St. Jude's Episcopal Church

Seeking and Worshipping God, Reaching out to Others

March 8, 2026: The Third Sunday in Lent
10:30 am Holy Eucharist

~~ Everyone is WELCOME here, for everyone is beloved by GOD ~~

As we continue this season of preparation for Easter, and especially Baptism, our lessons present "the waters of life" from a desert perspective. Moses has a conflict with thirsty Israelites in the wilderness, recounted in Exodus and our Psalm today. Jesus stops for water at a well and meets a Samaritan woman - a person he definitely should *not* be talking to in that culture! Her curiosity and conversion of life will become an example for all disciples.

New to our church? We'd love to get better acquainted. Please leave your name and email or phone number in one of our guestbooks, located at both entrances of the worship space; or by filling out one of the Welcome cards in the pew.

All persons who desire to receive Holy Communion are served here, no questions asked. The bread is home-baked and does contain gluten. Rice wafers are also available, simply ask the priest. The bread or wafer may be dipped into the small bowl of wine; or, consume your bread and sip wine from the chalice that follows. Or neither: just cross your arms over your chest. You may also ask a blessing from the priest.

Hymn # These hymns are located in the blue Hymnal 1982 in your pew.
WLP # These hymns are located in the green hymnal books that will be handed out.

Gathering of the Community

Prelude _____

Processional Hymn #686 _____ *Come, thou fount of every blessing*

A Penitential Order, beginning with the Decalogue

Presider Blessed be the God of our salvation:

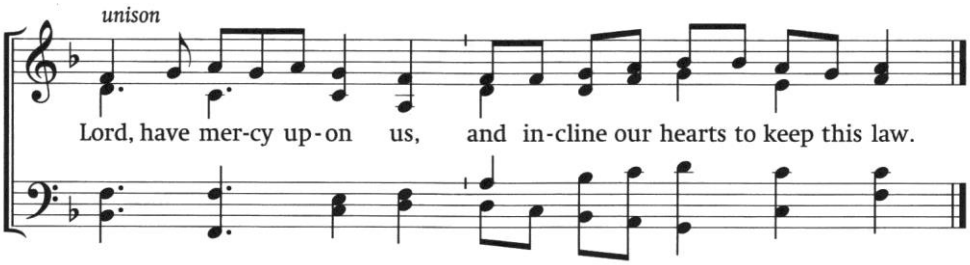
People **Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.**

Presider Hear the commandments of God to his people.

The people may kneel, or remain standing, through the Collect of the Day.

(1) I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of bondage. You shall have no other gods but me.

Sung response for commandments 1–9



(2) You shall not make for yourself any idol.

Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

(3) You shall not take the Name of the Lord your God in vain.

Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

(4) Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

(5) Honor your father and your mother.

Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

(6) You shall not murder.

Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

(7) You shall not commit adultery.

Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

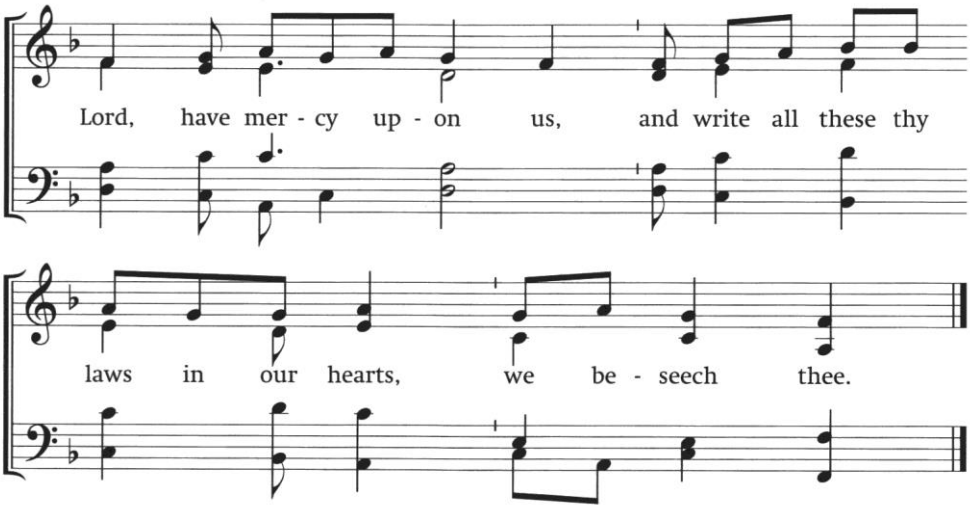
(8) You shall not steal.

Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

(9) You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

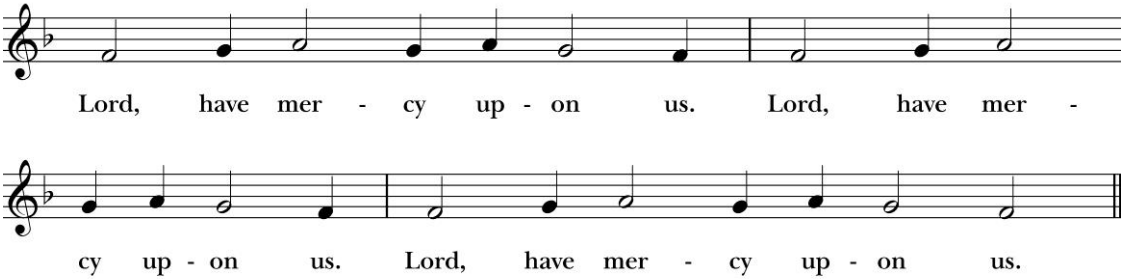
(10) You shall not covet.



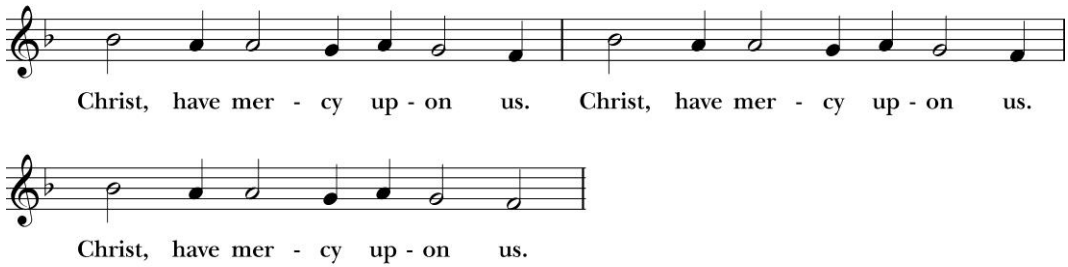
Confession of Sin _____ *source: Church of England*

Deacon You who truly and earnestly repent of your sins,
and are in love and charity with your neighbors,
and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God
and walking from henceforth in his holy ways:
draw near with faith, and make your humble confession to almighty God.
Silence

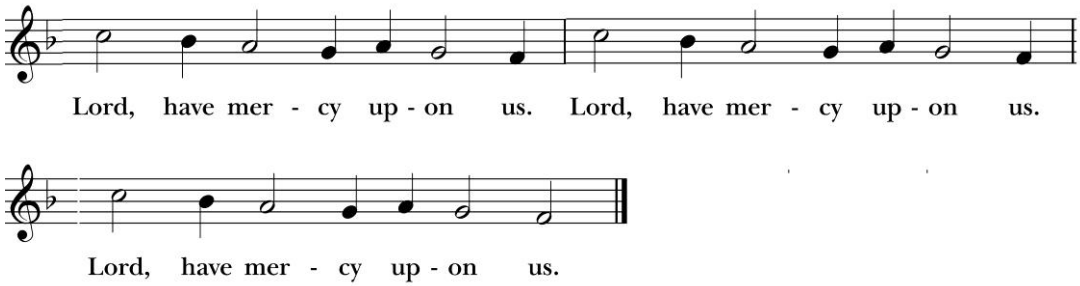
Deacon Remember, Lord, your compassion and mercy;
Response **For they are everlasting.**



Deacon Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
Response **But think on me in your goodness, according to your love.**



Deacon Keep my soul and deliver me, O God;
Response **Let me not be put to shame, for I have trusted in you.**



Priest Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins,
and bring us all to everlasting life. **Amen.**

Collect of the Day

Priest The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Priest Let us pray together.
All **Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Proclamation of the Word

Please be seated.

The First Reading _____ *Exodus 17:1-7*

Reader A Reading from the book of Exodus.

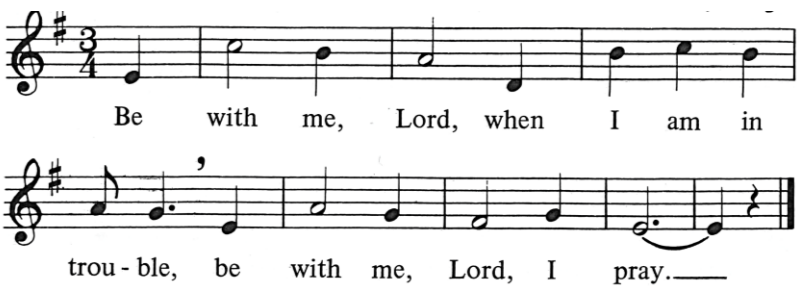
From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me."

The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm _____ *Psalm 95*

The congregation joins in the Antiphon:



1 Come, let us sing to the Lord; *
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

2 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms. *ANTIPHON*

3 For the Lord is a great God, *
and a great King above all gods.
4 In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are his also.
5 The sea is his, for he made it, *
and his hands have molded the dry land.
6 Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
7 For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice! *ANTIPHON*

8 Harden not your hearts, as your forebears did in the wilderness, *
at Meribah, and on that day at Massah, when they tempted me.
9 They put me to the test, *
though they had seen my works.
10 Forty years long I detested that generation and said, *
"This people are wayward in their hearts; they do not know my ways."
11 So I swore in my wrath, *
"They shall not enter into my rest." *ANTIPHON*

The Second Reading_____ *Romans 5:1-11*

Reader A reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans.

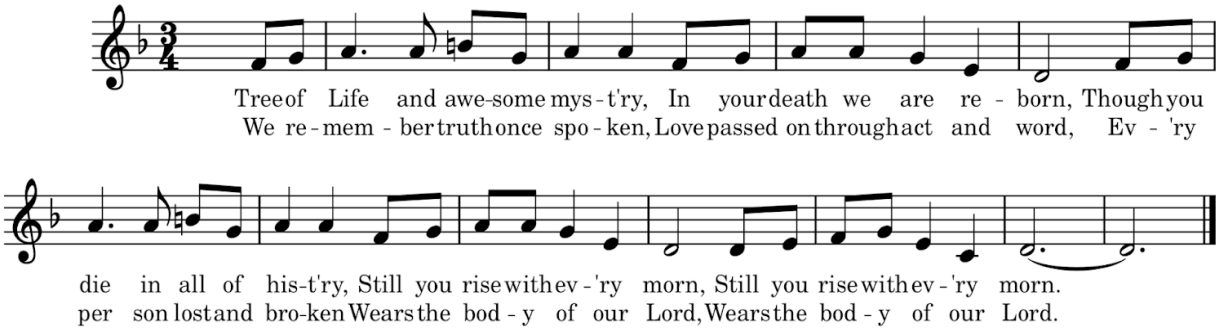
Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person– though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn, *throughout Lent* _____ *Tree of Life: Lent 3*

Two verses are sung before the Gospel is read, and a third afterwards.



The Gospel Reading *Please remain standing* _____ *John 4:3-42*

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus left Judea and started back to Galilee. But he had to go through Samaria. He came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water."

The woman said to him, “Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?” Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.” The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.”

Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come back.” The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband’; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!” The woman said to him, “Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.” Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.” Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.”

Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you want?” or, “Why are you speaking with her?” Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, “Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?” They left the city and were on their way to him.

Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, “Rabbi, eat something.” But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.” So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?” Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest’? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.” So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said

to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sequence Hymn, *third verse of "Tree of Life"* _____

Living Water of salvation, be the fountain of each soul;
Springing up in new creation, flow in us and make us whole,
Flow in us and make us whole.

The Sermon *Please be seated* _____ *Rev. Susan Anslow Williams*

A time of silent reflection follows the Sermon

The Nicene Creed *Please stand, as able* _____

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.

Prayers of the People in Lent

Deacon With bowed heads and humble hearts, let us make known our hopes and needs to God, who provides us living water through Jesus Christ.

Leader We pray for the whole church, that the Gospel message of salvation may clear away much that needlessly divides us. Open our eyes to the unity and opportunities we share in Christ Jesus our Lord. Especially we pray for all who are preparing for baptism at Easter, and their sponsors. *Silence*
God of all mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Leader We pray for those who lead us in faith, especially Sean our Presiding Bishop, Anne our assisting Bishop, the leaders of our diocese and parish, and our ecumenical partners in ministry. Bless those discerning a call to be nominated for our first Bishop of the Great Lakes, and guide our diocesan Search Committee as they choose candidates to lead us. *Silence*
God of all mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Leader We pray for all who suffer now because of war, poverty, injustice, or climate change. Especially we pray for peace in Iran, Gaza, Ukraine and Sudan. Turn the hearts of the wealthy and powerful, and guide them in your ways of peace and equity. *Silence*
God of all mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Leader We pray for those who yearn for healing, both physical and spiritual: people who are hurting, weakened, confused, or depressed. Especially we lift up those on our Prayer List, and others we name aloud… *Silence*
God of all mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Leader We pray for those near death, those who have died, and all who mourn for loved ones; especially remembering *Marcia, Carol,* and those we name…

That with all the saints, they are at peace in eternal light. *Silence*
God of all mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Presider O God, the living fountain of new life, grant to your people the gift of your Spirit, that we may learn to profess our faith with courage and conviction, and announce with joy your saving love. We ask through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who came into the world to save us from sin and despair. **Amen.**

The Peace _____

The Peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you!**
Let us share a sign of Christ's Peace with one another.

Milestones and Announcements _____

Stump the Priest! _____ *Answering your questions*

The Offertory _____

If you wish to give online, point your phone's camera at the QR code to the right and tap the webpage that pops up. It will take you to the St. Jude's online giving form.

Offertory Anthem _____ *My Spirit Longs for Thee*

The Doxology *Please stand & join in singing* _____

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Celebration of the Eucharist

The Great Thanksgiving *Please remain standing, as able* *source: Church of England*

Presider The Lord is with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

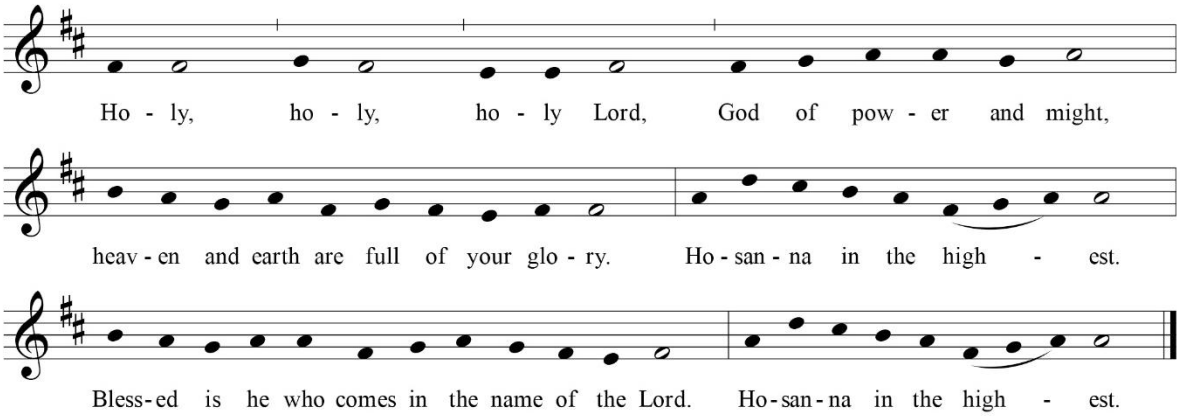
People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Presider It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise, almighty God our Creator, through Jesus Christ your Son.

For in these forty days you lead us into the desert of repentance that through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline we may grow in grace and learn to be your people once again. Through fasting, prayer and acts of service you bring us back to your generous heart. Through study of your holy word you open our eyes to your presence in the world, and free our hands to welcome others into the radiant splendor of your love.

As we prepare to celebrate the Easter feast with joyful hearts and minds, we bless you for your mercy and join with saints and angels, forever praising you and singing:

Sanctus, #S-124 _____ *setting by D. Hurd*



The congregation may kneel or stand as the priest continues

Accept our praises, O God, through our Savior Jesus Christ, and as we follow his example and obey his command, grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit + these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: 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. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Therefore, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross; we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; we look for the coming of your kingdom, and with this bread and this cup we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

All **Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life:**
Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Presider Accept through Christ, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise, and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty, renew us by your Spirit, + inspire us with your love, and unite us in the body of Christ Jesus.

Through whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, O God, in songs of everlasting praise:

All **Blessing and honor and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen!**

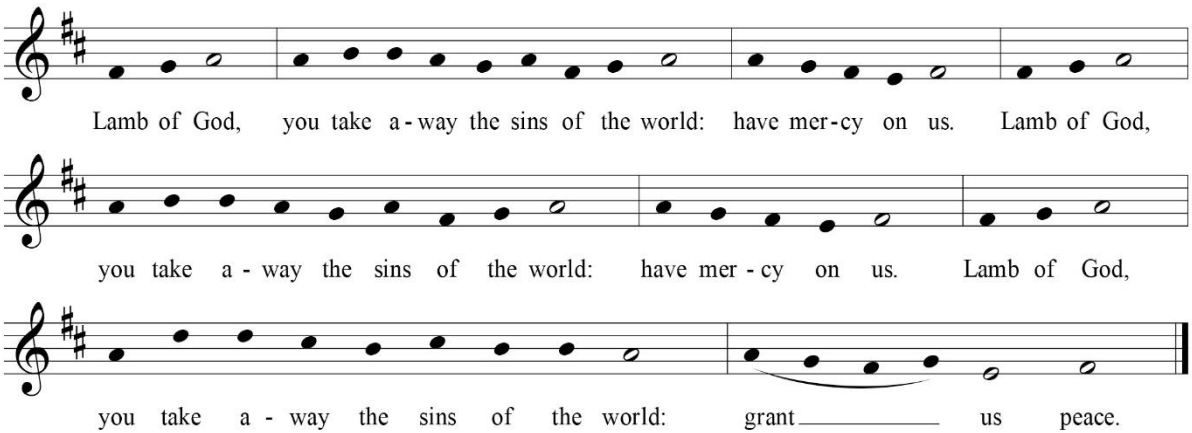
Presider As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

The Lords Prayer

All **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.

The Breaking of Bread, *silence follows*

At the Fraction: Agnus Dei _____ *setting by D. Hurd*



Invitation to Communion _____

Priest The feast is prepared, a banquet beyond measure or price.
Christ meets us here in our brokenness so that none may be lost,
and invites all who hunger for God to stretch out their hands to receive him.

Deacon These are the gifts of God for you, the beloved people of God.

The Communion _____

All are welcome *but no one is obliged to receive. If you would prefer not to receive Communion, please cross your arms across your chest indicating you would like to receive a blessing instead. The bread is home-baked and does contain gluten. Rice wafers are also available, simply ask the priest. The wine may be sipped from the chalice, or wait to intinct (dip your bread or wafer) into the small bowl of blessed wine. Please do not intinct into the chalice.*

Communion Hymns

Hymnal #649 _____ *O Jesus, joy of loving hearts*

Hymn, "As the deer" _____ *Marty Nystrom*

1. **As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after you.**
   You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.

Refrain: **You alone are my strength, my shield;**
To you alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.

2. I want you more than gold or silver, only you can satisfy.
You alone are the real joy-giver and the apple of my eye. *Refrain*

3. You're my Friend and you're my Brother, even though you are a king.
I love you more than any other, so much more than anything. *Refrain*

Prayer after Communion *Please stand or kneel* _____ *Source: Church of England*

Presider Let us pray.

All **We thank you, loving God,**
that you have fed us in this sacrament, united us with Christ,
and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet prepared for all people.
Empower us by your Spirit to witness and to serve,
and send us out as faithful disciples of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Solemn Prayer, *in place of the Blessing during Lent* _____

Deacon Let us bow down before the Lord.
Silent prayer

Presider Look mercifully on this your family, Almighty God, that by your great goodness they may be governed and preserved evermore; through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Go Forth!

Sending Out Hymn #495 _____ *Hail, thou once-despised Jesus*

Sending Out _____

The Deacon dismisses the congregation, and the people respond: **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude _____

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- *"My Spirit Longs for Thee,"* words by John Byrom; music by Simon Lole © 2010, St. James Music Press.
- *Sanctus* (Hymn S-124) and *Agnus Dei* (Hymn S-161) by David Hurd: *New Plainsong* © 1981, GIA Publications.
- *"As the Deer,"* text and music by Martin J. Nystrom © 1983, Restoration Music Ltd.

Serving at the Liturgy	Today	Next Sunday
Presider	Rev. Susan A. Williams	Rev. Susan A. Williams
Assisting	Rev. Dcn. Judy Marinco	Rev Dcn Judy Marinco
Choir Director	Katie Young	Katie Young
Eucharistic Minister	Clay Putnam	Clay Putnam
Intinction Cup	Dave Rayner	Mary Louise S.
Reader	Amy Freeman	Paul Dolza
Prayers	Rev. H. Wayne Knotts	Denise Rayner
Ushers	Dave & Deb James	Dave & Denise Rayner
Live-streamer	Paul Dolza	Dave Rayner
Vestry of the Day	Sue Premo	Dolores Ruby
Altar Guild	Mary Louise S., Diane H.	Dee G., Lisa Cronk
Coffee Hour	Heather Ludwig	Lynne R., Nancy D.

This Week at St. Jude's

Monday, 3/9	6 pm: Book Club	Vandenbergh Hall
Wednesday, 3/11	1 pm: Outreach Meeting	Library
	6 pm: Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Thursday, 3/12	6 pm: Lenten Supper w/1st Pres	Vandenbergh Hall
Saturday, 3/14	11 am: Celebration of Life of Marcia Freeman	

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