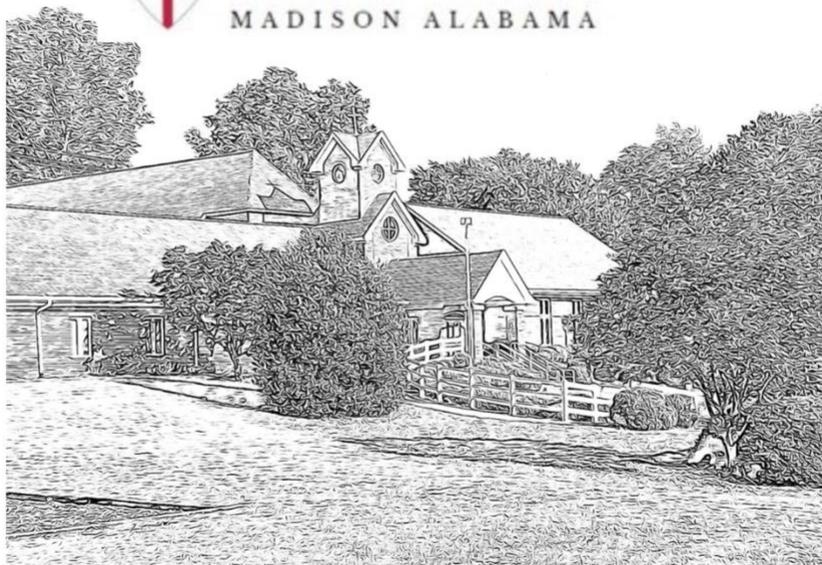




ST MATTHEW'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
MADISON ALABAMA



**THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT
HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II**

MARCH 1, 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

The Prelude

Alle Menschen Müssen Sterben

(J. S. Bach)

Processional Hymn #147, Standing, sung by all **Now let us all with one accord**

The Penitential Order

The people standing

Celebrant Bless The Lord who forgives all our sins.

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

The people kneeling

Celebrant Hear the commandments of God to his people: I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage. You shall have no other gods before me.

People ***Amen. Lord have mercy.***

Celebrant You shall not make for yourself any idol.

People ***Amen. Lord have mercy.***

Celebrant You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

People ***Amen. Lord have mercy.***

Celebrant Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

People ***Amen. Lord have mercy.***

Celebrant Honor your father and your mother.

People ***Amen. Lord have mercy.***

Celebrant You shall not commit murder.

People ***Amen. Lord have mercy.***

Celebrant You shall not commit adultery.

People ***Amen. Lord have mercy.***

Celebrant You shall not steal.

People ***Amen. Lord have mercy.***

Celebrant You shall not be a false witness.

People ***Amen. Lord have mercy.***

Celebrant You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

People ***Amen. Lord have mercy.***

Celebrant Jesus said, “The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these.”

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Minister 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.***

Kyrie #S-91, Sung by all, standing

Lord have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord have mercy upon us.

Lord have mercy upon us.

Lord have mercy upon us.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

The Lesson, Genesis 12:1-4a

The LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 121

- 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; *
from where is my help to come?
- 2 My help comes from the LORD, *
the maker of heaven and earth.
- 3 He will not let your foot be moved *
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.
- 4 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel *
shall neither slumber nor sleep;
- 5 The LORD himself watches over you; *
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,
- 6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day, *
nor the moon by night.
- 7 The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; *
it is he who shall keep you safe.
- 8 The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, *
from this time forth for evermore.

The Epistle, Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”) —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn #440, *Standing, sung by all*

Blessed Jesus, at thy word

The Holy Gospel

John 3:1-17

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

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

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? “Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Deacon Taylor Johnson

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 – Form 1

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord, have mercy.”

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop; for Glenda, our Bishop; for Richard, our Bishop-Elect; for Susan, our Interim Rector; for Taylor, our Deacon; for Bob and Sam, our retired clergy; for Lauren, our missionary in Kenya; and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For Donald, our President; for JD, our Vice President; for Kay, our Governor; for the Congress, State Legislature, and courts; for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this city, Madison; for Ranae, our Mayor; for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the Nippon Sei Ko Kai; our Companion Diocese of Honduras and for their bishop, Lloyd; the Diocese of Jerusalem; Community Garden in Auburn; Community Market in Opelika; 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. Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

In the communion of saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

To thee, O Lord our God.

Silence

The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.

The Peace *Standing*

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Welcome

Offertory Anthem, Sung by Choir **Take Up Your Cross** *(Ronald Corp)*

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP 361

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-124, Sung by all

Standing or kneeling

Celebrant 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, according to his command, O Father,

People **Christ has died.**

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Celebrant 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.

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

The Lord's Prayer, *Said by all*

BCP 364

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: Lamb of God: *Agnus Dei*, Sung by All

Enriching Our Music, #38



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: have



mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of



God, you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Setting: Susan Calvin Fletcher, © 2002 Susan Calvin Fletcher.
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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 #313

Let thy Blood in mercy poured

Communion Hymn #691

My faith looks up to thee

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

BCP 365

Celebrant Let us pray.

People **Almighty and everliving God, 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 you 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 for ever. Amen.**

Closing Hymn #142, *Standing, sung by all* Lord, who throughout these forty days

The Dismissal

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Postlude

St. Flavian

(setting by C.S. Lang)



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, the Sloan Family, 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, Beau Womack, Joan East, Jeff Anderson, Barbara Combs, Robby Brueggeman, Laura Weatherbee.

Also pray for our friends and family members, especially:

Brenda Anderson, Diana Parks, Martha Bergmann, Chuck Sewell, Wes Patterson, 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, The Hardin family, Anthony Hardin, Cathy Collier.

Week at a Glance

Sunday, March 1	The Second Sunday in Lent
8:15 AM	Contemplative Service/HE, Nave
9:00 AM	Inter-generational Lenten Studies, GH
10:00 AM	Holy Eucharist, Nave
11:15 AM	DOK Meeting, CE 2
Monday, March 2	
5:45 PM	Scouting America Troup #628, Amy West
6:00 PM	The Writer's Nook, CE 2
6:30 PM	Bells Angels rehearsal
Tuesday, March 3	
7:00 AM	Men's Breakfast, GH/Kitchen
9:30 AM	Reunion Group, Kitchen
6:00 PM	Warden's Council Meeting, CE 1
Wednesday, March 4	
10:00 AM	Staff Meeting, Gruman Hall
11:00 AM	Reunion Group, Kitchen
12:00 PM	Noon Eucharist, Nave
6:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal, Nave
Thursday, March 5	
9:30 AM	Ladies Bible Study, Gruman Hall
Friday, Feb. 27	Church Office Closed
8:30 AM – 12:00 PM	Cleaning Service (Church Closed)

Bulletin Announcements – March 1

The church office is unable to assist with 2025 contribution statements. For any inquiries concerning your 2025 contribution statements, please reach out to Chips Lanier at chipslanier@icloud.com.

Intergenerational Lenten Program continues this morning in Gruman Hall during Christian Education hour and runs through March 22. All other Sunday school classes will pause during Lent.

Ladies' Bible Study meets Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. in Gruman Hall to study Adam Hamilton's "The Walk" during Lent. All ladies are welcome.

Easter Lilies, \$20 each, are available for purchase in the narthex until March 22.

SERVING TODAY (10:00 AM)

PREACHER: The Rev. Deacon Taylor Johnson

CELEBRANT: The Rev. Susan Sloan

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Tom Killian

ORGANIST: Susan Fletcher

ALTAR GUILD: Kathy Barr,

LEM: Karen Price, Kathy Barr

LECTOR: Michael Harrison

EPISTOLER: Melanie Pezzula

INTERCESSOR: Jeff Anderson

ACOLYTES: Austin Utt, Melanie Pezzula, Cormac Trout, Aaron Wales

USHERS: Jeff Anderson, Nancy Snell

COUNTERS: Kathy Modrall, Scott Cechovic

HOSPITALITY: Mary Brown

NURSERY: Amber Anderson, Mary Brown

VESTRY OF THE DAY: Jeff Anderson