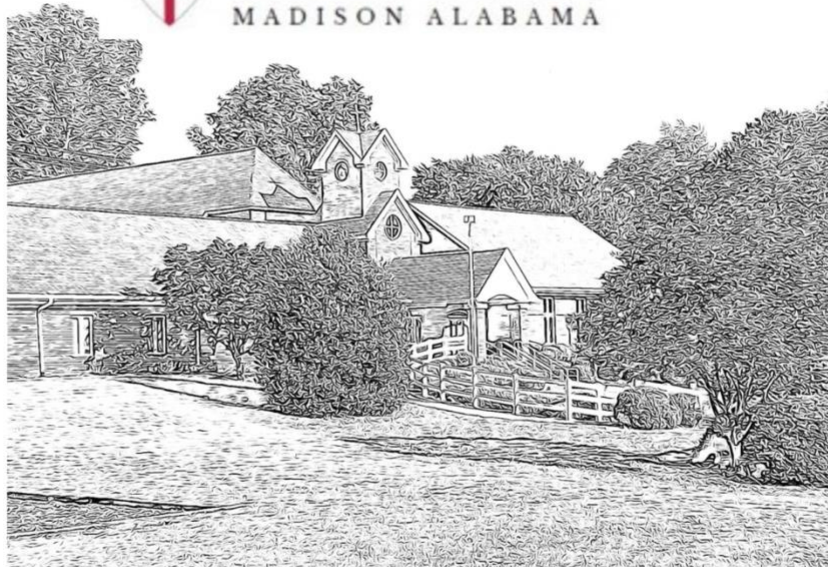




ST MATTHEW'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
MADISON ALABAMA



**THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY  
HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II**

**FEBRUARY 8, 2026  
10:00 AM**

*Quiet before the service helps us to mark sacred space and time. Please use this time to prayerfully prepare for worship. Please remember to silence your cell phone.*

## **The Liturgy of the Word**

**Opening Voluntary**

**Adagio**

*(Franz Liszt)*

**Entrance Hymn #419**, *Standing, sung by all*

**Lord of all being, throned afar**

**Opening Sentences** *Standing*

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**People** And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Collect for Purity**

*Celebrant* 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.**

**Canticle 13 #S-236**, *Sung by all*

**Collect of the Day**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**The Lesson, Isaiah 58:1-9a**

Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God. "Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?" Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow

down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

*Lector*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 112:1-9**

1 Hallelujah!

Happy are they who fear the Lord \*  
and have great delight in his commandments!

2 Their descendants will be mighty in the land; \*  
the generation of the upright will be blessed.

3 Wealth and riches will be in their house, \*  
and their righteousness will last for ever.

4 Light shines in the darkness for the upright; \*  
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.

5 It is good for them to be generous in lending \*  
and to manage their affairs with justice.

6 For they will never be shaken; \*  
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.

7 They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; \*  
their heart is right;  
they put their trust in the Lord.

8 Their heart is established and will not shrink, \*  
until they see their desire upon their enemies.

9 They have given freely to the poor, \*  
and their righteousness stands fast for ever;  
they will hold up their head with honor.

## **The Epistle, 1 Corinthians 2:1-12**

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God. Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"—these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

*Lector*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

**Sequence Hymn #488, *Standing, sung by all***

**Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart**

## **The Holy Gospel**

**Matthew 5:13-20**

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

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

Jesus said, "You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. "Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one

stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

*Deacon*      The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## **The Sermon**

The Rev. Susan Sloan

## **The Nicene Creed, *Standing***

BCP 358

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 387

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

**That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

**That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

We pray for Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Glenda, our Bishop; for our Bishop-Elect, Richard, and our diocese during this time of transition; Susan, our Interim Rector; Taylor, our Deacon; Bob and Sam, our retired clergy; Lauren, our missionary in Kenya; for our staff, vestry, and laity; and for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

**That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

We pray for our president, Donald; our vice president, JD; our governor, Kay; our mayor, Ranae; and for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

**That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

We pray for Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui; our companion Diocese of Honduras and their Bishop, Lloyd; Retired clergy; Deceased clergy, their widows, widowers, and children; for the Food Bank of North Alabama, First Stop, Episcopal Relief and Development; Sawyerville; Huntsville Assistance Program; for peace in Ukraine, and the Middle East. Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

**That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

**That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Give to the departed eternal rest, especially Roger Kitchen, husband of Rhoda.

**Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

**May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Let us pray for our own needs and for those of others.

*The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.*

## **Confession of Sin**

*Deacon* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Deacon and People*

**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.***

**The Peace** *Standing*

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

**Welcome**

**Offertory Anthem, *Sung by Choir***

**Let Thy Merciful Ears, O Lord**  
*(Mudd/ arr. Thoburn)*

**Presentation Hymn 380** *Standing, sung by all*

**The Doxology** *(vs. 3)*

## **The Holy Communion**

**The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer B**

BCP 367

*The people remain standing.*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them 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...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-130** *Sung by all*

*Standing or kneeling*

*Celebrant* We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life. On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

*People* **We remember his death**  
**We proclaim his resurrection,**  
**We await his coming in glory;**

*Celebrant* And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with St. Matthew and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. 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.**

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



**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.**

**Fraction Anthem #S-164, *Sung by all***

**Invitation to Communion**

*Regardless of the denomination of your baptism, you are invited to receive Holy Communion in the Episcopal Church. If you wish to receive a blessing, please come to the altar rail and cross your arms over your chest. If you are interested in being baptized please speak with the clergy after the service or contact the church office.*

**Communion Hymn #310**

**O saving Victim, opening wide**

**Communion Hymn #497**

**How bright appears the Morning Star**

**The Postcommunion Prayer *Said by all, standing or kneeling***

BCP 365

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*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 Blessing, *all standing***

**Closing Hymn #637, *Standing, sung by all***

**How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord**

**The Dismissal**

*Deacon* Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

**Voluntary**

**Trumpet in Dialogue**

*(Louis Nicolaus Clerambault)*



**Remember in your prayers this week:**

Bill Byrd, Chuck, Lorna, and Roy Vickers, Dottie Aldredge, Gina Centanni, Terry Schuster, David Osmond, Anna Post, Bev Ryberg, David Newton, Jane Prince, Mary Travers, Anne Sullivan, Judy Elkins, Lynda Johnston, Bob & Eileen Bogard, Rhoda Kitchen, Brenda Kirkendall, Chris King, Eileen Lewis, Molly Killian, Trudie Gruman, Ray and Shirley White, George and Sandra Burgess, Norm Smith, Keith Ulrich, Tyron Newton, Clarissa Dozier, Daryl Carpenter, Carmen M. Colon, Robert Sampson, Deborah Harrison, Dennis and Beth Blanco, Scott Cechovic, Joan East, Jeff Anderson, Barbara Combs, Robby Brueggeman.

**Also pray for our friends and family members, especially:**

Brenda Anderson, Diana Parks, Martha Bergmann, Chuck Sewell, Wes Patterson, Mike Rice, Richard Hattoway, Jenny Williams, Rosie Brown, Jewell Newton, Ginger Eich, Catherine S. Williams, Joe Allen, Caroline Thomas, Elyssa Nelson, Bill Fischer, Sally Flanigan, Theresa Richerson, Scott Marbut, Todd Newman, Cathy Taveras, Fran Woytowich, BB McCalpin, Stephen Byrd, Bronwen Murray, Katie Ray, Peggy Wagner, Joe Frank Trevino, Emmy & Drew Champion, Ron Mandelbaum, Dave Knowles, Wade Allen, Emily Nebrig, Bobby Paysinger, Barbara Lemley, Steve Sands, Felicia Temple, John David Landin, Mike Bolton, Dr. Mark Bronner, Ashley Jenkins, Mark Anderson, Judy Tuck, Ann Reid Cronin, Elizabeth Hodges, Jill Kanuchok, Mike Mumfrey, Joyce Lewis, Allan Scott, Christine Van Dyke, Christopher Taveras, Mike Rice, Suzette Rice, Vaughn Cassell, Shannon Carpenter, Jarilyn Alleman, Jake Sowder, Cheryl Lavazza, Margaret McHugh, Shawn and Rachel Blanco, Jane Stanland, Wisam Safie, Diego Candia.

## ***Week at a Glance***

<b>Sunday, Feb. 8</b>	<b>The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany</b>
8:15 AM	Contemplative Service/HE, Nave
9:00 AM	Adult Sunday School, CE 1
9:00 AM	Kid's Sunday School, CE 3
9:00 AM	Youth Sunday School, Amy West Building
10:00 AM	Holy Eucharist, Nave
<b>Monday, Feb. 9</b>	
9:00 AM	Sewing Sisters, Gruman Hall
5:45 PM	Scouting America Troup #628, Amy West
6:30 PM	Bells Angels rehearsal
<b>Tuesday, Feb. 10</b>	
7:00 AM	Men's Breakfast, GH/Kitchen
9:30 AM	Reunion Group, Kitchen
<b>Wednesday, Feb. 11</b>	
10:00 AM	Staff Meeting, Kitchen
10:30 AM	ECW Meeting, Gruman Hall
11:00 AM	Reunion Group, Kitchen
12:00 PM	Noon Eucharist, Nave
4:00 PM	Packing Party for Kenya Mission Trip, GH
6:00 PM	Choir rehearsal, Nave
<b>Thursday, Feb. 12</b>	
9:30 AM	Ladies Bible Study, Gruman Hall
4:00 PM	Madison Station Quilt Guild, Gruman Hall
<b>Friday, Feb. 13</b>	<b>Church Office Closed</b>
8:30 AM – 12:00 PM	Cleaning Service ( <b>Church Closed</b> )
6:00 PM	EYC Event, Gruman Hall
<b>Saturday, Feb. 14</b>	
2:00 PM	DAR Meeting, Gruman Hall

## **Bulletin Announcements – February 8**

**Pledge Envelopes** – 2026 pledge envelopes requested during the stewardship campaign are available in the narthex **until February 17.**

**Mardi Gras Celebration** – Join us for our Annual Mardi Gras Festivities on Feb. 17th at 6:00 pm. Chicken and fish will be served; please bring a Cajun dish, dessert, or drinks to share.

**Ash Wednesday Services** – The Lenten season will commence on February 18th with the imposition of ashes at both noon and 7 p.m.

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### **SERVING TODAY (10:00 AM)**

**PREACHER/CELEBRANT:** The Rev. Susan Sloan

**DEACON:** The Rev. Deacon Taylor Johnson

**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC:** Tom Killian

**ORGANIST:** Susan Fletcher

**ALTAR GUILD:** Kathy Barr, Grace Lo, Alinda Coiner

**LEM:** Sheila Weaver, Natalie Lapacek-Trout

**LECTOR:** Lee Ann Mack

**EPISTOLER:** Todd Clem

**INTERCESSOR:** Natalie Lapacek-Trout

**ACOLYTES:** Erin Bruce, Melanie Pezzula

**USHERS:** Jeff Anderson, Nancy Snell

**COUNTERS:** Kathy Modrall, Scott Cechovic

**HOSPITALITY:** Terry Sampson

**NURSERY:** Amber Anderson, Mary Brown

**VESTRY OF THE DAY:** Rebecca Franz