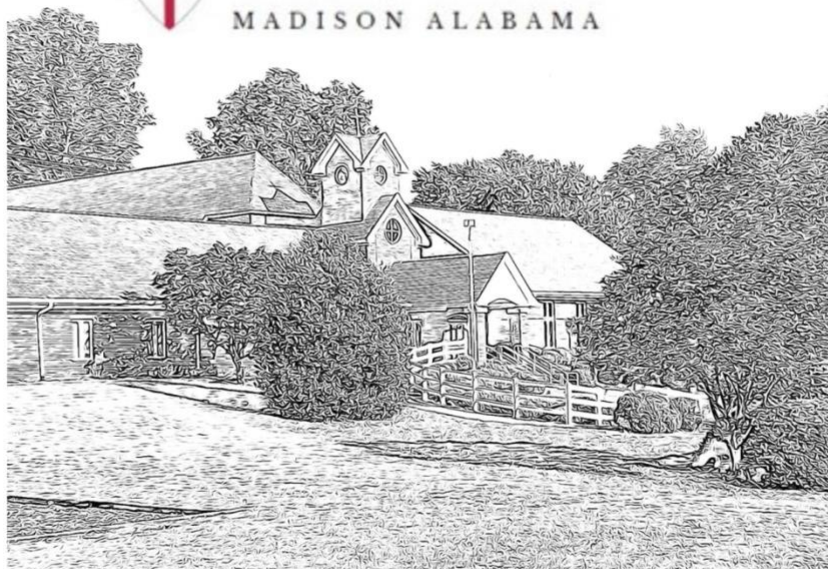




**ST MATTHEW'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

MADISON ALABAMA



**THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER
HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II**

APRIL 19, 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 **Meditation on “Christians, to the Pascal Victim”** *(Charles Callaban)*

Processional Hymn #193 **That Easter day with joy was bright**

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.

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lesson, Acts 2:14a,36-41

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, “Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.” Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” Peter said to them, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” So

those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

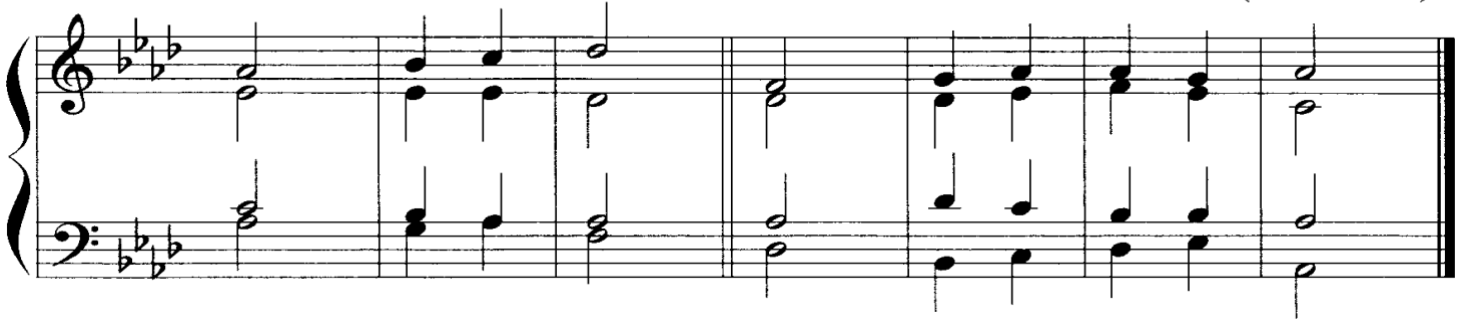
Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 116:1-3, 10-17, Sung by all

S418

George A. MacFarren
(1813-1887)



1. I love the Lord, because he has heard the voice of my | supplication, *
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I | called up-on him.
2. The cords of death entangled me;
the grip of the grave took | hold of me; *
I came to | grief and **sor-row**.
3. Then I called upon the | Name of • the Lord: *
“O Lord I | pray you, save my life.”
10. How shall I re- | pay the Lord *
for all the good things | he has done for me?
11. I will lift up the | cup of • salvation *
and call upon the | **Name** of the Lord.
12. I will fulfill my vows | to the Lord *
in the presence of | all his **peo-ple**.
13. Precious in the | sight of • the Lord *
is the | death of • his **ser-vants**.
14. O Lord, I | am your servant; *
I am your servant and the child of your handmaid;
you have | freed me from my bonds.

15. I will offer you the sacrifice of | **thanks**-giving *
and call upon the | **Name** of the Lord.
16. I will fulfill my vows | to the Lord *
in the presence of | all his **peo**-ple,
17. In the courts of the | **Lord's** house, *
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. | Halle-**lu**-jah!

The Epistle, 1 Peter 1:17-23

If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God. Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn #188, *Standing, sung by all*

Love's redeeming work is done

The Holy Gospel

Luke 24:13-35

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

Now on that same day two of Jesus' disciples were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The

things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.” Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Celebrant 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 Priest; 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 Church of the Province of Myanmar (Burma); for our Companion Diocese of Honduras and for their bishop, Lloyd; for Bridge Ministries in Birmingham; for St. Anne's Home in Birmingham; for the Welcome Center in Millbrook; for St. Mark's in Birmingham, Boligee, and Prattville; for St. Catherine's in Chelsea; 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 Valerie Tracy, and Vaughn Cassell, father of Ray Cassell.

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 **He That Raised Up Jesus** (*Carlton T. Russell*)

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 #186

Christ Jesus lay in death's strong bands

Communion Hymn #309

O Food to pilgrims given

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 feed 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 #174, *Standing, sung by all*

At the Lamb's high feast we sing

The Dismissal

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

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

The Postlude

This Joyful Eastertide

(setting by Charles Callahan)

✙ ✙ ✙

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, Scott Cechovic, Joan East, Jeff Anderson, Barbara Combs, Laura Weatherbee, Jimmy Hubbard, David Lawrence.

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, 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, Elizabeth Lundey.

Week at a Glance

Sunday, April 19	The Third Sunday of Easter
8:15 AM	Contemplative Service/HE, Nave
9:00 AM	Adult Sunday School, CE 1, 2
9:00 AM	Kid's Sunday School, CE 3
9:00 AM	Youth Sunday School, Amy West building
10:00 AM	Holy Eucharist, Nave
11:30 AM	Celebration Reception for Susan Sloan, GH
Monday, April 20	Newsletter Deadline
5:45 PM	Scouting America Troup #628, Amy West
6:00 PM	Sewing Sisters, Gruman Hall
6:30 PM	Bells Angels rehearsal
Tuesday, April 21	
7:00 AM	Men's Breakfast, GH/Kitchen
9:30 AM	Reunion Group, Kitchen
5:30 PM	Wing and a Prayer, Cricket's
6:00 PM	Vestry, CE Building, room 1
Wednesday, April 22	
11:00 AM	Reunion Group, Kitchen
12:00 PM	Noon Eucharist, Nave
Thursday, April 23	
9:30 AM	Ladies Bible Study, Gruman Hall
Friday, April 24	
8:30 AM – 12:00 PM	Cleaning Service (Church Closed)
1:00 PM – 4:00 PM	ECW Setup for Ladies Tea, GH
Saturday, April 25	
2:00 PM	ECW Ladies Tea, GH

Bulletin Announcements – April 19

A celebration and farewell reception in honor of the Rev. Susan Sloan, recognizing her contributions to St. Matthew's, will take place this morning at 11:30 a.m. in Gruman Hall.

Our Parish Administrator, Cynde Tannehill, will be on vacation April 27 – May 1. Other staff will be available in the office for assistance.

The ECW Afternoon Tea Gathering is scheduled for Saturday, April 25th, from 2:00 to 4:00 pm in Gruman Hall. Please sign up in the Narthex soon, as seating is limited.

The next Senior Ladies' lunch is on Tuesday, April 28 at 11:30 a.m. at Casa Blanca Mexican Restaurant, 7830 Highway 72 West, Madison. Please sign up in the Narthex by April 26.

Please volunteer to become an usher during our services. Contact dennis_utt@yahoo.com for more information.

Check out the Gratitude Committee's new Facebook page, "St. Matthew's Page of Gratitude". Please follow us as we will be sharing new posts regularly now. Contact Margaret Ott, drmargaretott@gmail.com.



SERVING TODAY (10:00 AM):

PREACHER: The Rev. Susan Sloan

CELEBRANT: The Rev. Taylor Johnson

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Tom Killian

ORGANIST: Susan Fletcher

ALTAR GUILD: Nancy Snell

LEM: Diane Loehr/Kristie Scheuer

LECTOR: Jim Salmon

EPISTOLER: Susan Peterson

INTERCESSOR: Patty McGraw

CRUCIFER: Carter Bagwell

GOSPELER: Ben Watson

USHERS: Ray Cassell, James Weaver

MEDIA MINISTRY: Geoff Beech

COUNTERS: Melissa Barton, Alinda Coiner

HOSPITALITY: Mary Brown

NURSERY: Amber Anderson, Mary Brown

VESTRY OF THE DAY: Randy Centanni