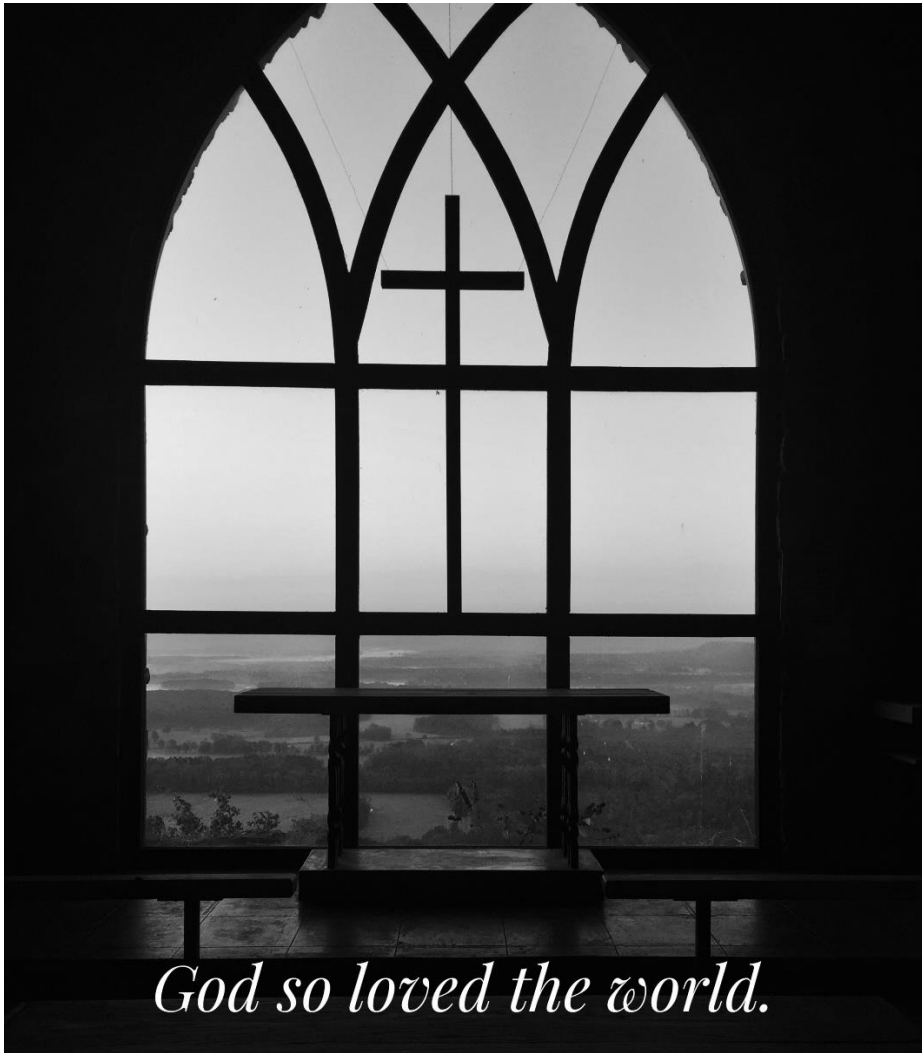


St. Thomas Episcopal Church
The Second Sunday in Lent
March 5, 2023



God so loved the world.

The Holy Eucharist, Rite I

7:30am & 10:00am

*Children are always welcome in the church.
Please be sure your cell phone is inaudible.*

Prelude

Opening Hymn #457 Thou Art the Way *St. James*

Opening Acclamation Book of Common Prayer, page 323

The Collect for Purity page 323

Decalogue page 317

Lord, Have Mercy (*S91 or insert- 10:00 a.m. only*) page 324

The Collect

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 First Reading

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.

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 Second Reading

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.

Sequence Hymn #668 *(10:00 a.m. only)* I to the Hills Will Lift My Eyes

Burford

The Gospel

John 3:1-17

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.”

Sermon

The Rev. Canon Lisa Fry

Nicene Creed

page 326

Prayers of the People, Form IV

page 388

Leader: Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

All: Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

All: Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

All: Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

All: Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially...
Give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

All: Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

All: Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Confession and Absolution

page 331

The Peace

page 332

Announcements and Birthdays

Birthday Prayer

Watch over thy children, O Lord, as their days increase. Bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand, comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful, raise them up if they fall. And in their hearts, may thy peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Offertory

Offertory Hymn 380 (v.3)

Old 100th

The Great Thanksgiving Rite 1: Eucharistic Prayer 1

page 333

Holy, Holy, Holy (S114/Insert 10:00 a.m. only)

page 341

The Lord's Prayer

page 336

The Breaking of the Bread – Fraction

page 337

Agnus Dei (S158/Insert 10:00 a.m. only)

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The Communion

Communion Voluntary

Postcommunion Prayer

page 339

Blessing

Dismissal Hymn #455

O Love of God How Strong and True

Dunedin

The Dismissal

Postlude



Our Diocese requests that during the pandemic we no longer dip the wafer into the wine (intinct). Here are our choices:

- Receiving communion in “one kind”—bread only or wine only. In the Episcopal church, receiving in one kind is considered receiving in both.
- Drink from the common cup
- Cross hands over chest after receiving the bread and the Chalice Bearer will say, “the blood of Christ” but will not distribute the wine.

Help the Lay Eucharistic Ministers by choosing one of these three options. Please do not intinct.

The Bible texts of the Old Testament, Epistle and Gospel lessons are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Church of Christ in the USA and used by permission. The Collects, Psalms and Canticles are from the Book of Common Prayer, 1979. Permission to stream music in this Service obtained from ONE LICENSE: License #A-712382. All rights reserved.

Restrooms are located down the right aisle, past the Chapel, at the end of the corridor on the left side. Additional restrooms are located in the basement (down the same corridor, via the stairway on the left).

Liturgical Ministers

Celebrant & Preacher:
Deacon:
Organist:

The Rev. Canon Lisa Fry
The Rev. Dr. Rosalee Glass
Clarissa Brown, Minister of Music

7:30 a.m. Liturgy

Lay Eucharistic Minister: Shirley Fierro
Lay Readers: Sandy Lyle, Jan Lyle
Prayers of the People: Shirley Fierro
Usher: Jan Lyle

10:00 a.m. Liturgy

Lay Eucharistic Minister: TBD
Acolytes: Lola Black, Volly Watkins, Wolfe Watkins
Lay Readers: Charlotte Watkins, Dean Jackson
Prayers of the People: Jacqueline Recht
Ushers: Lucy Ebbert, Jim Ebbert

How to Reach Us:

Parish Office: 207-236-3680

www.stthomascamdenme.org

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