ Is Raised And Dies No More”

Thanksgiving over the Water

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The Celebrant continues,

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ by his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Baptism

Celebrant Sophie, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People *Amen.*

Celebrant Sophie, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own forever.

People ***Amen.***

Celebrant Sophie, receive this candle as a symbol of the light of Christ that burns brightly within you.

Celebrant Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon this your servant the forgiveness of sin, and have raised her to the new life of grace. Sustain her, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give her an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works.

People ***Amen.***

Celebrant Let us welcome the newly baptized.

All **We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.**

The Peace, *please stand*

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Welcome

The Offertory "Drop, Drop, Slow Tears" (*Gibbons/arr. MacDonald*) *Choir*

When the offering is presented at the altar, the Celebrant says

Celebrant All things come of thee, O Lord.

People **And of thine own have we given thee.**

The Liturgy of the Table

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

The people remain standing.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

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.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant 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. You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

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 & Benedictus #S-124

Celebrant and People

**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.

The people kneel. Then the Celebrant 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:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant 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 Celebrant then continues

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

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

The priest 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-161

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.**

Prayer Of Humble Access *The People may join in saying this prayer*

**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.***

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Hymn #479 “Glory Be To Jesus, Who In Bitter Pain” Choir & Congregation

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant 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.*

The Solemn Prayer

Deacon Bow down before the Lord.

Celebrant Look down in mercy, Lord, on your people who kneel before you; and grant that those whom you have nourished by your Word and Sacraments may bring forth fruit worthy of repentance; through Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

The Dismissal

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

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

The congregation departs in silence.

PRAYER NEEDS: *Please pray for St. Matthews's members who are distressed in body, mind, or spirit:* Norm Smith, Bill Byrd, Chuck Vickers, Dottie Aldredge, Gina Centanni, Terry Schuster, George & Sandra Burgess, Ray & Shirley White, Canellia Patterson, David Osmond, Colleen Turner, Dick Pendleton, Anna Post, Bev Ryberg, David Newton, Jane Prince, the King family, Mary Travers, Eric & Mel Seemann, Marie Lutz, Josie Cooper, Anne Sullivan, Judy Elkins, Lynda Johnston, David Lawrence, Rebecca Franz, Maurice Hale, Jack Brown, Bob & Eileen Bogard, Tyron Newton, Roger & Rhoda Kitchen, Maurice Hale, Scott Martin, Lynn Beasley, Diane Loehr, Pamela Muery, Roberta Anderson, Janice Combs, Sande Smith, Brenda Kirkendall, Janet Wetzel, Daryl Carpenter, Chris King, Eileen Lewis, Charles Bernhard, Marie Lutz, Steve Gruman. *Also pray for our friends and family members, especially:* Nancy Laws, Brenda Anderson, Diana Parks, Martha Bergmann, Chuck Sewell, Wes Patterson, Mike Rice, Samantha Rice, Richard Hattoway, Jenny Williams, Rosie Brown, Jack Cooper, Michael & Nancy Laws, Jewell Newton, Ginger Eich, Catherine S. Williams, Joe Allen, Caroline Thomas, Elyssa Nelson, Vaughn Cassell, Bill Fischer, Sally Flanigan, Theresa Richerson, family of Madison Gilbert, Scott Marbut, Todd Newman, Jessica Goodwin, Cathy Taveras, Fran Woytowich, BB McCalpin, Bob & Peggy Wagner, Nancy Ford, Stephen Byrd, Bronwen Murray, Katie Ray, Sherry Sampson, Kate Winkler, Joe Frank Trevino, Emmy & Drew Champion, Ron Mandelbaum, Dave Knowles, Wade Allen, Emily Nebrig, Bobby Paysinger, Barbara Lemley, Steve Sands, Felicia Temple.

WORSHIP SERVERS:

VOD: Rick Lutz

8:30am

Altar Guild: Glasgow

Nursery: Anderson/Brown

Hospitality: Turner

Ushers: Buzby/Carpenter

Lectors: Burch/Modrall/Christopher

LEM's: Christopher

Counters: Christopher/Lewis

Acolytes: A Maddox/E Maddox

11:00am

Lane

Anderson/Brown

Kleinjung

Weaver/Harrison

Bishop/Anderson/McGraw

Barr

Bishop/Monroe

L Hartley/V Mullins/B Mullins

ALTAR GIFTS We will not have Altar Flowers during Lent. Sign ups to provide flowers starting on Easter Sunday are on the worship bulletin board in the hallway. We need two arrangements each week. Cost is \$45 per arrangement. You can provide flowers in honor of someone, in memory of someone, or in thanksgiving for a special event. Please sign up to help. **THANK YOU!**

EASTER FLOWER DONATIONS

Please complete and return this form to the church office or place in the offering collection plate **DEADLINE IS TODAY!!!!** if you would like to provide an Easter lily or flowers for the decorating of the church at Easter. ***Please include payment with this form.***

Please **print** “IN HONOR” or “IN MEMORY” of the & the name of the person(s) being remembered, exactly as you want it to appear:

Please **print** YOUR name(s) exactly as you want it to appear:

Total # flowers purchased _____ **x \$15 per plant = \$**_____ **Amount Enclosed**

(Make check payable to the church, note for “Easter Flowers” and fold inside this form.)