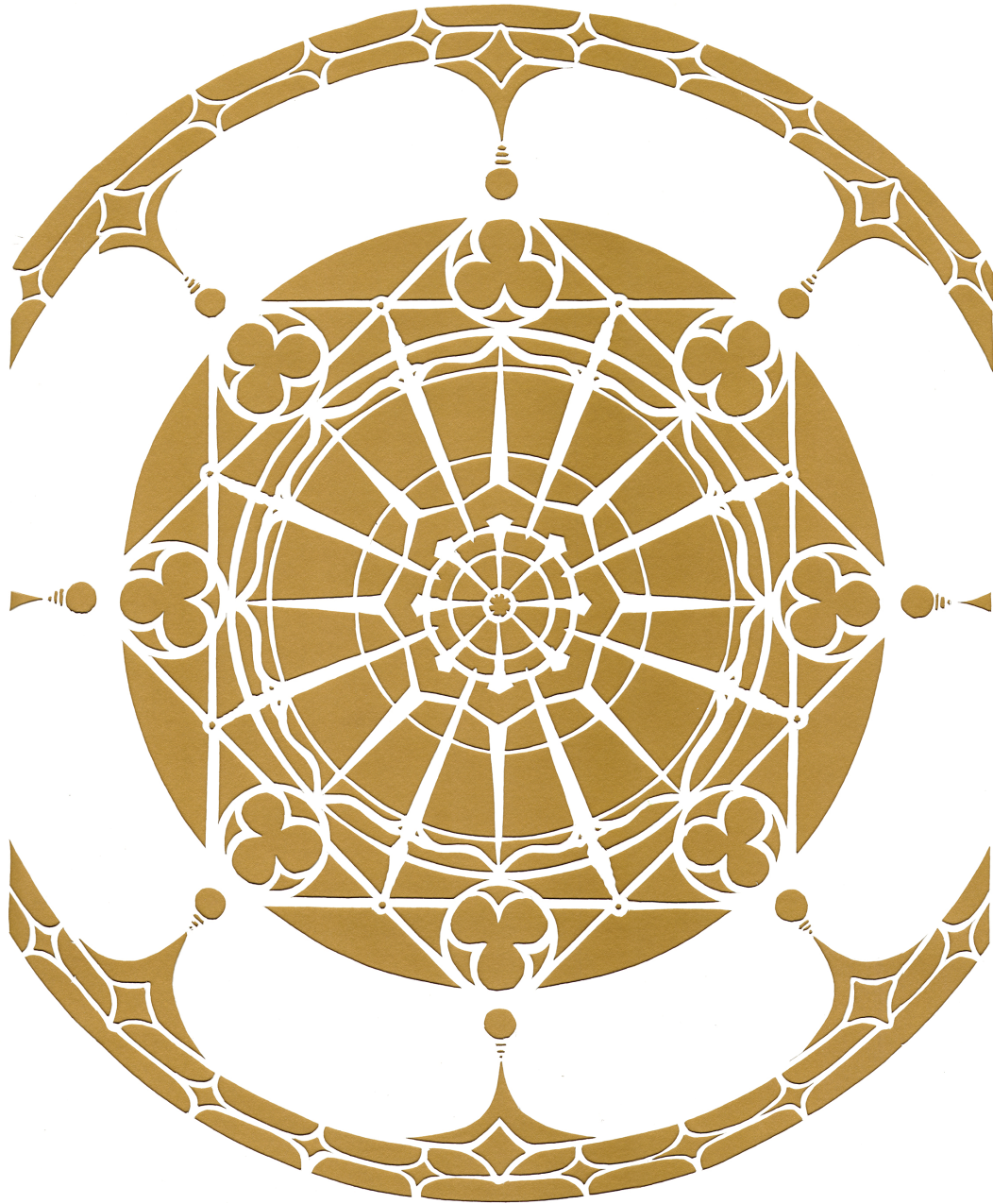


*First Sunday in* **LENT**



*Hannah Garrity*

**ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

*March 9, 2025*

## Artist Reflection

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### *Temptations*

Paper lace

By Hannah Garrity

Inspired by Luke 4:1-13

*“Jesus answered him,*

*It is said,*

*“Do not put the Lord your God to the test.”*”

*When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.” – Luke 4:12-13, NRSV*

In this image, concentric circles depicting the temptations that Jesus meets in the wilderness radiate outward. A crown and swords echo the power of kings that the devil offers to Jesus. Steeples point outward between the swords.

“Do not put the Lord your God to the test.” Jesus quotes scripture in verse 12 of this Luke passage. And, yet, the devil continues to test. Nails in the center foreshadow Jesus’ death on the cross.

“Do not put the Lord your God to the test.” I depicted this story within the structure of a stained glass window. Where in our religious structures do we find temptation winning the day? Where do our selfish actions fall on this temptation continuum? May we see the abundance before us, dispelling the desire for more.



Your presence today is a blessing to this parish. This bulletin has been created from the prayers found in *The Book of Common Prayer*, and it contains most of the spoken parts of worship. The blue Hymnal 1982 in your pew rack contains most of the hymns that are sung. You'll find words to the hymns that come from supplemental hymnals printed in this bulletin.

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### Announcements

The Great Litany

*All stand.*

BCP P. 148

Leader: O God the Father, Creator of heaven and earth,

People: **Have mercy upon us.**

Leader: O God the Son, Redeemer of the world,

People: **Have mercy upon us.**

Leader: O God the Holy Ghost, Sanctifier of the faithful,

People: **Have mercy upon us.**

Leader: O holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, one God,

People: **Have mercy upon us.**

Leader: Remember not, Lord Christ, our offenses, nor the offenses of our forefathers; neither reward us according to our sins. Spare us, good Lord, spare thy people, whom thou hast redeemed with thy most precious blood, and by thy mercy preserve us for ever.

People: **Spare us, good Lord.**

Leader: From all evil and wickedness; from sin; from the crafts and assaults of the devil; and from everlasting damnation,

People: **Good Lord, deliver us.**

Leader: From all blindness of heart; from pride, vainglory, and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred, and malice; and from all want of charity,

People: **Good Lord, deliver us.**

Leader: From all inordinate and sinful affections; and from all the deceits of the world, the flesh, and the devil,

People: **Good Lord, deliver us.**

Leader: From all false doctrine, heresy, and schism; from hardness of heart, and contempt of thy Word and commandment,

People: **Good Lord, deliver us.**

Leader: From lightning and tempest; from earthquake, fire, and flood; from plague, pestilence, and famine,

People: **Good Lord, deliver us.**

Leader: From all oppression, conspiracy, and rebellion; from violence, battle, and murder; and from dying suddenly and unprepared,

People: **Good Lord, deliver us.**

Leader: By the mystery of thy holy Incarnation; by thy holy Nativity and submission to the Law; by thy Baptism, Fasting, and Temptation,

People: **Good Lord, deliver us.**

Leader: By thine Agony and Bloody Sweat; by thy Cross and Passion; by thy precious Death and Burial; by thy glorious Resurrection and Ascension; and by the Coming of the Holy Ghost,

People: **Good Lord, deliver us.**

Leader: In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death, and in the day of judgment,

People: **Good Lord, deliver us.**

Leader: We sinners do beseech thee to hear us, O Lord God;  
and that it may please thee to rule and govern thy holy  
Church Universal in the right way,

People: **We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

Leader: That it may please thee to illumine all bishops, priests,  
and deacons, with true knowledge and understanding of  
thy Word; and that both by their preaching and living,  
they may set it forth, and show it accordingly,

People: **We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

Leader: That it may please thee to bless and keep all thy people,

People: **We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

Leader: That it may please thee to send forth laborers into thy  
harvest, and to draw all mankind into thy kingdom,

People: **We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

Leader: That it may please thee to give to all people increase of  
grace to hear and receive thy Word, and to bring forth  
the fruits of the Spirit,

People: **We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

Leader: That it may please thee to bring into the way of truth all  
such as have erred, and are deceived,

People: **We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

Leader: That it may please thee to give us a heart to love and fear thee, and diligently to live after thy commandments,

People: **We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

Leader: That it may please thee so to rule the hearts of thy servants, the President of the United States, and all others in authority, that they may do justice, and love mercy, and walk in the ways of truth,

People: **We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

Leader: That it may please thee to make wars to cease in all the world; to give to all nations unity, peace, and concord; and to bestow freedom upon all peoples,

People: **We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

Leader: That it may please thee to show thy pity upon all prisoners and captives, the homeless and the hungry, and all who are desolate and oppressed,

People: **We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

Leader: That it may please thee to give and preserve to our use the bountiful fruits of the earth, so that in due time all may enjoy them,

People: **We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

Leader: That it may please thee to inspire us, in our several callings, to do the work which thou givest us to do with singleness of heart as thy servants, and for the common good,

People: **We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

Leader: That it may please thee to preserve all who are in danger by reason of their labor or their travel,

People: **We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

Leader: That it may please thee to preserve, and provide for, all women in childbirth, young children and orphans, the widowed, and all whose homes are broken or torn by strife,

People: **We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

Leader: That it may please thee to visit the lonely; to strengthen all who suffer in mind, body, and spirit; and to comfort with thy presence those who are failing and infirm,

People: **We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

Leader: That it may please thee to support, help, and comfort all who are in danger, necessity, and tribulation,

People: **We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**



Leader: That it may please thee to have mercy upon all mankind,

People: **We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

Leader: That it may please thee to give us true repentance; to forgive us all our sins, negligences, and ignorances; and to embue us with the grace of thy Holy Spirit to amend our lives according to thy holy Word,

People: **We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

Leader: That it may please thee to forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers, and to turn their hearts,

People: **We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

Leader: That it may please thee to strengthen such as do stand; to comfort and help the weak-hearted; to raise up those who fall; and finally to beat down Satan under our feet,

People: **We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

Leader: That it may please thee to grant to all the faithful departed eternal life and peace,

People: **We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

Leader: That it may please thee to grant that, in the fellowship of all the saints, we may attain to thy heavenly kingdom,

People: **We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

Leader: Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us.

People: **Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us.**

Leader: O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,

People: **Have mercy upon us.**

Leader: O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,

People: **Have mercy upon us.**

Leader: O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,

People: **Grant us thy peace.**

Leader: O Christ, hear us.

People: **O Christ, hear us.**

Leader: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Leader: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Salutation

BCP p. 355

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;

People: **His mercy endures forever.**

The Collect of the Day

BCP p. 357

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## The Lessons

*The people sit.*

The First Reading: Deuteronomy 26:1-11

A Reading from the Book of Deuteronomy.

When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us." When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, you shall make this response before the Lord your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few

in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me." You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

*Remain seated. Prayed together.*

**1 He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High,\*  
abides under the shadow of the Almighty.**

- 2 He shall say to the Lord,  
"You are my refuge and my stronghold, \*  
my God in whom I put my trust."**
- 9 Because you have made the Lord your refuge, \*  
and the Most High your habitation,**
- 10 There shall no evil happen to you, \*  
neither shall any plague come near your  
dwelling.**
- 11 For he shall give his angels charge over you, \*  
to keep you in all your ways.**
- 12 They shall bear you in their hands, \*  
lest you dash your foot against a stone.**
- 13 You shall tread upon the lion and adder; \*  
you shall trample the young lion and the  
serpent under your feet.**
- 14 Because he is bound to me in love,  
therefore will I deliver him; \*  
I will protect him, because he knows my  
Name.**
- 15 He shall call upon me, and I will answer him; \*  
I am with him in trouble;  
I will rescue him and bring him to honor.**
- 16 With long life will I satisfy him, \*  
and show him my salvation.**

## Second Reading: Romans 10:8b-13

*The people sit.*

A Reading from Peter's letter to the Romans.

“The word is near you,  
on your lips and in your heart”  
that is, the word of faith that we proclaim; because if you confess  
with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God  
raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with  
the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and  
so is saved. The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will  
be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and  
Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call  
on him. For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall  
be saved.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

Sequence Hymn

*All stand.*

Hymnal 1982 – 529

In Christ there is no East or West

*McKee*

## The Gospel

*All remain standing.*

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

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

### Luke 4:1-13

After his baptism, Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'"

Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." Jesus answered him, "It is written,

Worship the Lord your God,  
and serve only him."

Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you,  
to protect you,'

and

'On their hands they will bear you up,  
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon



## The Nicene Creed

BCP p. 358

*All stand.*

**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.**

*All remain standing.*

## The Prayers of the People

BCP p. 383

Intercessor: With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord, have mercy.”

For the peace from above, for the loving kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor: For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor: For our Bishops, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor: For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor: For this city, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor: For seasonable weather, and for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor: For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor: For those who travel on land, on water, or in the air, or through outer space, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor: For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor: For those we now name. *Silence.*  
Let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor: For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor: For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor: For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor: That we may end our lives in faith and hope,  
without suffering and without reproach, let us pray  
to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor: Defend us, deliver us, and in thy compassion  
protect us, O Lord, by thy grace.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Intercessor: In the communion of all the saints, let us  
commend ourselves, and one another, and all our  
life, to Christ our God.

People: **To thee, O Lord our God.**

Peace

BCP p. 360

*All stand*

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

People: **And also with you.**

*Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the  
Lord.*

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

*A note about receiving Holy Communion: In the Episcopal Church, we understand that Christ is “really present” in the bread and wine provided from God’s table. All who claim Christ as Lord are always welcome to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion in this church. Children are welcome to receive communion at the discretion of their parents. Come forward at the direction of the ushers. Receive the consecrated wafer in the palm of your outstretched hand from the first person who comes to you. To receive a gluten-free wafer, please cross your hands palms down. You may drink from the larger cup/ chalice which the next person will offer you. Receive the consecrated wine by guiding the offered cup to your lips and sipping, or by intinction: lightly dip the wafer into the wine. Those who distribute the wine will wipe the chalice with a food safe sanitizer and turn it for the next person after each person receives. You may also decide to take the wafer only. If you choose not to receive communion, you may cross your arms over your chest and receive a blessing as your presence is a blessing to all of us. Once you have been blessed or received communion, you may offer a short prayer and then return to your seat. If physical limitations make it difficult to come forward, please let an usher know that we may have the honor of bringing communion to you.*

### Offertory Sentence

BCP p. 376

*The Celebrant says*

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High. *Psalms 50:14*

### Offertory Anthem

Abide with me

*Eventide/arr. Malcolm Archer*

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;  
The darkness deepens; Lord with me abide.  
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,  
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;  
Earth's joys grow dim; its glories pass away;  
Change and decay in all around I see;  
O Thou who changest not, abide with me.

Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;  
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.  
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;  
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

*St. James Music Press. Licensed permission. User ID #6813*

## Presentation of Gifts

Celebrant: All things come of thee, O Lord.

People: **And of thine own have we given thee.**

## The Great Thanksgiving

Sursum Corda

BCP p. 361

*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.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

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

*See pew card for music.*

*Celebrant and People*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**

**Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*The People stand or kneel.*



*The Celebrant continues*

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 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,

## Memorial Acclamation

*See pew card for music.*

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

*The Celebrant continues*

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.

## The Great Amen

*See pew card for music.*

## The Lord's Prayer

BCP p. 363

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*People and Celebrant*

**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

### Fraction Anthem

*See pew card for music.*

**Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world:**

**Give us your peace, give us our peace.**

### Invitation

BCP p. 364

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## Spiritual Communion Prayer

*A prayer for those worshipping virtually to be unified in Communion with Christ.*

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. And since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. **Amen.**

### Communion Hymns

Hymnal 1982 – 121

Christ, when for us you were baptized

*Caithness*

Now let us all with one accord

Hymnal 1982 – 147

*Bourbon*

### Lay Eucharistic Visitors' Prayer *(as needed)*

Celebrant: In order that all may receive Holy Eucharist,  
\_\_\_\_\_ will take the Eucharist to \_\_\_\_\_ today.

**All:** In the name of this congregation, 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. We  
who are many are one body because we all  
share one bread, one cup. Amen.**

The Post-Communion Prayer

BCP p. 365

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,  
you have graciously accepted us as living members  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and you have fed 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.**

Blessing

BCP p. 366

Post-Communion Hymn

The Hymnal 1982 – 142

Lord, who throughout these forty days

*St. Flavian*

## Dismissal

Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## Voluntary

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## Weekly Announcements

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**Christian Formation classes for all ages are held at 10 AM.** Nursery is available. EYC (6th-12th grades) meets 4:30-6:45 PM on Sundays. Drop-off is downstairs at the Community Entrance, pick-up upstairs at the Welcome Center. Questions? Contact Tiffany Fulton.

**Living Well Through Lent: Cultivating the Fruit of the Spirit In Heart, Soul, Strength, and Mind** | Guided small group discussions for adults and teens! Sundays at 10 AM in the Parish Hall.

**The Fred L. Wilson (FLW) mentor program through the Academic Learning Center is a ministry with All Saints' volunteers.** March 24-28 is their Spring Book Fair. If you would like to give a monetary donation to allow students who otherwise would not be able to purchase a book, you can donate by check or by Giving via Realm. Questions? Talk with Karen Robinson.

## A Note on Today's Readings

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**Welcome to All Saints' Episcopal Church.** On this first Sunday in Lent, the church's liturgy is designed to catch our attention, facing us with the most important issues of Christian commitment and living. Today's scriptures present us with our solidarity with one another in Christ, and with God's people through the ages. We are part of a people with a story to tell and a song to sing. That story's beginning is recounted in the first reading today in the form of the ancient Israelite confession of faith. This is not read as an interesting account of the salvation of strangers. It is the story of God's first action in our salvation. We are a part of that people, having become members in our baptism. We are to begin our own story by remembering Abraham, our first ancestor in the faith, and by recounting the story of our brothers and sisters in the faith who were saved from Egyptian slavery. The reading from Romans affirms our unity with the people of faith in all ages, regardless of status or race or culture. Finally, in the story of the Lord's testing (temptation) we see Jesus as the beginning of the new Israel. The old Israel, in its wilderness wandering, failed these three tests – temptations – to use God merely as a means for acquiring food and power and riches. The scriptures Jesus quotes against Satan come from those three times in the story of Israel's wilderness experience. Israel's failure, which is part of our story, is turned around in Jesus and becomes a saving triumph for Israel, for us who are made one Body in Christ in Baptism and Eucharist, and for those who are preparing to be baptized at Easter.

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**For announcements and information,  
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