St. Andrew's Parish Church

Established 1706



The Fifth Sunday in Lent Passion Sunday

The Family Service at 9:00 a.m. March 17, 2024



OLD ST. ANDREW'S PARISH CHURCH

The Clergy & Staff

THE REVEREND MARSHALL HUEY, Rector

THE REVEREND JACOB A. ROGERS, Curate

THE REVEREND JOSEPH VELLA, Assistant to the Rector

THE REVEREND DAVID ALWINE, Assisting Priest

THE REVEREND LEE HERSHON, Deacon Emeritus

DAVID ACRES, Director of Music

KEVIN UPPERCUE, Piano

BRENDA RINDGE, Director of Christian Education

AMY AUSTEN, Parish Administrator

JEANNE GERHARDT, Parish Bookkeeper

JUDITH ACRES, Administrative Assistant

PAUL PORWOLL, Historian

MICHAEL CHRISTENSEN, AV Coordinator

THE RT. REV. WILLIAM J. SKILTON

Bishop Suffragan, South Carolina, Retired Assistant Bishop, The Dominican Republic, Retired Bishop in Residence, Old St. Andrew's Parish Church The Vestry

Debra Bays, 2025

Jim Beall, 2026

Wilson Blanton, 2025 Senior Warden

Stefanie Christensen, 2026

Rick Jennings, 2027

James Little, 2025 Junior Warden

Todd Lundgren, 2027

Randall Shealey, 2026

Romaine Smith, 2027

Michael Ulmer, 2027

Gail Wagaman, 2026

James Wilson, 2025

John Steinmeyer, Treasurer

Cindi Smith, Clerk

Andy Lacour, Chancellor

THE RT. REV. CHARLES F. EDGAR III, , Bishop of The Anglican Diocese of South Carolina

SERVING TODAY

The Reverend Joseph Vella HOMILIST

Olivia Leavell T.J. Leavell LECTORS

The Leavells
Family of the Day

CHALICE BEARERS - Eric Smith

VESTRY IN CHARGE - Michael Ulmer, James Wilson, Jim Beall

ALTAR GUILD - Millie Strobel, Leigh Smalley, Carin Jorgensen

The Fifth Sunday in Lent Passion Sunday

March 17, 2024

The Family Service at 9:00 a.m.

We Gather in the Lord's Name

Welcome!

to our historic, living church where the saints have gathered to worship since 1706!

If you are visiting with us today, please take a **welcome brochure** (located in the envelope rack on the back of each pew) and fill out the **visitor card**. Please place it in the offering plate or leave it with an usher.



The Acclamation, standing

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins People: His mercy endures forever. Amen

(BCP page 123)

The liturgy begins with the **Acclamation**, which is an eager expression of praise.

In the **Collect for Purity**, we ask God to cleanse our hearts and minds of anything that comes between Him and us, anything that would impede our worship of Him. Here we offer ourselves to the glory of Jesus Christ.

The Collect for Purity (BCP page 124)

Priest: 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.**

These words of Christ bring to our attention the perfect standard of God's righteousness and what He requires of us. Both The Summary of the Law and The Decalogue (Ten Commandments) are valid options for this movement of the liturgy. The Summary was first used in place of The Decalogue in 1718.

The Summary of the Law

(BCP page 124)

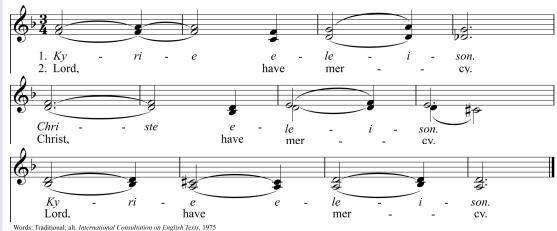
Priest: Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says:

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.

The words **Kyrie Eleison**. Christe Eleison. mean Lord, Have mercy. Christ, Have Mercy. Within the liturgy, it lifts our voices in a prayer for the compassion of Christ after the declaration of the Summary of the Law, which holds up the standard of God's righteousness. Kyrie Eleison first appeared in the Holy Communion Service as the response of a litany in the Antioch-Jerusalem liturgy after the middle of the 4th century. Around 595AD, Christe Eleison was added by St. Gregory the Great of Rome.

The Song of Praise, standing

Kyrie Eleison



words. Iranitorial, air. *International Constitution on English Texts*, 1975

Music Brentwood, Eric Wyse, 2004

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The Collect is a prayer that touches on the theme of the Scripture readings and transitions us from speaking and singing God's praise to listening to his Holy Scriptures.

The Collect of the Day, standing

(BCP page 123)

Priest: The Lord be with you. People: And with your spirit.

Priest: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of this world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated for the Lessons.

We Hear God's Word

The First Lesson Jeremiah 31:31-34

³¹ "Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, ³² not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the LORD. ³³ For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴ And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."

Lector: The Word of the Lord. People: Thanks be to God.

The Second Lesson Hebrews 4: 14-5:10

¹⁴ Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. ¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶ Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

5 For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. ²He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. ³Because of this he is obligated to offer sacrifice for his own sins just as he does for those of the people. ⁴And no one takes this honor for himself, but only when called by God, just as Aaron was. ⁵So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him, "You are my Son. Today I have begotten you"; ⁶as he says also in another place, "you are a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek

⁷ In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. ⁸ Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. ⁹ And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him, ¹⁰ being designated by God a high priest after the order of Melchizedek.

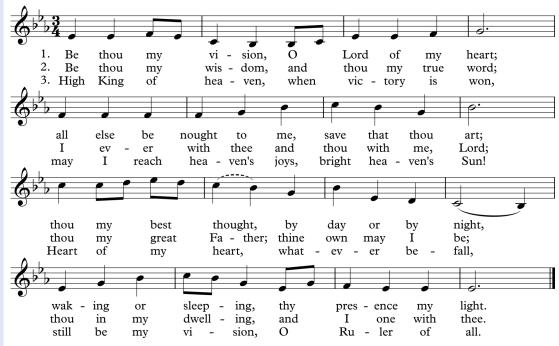
Lector: The Word of the Lord. People: Thanks be to God.

The Scriptures teach that much of our spiritual renewal is by the washing of the Word of God, which cleanses our minds and purifies our hearts. This portion of the service is known as the

Liturgy of the Word, and it consists of the readings, the sermon, the creed, and the prayers of the people.

The Gospel Song, standing

Be Thou My Vision



Word that became flesh and dwelled among us. In the reading of the **Holy Gospel**, the ministers process with the Gospel Book to the Crossing of the church to read the selected passage and symbolize the Word dwelling among us. The ministers process to the Crossing during this hymn.

Scriptures tell us that Jesus is the

Text: Irish, ca. 700; versified Mary Elizabeth Byrne (1880-1931); tr. Eleanor H. Hull (1860-1935), alt Music: SLANE, Irish ballad melody; adapt. *The Church Hymnary*, 1927

The Holy Gospel

St. John 12:20-36

Gospeller: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

²⁰ Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. ²¹ So these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." ²² Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³ And Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴ Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵ Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶ If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.

(continued)

The word **Gospel** comes from the Old English word, gōd-spell, which means "good news" or "glad tidings." That word developed from the Latin word, evangelium, and Greek, evangelion, which also literally means "good news." These are the source of the English words "evangelist" and "evangelism."

²⁷ "Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour?' But for this purpose I have come to this hour. ²⁸ Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven: "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." ²⁹ The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." ³⁰ Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not mine. ³¹ Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. ³² And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." ³³ He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die. ³⁴ So the crowd answered him, "We have heard from the Law that the Christ remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?" ³⁵ So Jesus said to them, "The light is among you for a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you. The one who walks in the darkness does not know where he is going. ³⁶ While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light."

When Jesus had said these things, he departed and hid himself from them.

Gospeller: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Homily, seated

Father Joe Vella

We Respond to God

The Nicene Creed, standing

(BCP page 127)

Celebrant: Let us stand and confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

People: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, visible and invisible.

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, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified who 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 **Nicene Creed** is a statement of what the Christian community believes to be true about God. It was born of rigorous intellectual debate in the fourth century, culminating in councils of the whole church at Nicaea in 325 and at Constantinople in 381. The word "creed" comes from the Latin word "credo" which means "I believe."

The Prayers of the People, standing

(BCP page 128)

Reader: Let us offer our prayers to God.

Lord God, we thank you for the leaders of our Church, especially Archbishop Beach, Bishop Edgar; Bishop Skilton, Father Marshall, Father Jacob, Father Joe, Father David, Deacon Lee, and our staff, and we ask you to bless them. We also pray for St. Andrew's Mission and their Vicar, Fr. Jimmy Gallant.

Lord God, we pray for all those who proclaim the Gospel at home and abroad; and for all who teach and disciple others, in particular Fr. Zac Nash, Chaplain at Joint Base Charleston; All Saints' Church in Florence, their Rector, Fr. Jason Hamshaw, Chelsea and their family; San José Church in the Dominican Republic, their Rector, Fr. Isaac Pringle Mejía and their Bishop, Moises Quezada; and Fr. Rob Sturdy, Anglican Chaplain at The Citadel.

Lord God, we pray for the leaders of our country, especially President Biden, Governor McMaster, Mayor Cogswell, and we ask you to bless them.

Lord God, we thank you for all our blessings, especially for people who love and care for us. (intercessions may be spoken aloud)

Lord God, we ask you to take care of everyone who is sick or sad. (intercessions may be spoken aloud)

Lord God, we pray for all those who have departed this life in the certain hope of resurrection, (intercessions may be spoken aloud)

Lord God, we know you hear us when we pray. We ask that you answer our prayers as may be best for us.

Priest:

Almighty God, from whom all thoughts of truth and peace proceed: Kindle, we pray, in the hearts of all people the true love of peace, and guide with your pure and peaceable wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth; that in tranquility your kingdom may go forward, till the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

If you would like our Daughters of the King to pray for a specific need, please fill out a confidential prayer card found at the prayer box near the main entrance to the church.

Christians pray. When we worship the living God, we bring before Him our concerns for ourselves and others, for the world, and for the church. We also thank God for hearing and responding to our prayers. At the Offertory, all of our prayers are presented to God along with our tithes and offerings.

About the "posture" of prayer: It has been commonly said that Anglicans kneel for prayer, but that is not the rule for posture in any edition of the Prayer Book. Various editions have assumed that standing is the normal posture for public prayer and have directed the people to kneel only for confessions, for reciting the Commandments, etc. However, in this parish it is the traditional discipline to kneel for the prayers. It is a posture of humility, which is something always worth cultivating in ourselves.

We Ask for God's Forgiveness

The Confession of Sins

(BCP page 130)

Celebrant: Kneeling, let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God. (Silence)

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.

We are all sinful people. Here, in the **Confession**, we admit our wrongdoings and lay our sins at the feet of Jesus on the cross.

The Absolution, kneeling

The Bishop when present, or the Priest, stands and says:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

In the Confession of Sin and Absolution, our sins, both individual and corporate, have been confessed, and we have been powerfully reassured of God's complete forgiveness through lesus Christ.

The Comfortable Words

(BCP page 130)

Bishop or Priest:

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Matthew 11:28

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. *John 3:16*

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. 1 Timothy 1:15

If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. 1 John 2:1-2

These verses of Scripture following the Absolution serve as a seal of assurance that for those who are truly penitent, the Lord has put away their sins. They are comforting in that they give us the strength to believe we are forgiven. The Comfortable Words come directly from the first Anglican Book of Common Prayer 1549 written by Thomas Cranmer and were included through German Lutheran influence.

The Peace (BCP page 131)

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And with your spirit.

The Peace is a particularly good time to welcome visitors and newcomers. Please take a moment to extend God's peace to those around you. That peace, which the world cannot give, comes only through the forgiving of Jesus Christ. This peace is not rooted in our circumstances but in the presence, promise and power of God and Christ's redeeming work.

We Give in Thanksgiving for God's Blessings

The Offertory Song, seated

The Power of the Cross

If you want to give an offering to Old St. Andrew's, you may scan this QR code



Or visit oldstandrews.org and click on the giving tab.

Sung by the Family Service Team

Oh to see the dawn of the darkest day Christ on the road to Calvary Tried by sinful men, torn and beaten then Nailed to the cross of wood

Chorus:

This the power of the cross Christ became sin for us, took the blame, bore the wrath We stand forgiven at the cross

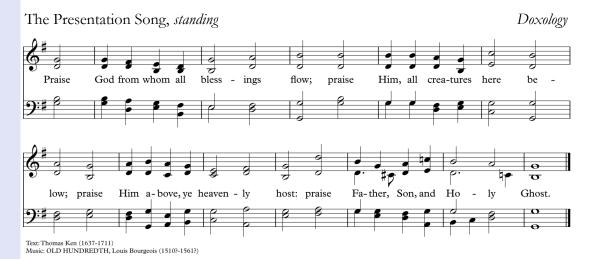
Oh to see the pain written on your face Bearing the awesome weight of sin Every bitter thought every evil deed Crowning your blood stained brow

Chorus

Now the day light flees, now the ground beneath Quakes as its maker bows his head Curtain torn in two, dead are raised to life Finished, the victory cry

Chorus

Oh to see my name written in the woods
For through your suffering I am free
Death is crushed to death, life is mine to live
Won through your selfless love
This the power of the cross
Son of God slain for us, one above, one across
We stand forgiven at the cross



Celebrant: (BCP page 131)

Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for everything in heaven and on earth is yours; yours is the Kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as Head above all. All things come from you, O Lord,

People: And of your own have we given you.

I Chronicles 29:11-14

We Share God's Holy Communion

The Sursum Corda, remain standing

(BCP page 132)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.People: And with your spirit.Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

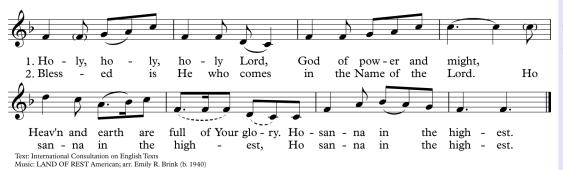
The Celebrant continues:

It is right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

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:

The Sanctus



Our altar is **The Lord's Table** and all baptized Christians (baptized in the Name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) are welcome to receive Holy Communion here.

In the Anglican tradition, Communion is received in two kinds: in the Bread and in the Wine. The Bread is offered first and is typically placed in one's open palm. After hearing the words "The Body of Christ, the bread of Heaven," the bread is ready to be consumed. A chalice bearer will then offer the Wine.

We offer two chalices for Holy Communion. The first, smaller chalice is for intinction (dipping the wafer into the chalice.) The second, larger chalice is for consumption. If you would prefer to drink from the cup, please hold the wafer in front of you until the larger chalice is offered.

* If you or your children are not baptized, you may receive a blessing at the altar rail from the Priest. Simply cross your hands over your chest as you kneel at the rail.

Ladies, please "blot" your lipstick prior to receiving communion, as this will help preserve our beautiful altar linens.

The **Sanctus** is the song of the seraphim contained in the great vision that the prophet Isaiah experienced while worshipping in the Temple in Jerusalem. This vision is recorded in the 6th chapter of Isaiah. It is inspired by Isaiah's vision of the heavenly court "Holy, holy, holy" acknowledging the transcendence of God.

The Prayer of Consecration, kneeling

(BCP page 132)

Celebrant:

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you have made us for yourself; and when we had sinned against you and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent your only Son Jesus Christ into the world for our salvation. By the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary he became flesh and dwelt among us. In obedience to your will, he stretched out his arms upon the Cross and offered himself once for all, that by his suffering and death we might be saved. By his resurrection he broke the bonds of death, trampling Hell and Satan under his feet. As our great high priest, he ascended to your right hand in glory, that we might come with confidence before the throne of grace.

When we gather together, we remember the presence of Jesus. By repeating the words and actions of Jesus' last meal with His disciples, we join the story and make it our own. We don't just watch the drama or listen to it unfold, we enter into the story as we, too, take the bread and wine and eat and drink

On the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given 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." Likewise, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for 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 in remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and 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, and we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Word and Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Sanctify us also, that we may worthily receive this holy Sacrament, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us and we in him. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us with all your saints into the joy of your heavenly kingdom, where we shall see our Lord face to face.

This **AMEN** is often called the "Great Amen" because it is the apex of our liturgy, the powerful ending to the Eucharist Prayer.

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.**

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

Spoken

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 Fraction

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore let us keep the feast.

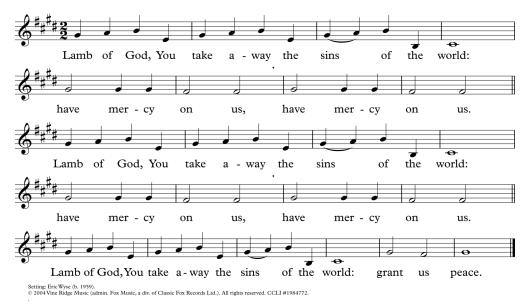
The Prayer of Humble Access

(BCP page 135)

Celebrant and People;

We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table; but you are the same Lord whose character is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

The Agnus Dei (Lamb of God)



The Prayer of Humble Access is a very distinctive element of worship in the Anglican Tradition. Assembled in the earliest prayer books by Thomas Cranmer, it includes phrases and concepts from Mark 7:28, the Liturgy of St. Basil, a Gregorian collect, John 6:56, and some ideas of Thomas Aquinas

The Lord's Prayer, so called because Jesus gave this prayer to His disciples as an example of how

to pray, has been a part of Eucha-

ristic liturgies since the fourth century. The link between "our

daily bread" and the spiritual food we receive in the Eucharist is very

ancient. In the Lord's Prayer, we

ask for daily bread, meaning the things we need to get through each

day. But as a part of that, the sacramental bread is Jesus Christ. When

we eat of this bread, we most certainly receive our daily bread.

13

The Invitation to Communion *Celebrant:*

(BCP page 136)

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

(If you need Holy Communion brought to you in your pew, please ask the Usher.)

The First Communion Song, seated

Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

Sung by the Family Service Team

Alas! and did my Savior bleed, and did my Sovereign die?
Would he devote that sacred head for such a worm as I?
Was it for crimes that I have done, he groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity! Grace unknown!
And love beyond degree!

Well might the sun in darkness hide, and shut its glories in, when Christ, the mighty maker, died for man the creature's sin.

Thus might I hide my blushing face while his dear cross appears; dissolve my heart in thankfulness, and melt my eyes with tears.

But drops of grief can ne'er repay the debt of love I owe. Here, Lord, I give myself away; 'tis all that I can do. Alas! and did my Savior bleed, and did my Sovereign die? Amazing pity! Grace unknown! And love beyond degree!



The Christian life is deeply personal yet is essentially corporate by nature, not private. Every act of worship is intended not only to glorify God for His own sake, but to lift up and build up one another in Christ for His sake as well. The word "liturgy" literally means "the work of the people." A central function of liturgy is to send the message that in a worship community there are no bystanders. It is corporate through and through and from one end to the other. Singing is also a form of prayer that can help carry the heart to God not only in the words being sung but beyond the reach of words.

At Old St. Andrew's, we encourage you to continue to pray by singing both before and after Communion. In this way all of us are helping each other to lift our hearts continuously in the midst of receiving the greatest gift ever given: the life of lesus Christ.

The Post Communion Prayer, kneeling

Celebrant: Let us pray.

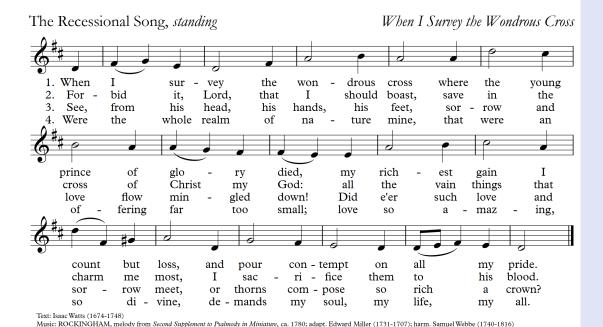
Celebrant and People:

Heavenly Father,

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.

We have been blessed by being here. Now, at the end of the service, we are reminded that God takes loving delight in blessing us abundantly. We leave in peace, forgiven, fed, and sent out with a purpose to make Christ known in the world.

The Blessing



We Go Out to Serve God

The Dismissal and Commissioning

(BCP page 138)

Priest or Deacon: Our worship has concluded; our service begins.

Go in peace rejoicing in the power of the spirit.

People: Thanks be to God!

As the service ends, we are charged to "go," a challenge to reach out beyond our own church to the world around us.

The Scripture quotations are from the English Standard Version of the Bible.