



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
OF THE
NATIVITY

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT
HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II
MARCH 8, 2026
11:00AM

*Quiet in the nave before the service helps us to mark sacred space and time.
We invite you to use this time to prayerfully prepare for worship.
Please remember to silence your cell phone.*

Voluntary

Prière

César Franck

A Penitential Order

Hymn 495, *Standing, sung by all*

Hail, thou once despised Jesus IN BABILONE

The Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People **His mercy endures forever.**

The Confession, *Standing or kneeling*

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Celebrant and People **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

The Absolution

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

Kyrie S94, *Standing, sung by all*

Plainsong

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

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 First Reading, *Seated*

Exodus 17:1-7

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?"

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 95, *Please join the choir in singing the bold portions of the Psalm*

Tone VIII.1



- 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 thanks-/giving ***
and raise a loud / shout to him with psalms.
- 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 mold-/ed 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!

**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 en-/ter into my rest."

Second Reading

Romans 5:1-11

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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 692, Standing, sung by all

I heard the voice of Jesus say THE THIRD TUNE

*During the sequence hymn, children aged 4 through 4th grade are
invited to follow the children's cross out to Children's Chapel.*

Parents are always welcome to attend. All will return during the Peace.

The Holy Gospel

John 4:5-42

Gospeler The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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

Jesus 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

for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus S122, *Sung by all*

Plainsong

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in
the highest.

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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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:

The Lord's Prayer, *Said by all*

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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 the Bread

Agnus Dei S160, *Sung by all*

Plainsong

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

The Invitation to Communion

Regardless of the denomination of your baptism, you are invited to receive Holy Communion in the Episcopal Church. If you would like to receive a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest. If you are interested in being baptized please speak with a clergy person after the service or contact the church office. Gluten free wafers available upon request.

Music during Communion

Lent Prose

Plainsong, Mode V

Antiphon: Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us: for we have sinned against thee. To thee, Redeemer, on thy throne of glory: lift we our weeping eyes in holy pleadings: listen, O Jesu, to our supplications. *Ant.* / O thou chief Corner-stone, Right Hand of the Father: Way of Salvation, Gate of Life Celestial: cleanse thou our sinful souls from all defilement. *Ant.* / God, we implore thee, in thy glory seated: bow down and hearken to thy weeping children: pity and pardon all our grievous trespasses. *Ant.* / Sins oft committed now we lay before thee: with true contrition, now no more we veil them: grant us, Redeemer, loving absolution. *Ant.* / Innocent, captive, taken unresisting: falsely accused, and for us sinners sentenced, save us, we pray thee, Jesu our Redeemer.
Ant.

Hymn 458

My song is love unknown LOVE UNKNOWN

When Lay Eucharistic Visitors are sent forth to take communion to the sick or homebound, the following is offered:

Celebrant We send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

People **We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.**

The Postcommunion Prayer, Said by all, standing or kneeling

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Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and 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 your 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

Hymn 149, Standing, sung by all *Eternal Lord of love, behold your Church* OLD 124TH

The Dismissal

The Celebrant offers a dismissal followed by:

People **Thanks be to God.**

*The Lenten altar arrangement is offered to the Glory of God and in loving memory of
Maynard M. and Catherine E. Furney and Avon S. and Eunice P. Clevenger
by Terry and Keith Clevenger*

CELEBRANT The Rev. Michael Goldsmith

PREACHER The Rev. Rose Veal Eby

ASSISTING The Rev. Dr. Melissa M. Hartley

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC Dr. Aaron Tan

Lent is the most penitential season in the church calendar and is designed to help us prioritize our lives in preparation for the great feast of Easter. During this season, we will begin our services with the penitential order, highlighting for us the theme of this important season.