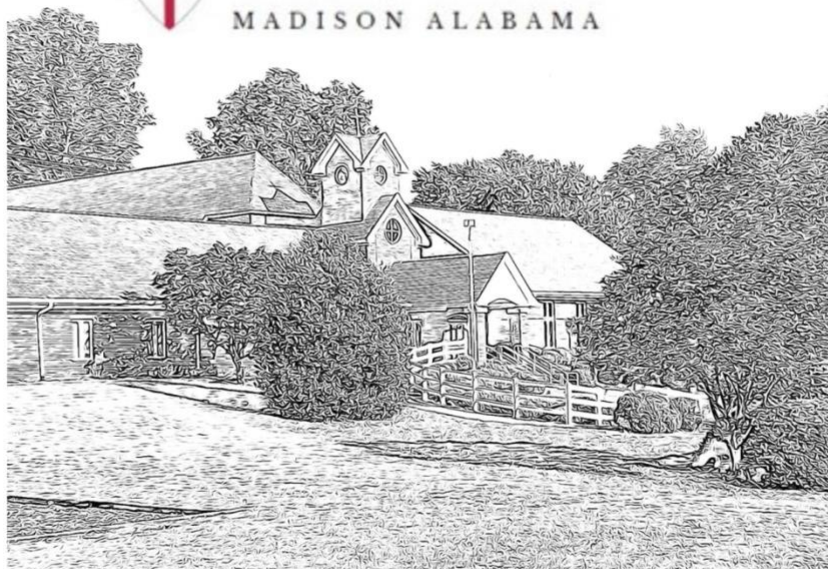




**ST MATTHEW'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

MADISON ALABAMA



**EASTER DAY
HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II**

APRIL 5, 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

An Easter Prelude

(Charles Callaban)

Garrett Smith, *violin*; Susan Fletcher, *organ*

Processional Hymn #179 “Welcome, happy morning!” age to age shall say

Opening Sentences, *Standing*

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is Risen.

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

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.**

Gloria, #S-278, Sung by all

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lesson, Acts 10:34-43

Peter began to speak to Cornelius and the other Gentiles: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ--he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for

God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

- 1 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; *
his mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Let Israel now proclaim, *
"His mercy endures for ever."
- 14 The LORD is my strength and my song, *
and he has become my salvation.
- 15 There is a sound of exultation and victory *
in the tents of the righteous:
- 16 "The right hand of the LORD has triumphed! *
the right hand of the LORD is exalted!
the right hand of the LORD has triumphed!"
- 17 I shall not die, but live, *
and declare the works of the LORD.
- 18 The LORD has punished me sorely, *
but he did not hand me over to death.
- 19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; *
I will enter them;
I will offer thanks to the LORD.
- 20 "This is the gate of the LORD; *
he who is righteous may enter."
- 21 I will give thanks to you, for you answered me *
and have become my salvation.

22 The same stone which the builders rejected *
has become the chief cornerstone.

23 This is the LORD's doing, *
and it is marvelous in our eyes.

24 On this day the LORD has acted; *
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

The Epistle, Colossians 3:1-4

If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn #180, *Standing, sung by all*

He is risen, he is risen!

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 28:1-10

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

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

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

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, Form III

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 Richard, our Bishop-Elect, 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 the peace of Jerusalem; La Iglesia Anglicana de Mexico; for our Companion Diocese of Honduras and for their bishop, Lloyd; for Holy Comforter in Gadsden and Montgomery; for Riverside in McCalla; for the Food Bank of North Alabama; for First Stop; for the Episcopal Relief and Development; for Sawyerville; for the Huntsville Assistance Program; for the National Children's Advocacy Center; 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; especially our military in the Middle East who are in harm's way.

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest, especially Jimmy Hubbard and Barry Battista
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.

The Peace *Standing*

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Welcome

Offertory Anthem, *Sung by Choir* **Alleluia! Sing Praise** *(J. S. Bach/adapted Hirt)*
Garrett Smith, *violin*; Susan Fletcher, *organ*

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-125, 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,

Celebrant and 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 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,

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 #S-155, *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, *Sung by Choir*

Day of Arising

(arr. David Chernien)

Garrett Smith, *violin*

Communion Hymn #190

Lift your voice rejoicing, Mary

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.**

The Blessing, *all standing*

Closing Hymn #207, *Standing, sung by all*

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!

The Dismissal

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

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

The Postlude

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing

(setting by Michael Burkhardt)

Garrett Smith, *violin*; Susan Fletcher, *organ*



Easter lilies are provided and given to the glory of God by:

Melissa and Kenny Barton	In memory of Doris and Bob DeWitt
Melissa and Kenny Barton	In memory of Ellen and Julian Barton
Melissa and Kenny Barton	In memory of Marie Ritter
Daryl and Barbara Carpenter	In memory of our daughter, Tammy
Janice Glor	In memory of Father Milton T. Glor
Janice Glor	In memory of Jack A. Freedman
Donna Kleinjung	In honor of Crystal and Jordan Deiss
David and Lee Ann Mack	In memory of Harry and Catherine Rice
David and Lee Ann Mack	In memory of Jerry Mack
Paul, Matt and Myles Marques	In memory of Tessie Marques
The Rev. Sam & Jane McClain	In honor of family
Karen Price	In memory of my grandmothers: Layce, Elizabeth, Stella and Edna
Susan Sloan	In memory of Dwight Sloan
Susan Sloan	In honor of Taylor Johnson
Susan Sloan	In honor of the staff of St. Matthew's
Susan Sloan	In honor of the Vestry of St. Matthew's
Jason and Sandra Vaughn	In memory of Tom Vaughn
Jason and Sandra Vaughn	In honor of Susie Vaughn
Jason and Sandra Vaughn	In honor of Dave and Sue Mott

If you purchased a lily, please take it home following the 10:00 a.m. service.



Bulletin Announcements – April 5

A special thank you to members of the Altar Guild, Flower Guild, Music Ministry, staff, and all those who have spent many extra hours preparing for Holy Week.

After the 10:00 a.m. service, join us in Gruman Hall for hospitality hour as we celebrate Easter and welcome our newly baptized members: Spencer John Anderson, Casey Robert Anderson, and Aspen Elizabeth Adkins. Everyone is welcome.

The church office will be closed for the Easter holiday on April 6-7.

Week at a Glance

Sunday, April 5	Easter Day
8:15 AM	Contemplative Service/HE, Nave
9:00 AM	Children's Easter Egg Hunt
10:00 AM	Holy Eucharist, Nave
Monday, April 6	Church Office closed – Easter Holiday
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, April 7	Church Office closed – Easter Holiday
7:00 AM	Men's Breakfast, GH/Kitchen
9:30 AM	Reunion Group, Kitchen
Wednesday, April 8	
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
5:30 PM	EYC Pizza Night, Sam and Greg's, Madison
6:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal, Nave
Thursday, April 9	
9:30 AM	Ladies Bible Study, Gruman Hall
4:00 PM	Madison Station Quilt Guild, Gruman Hall
Friday, April 10	
8:30 AM – 12:00 PM	Cleaning Service (Church Closed)
Saturday, April 11	
8:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Flower Guild Workday, Nave & Gruman Hall
2:00 PM	DAR Meeting, Gruman Hall

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: Stacey Bagwell

LEM: Jason Vaughn, Kathy Barr

LECTOR: Todd Clem

EPISTOLER: Paul Marques

INTERCESSOR: Jeanne Burch

ACOLYTES: Anna Maddox, Emily Maddox, Nora Ramussen, Miles Ramussen

USHERS: Michael Harrison, Terry Sampson

MEDIA MINISTRY: Dane Ramussen

COUNTERS: Michael Harrison, Paul Lewis

HOSPITALITY: Donna Kleinjung

NURSERY: Amber Anderson, Mary Brown

VESTRY OF THE DAY: Joel Simõneau