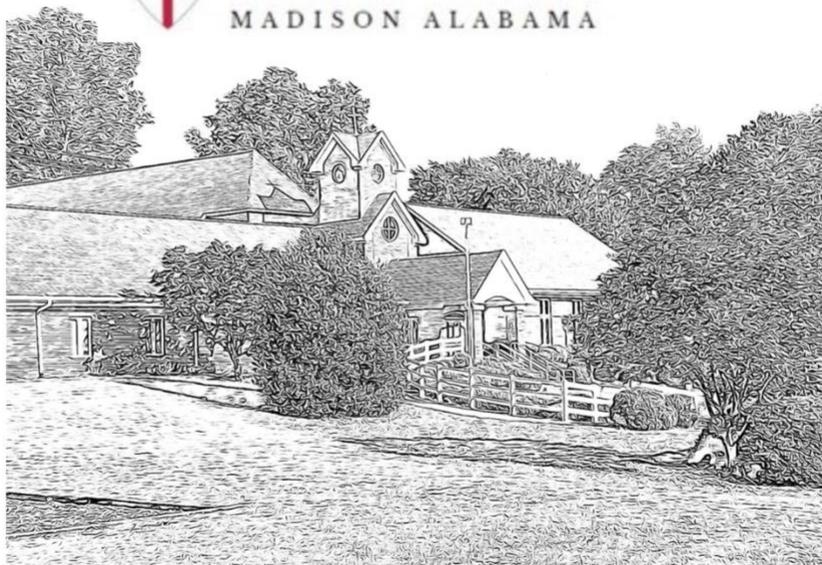




ST MATTHEW'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
MADISON ALABAMA



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

**FEBRUARY 22, 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

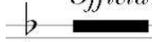
### The Prelude

### Wondrous Love

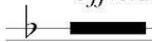
*(setting by David N. Johnson)*

### The Great Litany, *all kneeling*

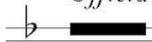
*The Officiant at the Litany may be a lay cantor.*

*Officiant*  *People* 

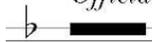
O God the Father, Creator of heaven and earth, Have mer - cy up - on us.

*Officiant*  *People* 

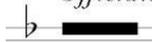
O God the Son, Redeemer of the world, Have mer - cy up - on us.

*Officiant*  *People* 

O God the Holy Ghost, Sanctifier of the faith - ful, Have mer - cy up - on us.

*Officiant*  *People* 

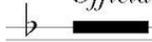
O holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, one God, Have mer - cy up - on us.

*Officiant* 

Remember not, Lord Christ, our offenses, nor the offenses of our forefathers; neither reward us according to our sins. Spare us, good Lord, spare thy people, whom thou hast redeemed with thy most precious blood, and by thy mercy

 *People* 

preserve us for ev - er. Spare us, good Lord.

*Officiant* 

From all evil and wickedness; from sin; from the crafts and assaults of the

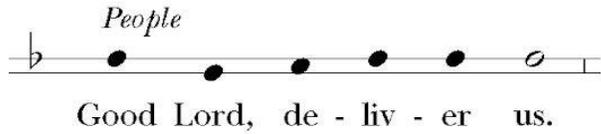
devil; and from everlast - ing dam - na - tion,

*People* 

Good Lord, de - liv - er us.

*(This same response is sung after the petitions that follow)*

From all blindness of heart; from pride, vainglory, and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred, and malice; and from all want of charity,



From all inordinate and sinful affections; and from all the deceits of the world, the flesh, and the devil,

***Good Lord, deliver us.***

From all false doctrine, heresy, and schism; from hardness of heart, and contempt of thy Word and commandment,

***Good Lord, deliver us.***

From lightning and tempest; from earthquake, fire, and flood; from plague, pestilence, and famine,

***Good Lord, deliver us.***

From all oppression, conspiracy, and rebellion; from violence, battle, and murder; and from dying suddenly and unprepared,

***Good Lord, deliver us.***

By the mystery of thy holy Incarnation; by thy holy Nativity and submission to the Law; by thy Baptism, Fasting, and Temptation,

***Good Lord, deliver us.***

By thine Agony and Bloody Sweat; by thy Cross and Passion; by thy precious Death and Burial; by thy glorious Resurrection and Ascension; and by the Coming of the Holy Ghost,

***Good Lord, deliver us.***

In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death, and in the day of judgment,

***Good Lord, deliver us.***

We sinners do beseech thee to hear us, O Lord God; and that it may please thee to rule and govern thy holy Church Universal in the right way,



We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

*(This same response is sung after the petitions that follow)*

That it may please thee to illumine all bishops, priests, and deacons, with true knowledge and understanding of thy Word; and that both by their preaching and living, they may set it forth, and show it accordingly,

***We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.***

That it may please thee to bless and keep all thy people,

***We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.***

That it may please thee to send forth laborers into thy harvest, and to draw all humankind into thy kingdom,

***We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.***

That it may please thee to give to all people increase of grace to hear and receive thy Word, and to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit,

***We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.***

That it may please thee to bring into the way of truth all such as have erred, and are deceived,

***We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.***

That it may please thee to give us a heart to love and fear thee, and diligently to live after thy commandments,



We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

*(This same response is sung after the petitions that follow)*

That it may please thee so to rule the hearts of thy servants, the President of the United States, and all others in authority, that they may do justice, and love mercy, and walk in the ways of truth,

***We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.***

That it may please thee to make wars to cease in all the world; to give to all nations unity, peace, and concord; and to bestow freedom upon all peoples,

***We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.***

That it may please thee to show thy pity upon all prisoners and captives, the homeless and the hungry and all who are desolate and oppressed,

***We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.***

That it may please thee to give and preserve to our use the bountiful fruits of the earth, so that in due time all may enjoy them,

***We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.***

That it may please thee to inspire us, in our several callings, to do the work which thou givest us to do with singleness of heart as thy servants, and for the common good,

***We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.***

That it may please thee to preserve all who are in danger by reason of their labor or their travel,

***We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.***

That it may please thee to preserve, and provide for, all women in childbirth, young children and orphans, the widowed, and all whose homes are broken or torn by strife,



We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

*(This same response is sung after the petitions that follow)*

That it may please thee to visit the lonely; to strengthen all who suffer in mind, body, and spirit; and to comfort with thy presence those who are failing and infirm,

***We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.***

That it may please thee to support, help, and comfort all who are in danger, necessity, and tribulation,

***We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.***

That it may please thee to have mercy upon all humankind,

***We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.***

That it may please thee to give us true repentance; to forgive us all our sins, negligences, and ignorances; and to endue us with the grace of thy Holy Spirit to amend our lives according to thy holy Word,

***We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.***

That it may please thee to forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers, and to turn their hearts,

***We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.***

That it may please thee to strengthen such as do stand; to comfort and help the weak-hearted; to raise up those who fall; and finally to beat down Satan under our feet,

***We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.***

That it may please thee to grant to all the faithful departed eternal life and peace,

***We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.***



that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.”“ But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

*Lector*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 32**

- 1 Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, \*  
and whose sin is put away!
- 2 Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt, \*  
and in whose spirit there is no guile!
- 3 While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, \*  
because of my groaning all day long.
- 4 For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; \*  
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.
- 5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you, \*  
and did not conceal my guilt.
- 6 I said, " I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." \*  
Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.
- 7 Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble;  
\*  
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.
- 8 You are my hiding-place;  
you preserve me from trouble; \*  
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.
- 9 "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; \*  
I will guide you with my eye.
- 10 Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; \*  
who must be fitted with bit and bridle,  
or else they will not stay near you."

11 Great are the tribulations of the wicked; \*  
but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.

12 Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD; \*  
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

### **The Epistle, Romans 5:12-19**

As sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned-- sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come. But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ. Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

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

**Sequence Hymn #150, *Standing, sung by all***

**Forty days and forty nights**

**The Holy Gospel**

**Matthew 4:1-11**

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

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

Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the

pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, ‘He will command his angels concerning you,’ and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’” Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’” Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

*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 1**

BCP 383

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 Church of Ireland; our Companion Diocese of Honduras and for their bishop, Lloyd; the Episcopal Church World Mission; Diocesan Pastoral Counseling Center; Military, Institutional, Hospice, and Hospital Chaplains; St. Matthias in Tuscaloosa; Task Force for Stewardship of Creation; Bethany Village at Camp McDowell; Laundry Love Ministries; 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.

***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 St. Matthew and of the 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**

**Remember, O Thou Man**  
*(Thomas Ravenscroft)*

**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,

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 #559**

**Communion Hymn #336** (*vs. 2 only*)

**Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us**

**Come with us, O mighty Savior**

*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 Solemn Prayer**

*Celebrant* Bow down before the Lord.

Keep this your family, Lord, with your never-failing mercy, that relying solely on the help of your heavenly grace, they may be upheld by your divine protection; through Christ our Lord.

***Amen.***

**Closing Hymn #563**, *Standing, sung by all*

**Go forward, Christian soldier**

**The Dismissal**

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

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

**The Postlude**

**Aus Tiefer Not**

*(Samuel Scheidt)*



**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.

**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, Faye Hardin, Anthony Hardin.

## *Week at a Glance*

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| <b>Sunday, Feb. 22</b>    | <b>The First Sunday in Lent</b>         |
| 8:15 AM                   | Contemplative Service/HE, Nave          |
| 9:00 AM                   | Inter-generational Lenten Studies, GH   |
| 10:00 AM                  | Holy Eucharist, Nave                    |
| <b>Monday, Feb. 23</b>    |   |
| 9:00 AM                   | Sewing Sisters, CE 1, 2                 |
| 5:45 PM                   | Scouting America Troup #628, Amy West   |
| 6:30 PM                   | Bells Angels rehearsal                  |
| <b>Tuesday, Feb. 24</b>   |   |
| 7:00 AM                   | Men's Breakfast, GH/Kitchen             |
| 9:30 AM                   | Reunion Group, Kitchen                  |
| <b>Wednesday, Feb. 25</b> |   |
| 11:00 AM                  | Reunion Group, Kitchen                  |
| 12:00 PM                  | Noon Eucharist, Nave                    |
| 6:00 PM                   | Rector Search Committee, CE 2           |
| 6:00 PM                   | Choir Rehearsal, Nave                   |
| <b>Thursday, Feb. 26</b>  |   |
| 9:30 AM                   | Ladies Bible Study, Gruman Hall         |
| <b>Friday, Feb. 27</b>    | <b>Church Office Closed</b>             |
| 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM        | Cleaning Service <b>(Church Closed)</b> |

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## **Bulletin Announcements – February 22**

**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](mailto:chipslanier@icloud.com).

**Intergenerational Lenten Program** starts today 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.

**Sr. Women Luncheon** will be held at Sunny Street Cafe on Tuesday, Feb. 24th at 11:30 a.m. Contact Dee Buzby at 256-864-6949 for questions.

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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, Alinda Coiner, Donna Kleinjung

**LEM:** Jeff Anderson, Kathy Barr

**LECTOR:** Jim Salmon

**EPISTOLER:** Angel Utt

**INTERCESSOR:** Jeanne Burch

**ACOLYTES:** Austin Utt, Natalie Lapacek-Trout, Aaron Wales, Cormac Trout

**USHERS:** Jeff Anderson, Nancy Snell

**COUNTERS:** Michael Harrison, Paul Lewis

**HOSPITALITY:** Monica Couch

**NURSERY:** Amber Anderson, Mary Brown

**VESTRY OF THE DAY:** Beau Womack