

**Second Sunday in Lent**  
**The Holy Eucharist Rite Two**  
Penitential Order, Eucharistic Prayer A  
**Sunday, March 1, 2026**



**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca, Rector**  
**Mr. Curtis McKonly, Organist**

**St. Mary's Episcopal Church**  
9425 Third Ave., Stone Harbor, NJ 08247  
[www.stmarysstoneharbor.org](http://www.stmarysstoneharbor.org) 609-368-5922

# The Word of God

## Penitential Order

ENTRANCE HYMN *My faith looks up to thee*

HYMNAL 691

1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,  
3 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,

Sa - vior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my  
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my  
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day; wipe sor - row's

guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine.  
love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire.  
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People* **His mercy endures for ever.**

## DECALOGUE

*The Decalogue is said, the People kneeling.*

Hear the commandments of God to his people:  
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.  
You shall have no other gods but me.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Honor your father and your mother.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit murder.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit adultery.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not steal.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not be a false witness.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

## CONFESSION OF SIN

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister 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 Priest stands and says*

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.**

## **OPENING ANTHEM OR SONG OF PRAISE**

*The following is sung, all standing*

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One.  
**Have mercy upon us.**

## **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.  
*People*          **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant*      Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **The Lessons**

### **FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the book of Genesis.

<sup>1</sup>Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4a</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

## **PSALM: Psalm 121**

*Remain seated.*

<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*  
from where is my help to come?

<sup>2</sup>My help comes from the LORD, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.

<sup>3</sup>He will not let your foot be moved \*  
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup>Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \*  
shall neither slumber nor sleep;

<sup>5</sup>The LORD himself watches over you; \*  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,

<sup>6</sup>So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \*  
nor the moon by night.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; \*  
it is he who shall keep you safe.

<sup>8</sup>The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \*  
from this time forth forevermore.

## **SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

*The people remain seated.*

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

<sup>1</sup>What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh?

<sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>4</sup>Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup>But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup>For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For

the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

<sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN** *Blessed Jesus, at thy word*

**HYMNAL 440**

*All stand.*

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at thy word we are gath - ered all to  
2 All our know - ledge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark - ness  
3 Gra - cious Lord, thy - self im - part! Light of Light, from God pro -

hear thee; let our hearts and souls be stirred  
shroud - ed, till thy Spi - rit breaks our night  
ceed - ing, o - pen thou our ears and heart,

now to seek and love and fear thee; by thy teach - ings  
with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed; thou a - lone to  
help us by thy Spi - rit's plead - ing. Hear the cry thy

pure and ho - ly, drawn from earth to love thee sole - ly.  
 God canst win us; thou must work all good with - in us.  
 Church up - rais - es; hear, and bless our prayers and prais - es.

## GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

*All stand.*

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

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.”

<sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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

**THE SERMON**

**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca**

**THE CREED**

*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.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*All remain standing.*

Behold, children of God, it is the Lord who watches over you. As people sent forth into the world, let us pray, saying, “Lord, bless us, *so that we may bless others.*”

Lord, preserve your Church from all evil. May we, who have been born of water and the Spirit, proclaim the kingdom of God in all the world.

*Invite the congregation to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

O God, may the leaders of the nations ever seek the truth. Open their hearts to true conversion and divine guidance.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

Maker of heaven and earth, you have blessed us with a wondrous and dynamic creation. Protect us from its rage; comfort us by its tranquility. Give us eyes to see your handiwork in the world around us.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

Lord, your eyes never close on your people. We thank you for your mindfulness of us and our community. Be our help and our safety.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

You did not send your Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world may see and experience your salvation. Bring wholeness to those who look to your Son for their help.

*Invite the congregation to add their petitions, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

O God, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist, keep the dying and the dead from this time forth and for evermore. Give eternal life to all those who trust in you.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

## **THE PEACE**

***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

### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

***The Celebrant says***

If you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. *Matthew 5:23, 24*

OFFERTORY HYMN *And now, O Father, mindful of the love* HYMNAL 337

1 And now, O Fa - ther, mind - ful of the love that  
 2 Look Fa - ther, look on his a - noint - ed face, and  
 \*3 And then for those, our dear - est and our best, by  
 \*4 And so we come; O draw us to thy feet, most

bought us, once for all, on Cal - vary's tree, and hav - ing with us  
 on - ly look on us as found in him; look not on our mis -  
 this pre - vail - ing pres - ence we ap - peal; O fold them clos - er  
 pa - tient Sa - vior, who canst love us still! And by this food, so

him that pleads a - bove, we here pre - sent, we here spread  
 us - ings of thy grace, our prayer so lan - guid, and our  
 to thy mer - cy's breast! O do thine ut - most for their  
 awe - some and so sweet, de - liv - er us from ev - ery

forth to thee, that on - ly of - fering per - fect in thine  
 faith so dim: for lo! be - tween our sins and their re -  
 soul's true weal! From taint - ing mis - chief keep them pure and  
 touch of ill: in thine own ser - vice make us glad and

eyes, the one true, pure, im - mor - tal sac - ri - fice.  
ward, we set the pas - sion of thy Son our Lord.  
clear, and crown thy gifts with strength to per - se - vere.  
free, and grant us nev - er - more to part from thee.

## The Great Thanksgiving

### SURSUM CORDA

*The People stand.*

*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.**

### PROPER PREFACE

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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 S 129 *Holy, holy, holy* - Powell

*Celebrant and People*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.\_\_\_\_\_

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*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 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:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

## **EPICLESIS**

*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. *AMEN.*

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

# The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM S 161 *Lamb of God* - Hurd

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

## INVITATION

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## DISTRIBUTION

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

*All stand.*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

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.

## BLESSING

*The Priest blesses the people, saying*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you  
and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

## POST-COMMUNION HYMN *How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord* HYMNAL 637

*Descant*

5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,  
2 "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dis - mayed!  
3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,  
4 "When through fier - y tri - als thy path - way shall lie,  
5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

1 is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!  
2 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
3 the riv - ers of woe shall not thee o - ver - flow;  
4 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;  
5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

5 soul, to shake, no,

1 What more can he say than to you he hath said,  
 2 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
 3 for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,  
 4 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign  
 5 that soul, though all hell shall en - deav - or to shake,

5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

## DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People*

**Thanks be to God.**

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**Eucharistic Minister and Reader:** Lawrence Schmidt

**Usher:** Hilton Rodriguez

**Greeter:** Serena Smith

Check the calendar on our website [www.marysstoneharbor.org](http://www.marysstoneharbor.org) for weekly happenings.

## **Recovery Meetings at St. Mary's**

### **Narcotics Anonymous**

Monday 7:30 pm OV

Saturday 12:30 pm

### **Alcoholics Anonymous**

Tuesday 8 pm OSD

Thursday 7 pm BB

### **AL-ANON**

Friday 9 am beginner

Friday 10 am OD

**Second Sunday in Lent**  
**The Holy Eucharist Rite Two**  
Penitential Order, Eucharistic Prayer A  
**Sunday, March 1, 2026**



**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca, Rector**  
**Mr. Curtis McKonly, Organist**

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# The Word of God

## Penitential Order

ENTRANCE HYMN *My faith looks up to thee*

HYMNAL 691



1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,  
3 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,



Sa - vior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my  
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my  
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day; wipe sor - row's



guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine.  
love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire.  
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People* **His mercy endures for ever.**

## DECALOGUE

*The Decalogue is said, the People kneeling.*

Hear the commandments of God to his people:  
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.  
You shall have no other gods but me.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Honor your father and your mother.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit murder.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit adultery.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not steal.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not be a false witness.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

## CONFESSION OF SIN

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister 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 Priest stands and says*

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.**

## **OPENING ANTHEM OR SONG OF PRAISE**

*The following is sung, all standing*

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One.  
**Have mercy upon us.**

## **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*Celebrant*        The Lord be with you.  
*People*            **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant*        Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **The Lessons**

### **FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the book of Genesis.

<sup>1</sup>Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4a</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

## **PSALM: Psalm 121**

*Remain seated.*

<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*  
from where is my help to come?

<sup>2</sup>My help comes from the LORD, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.

<sup>3</sup>He will not let your foot be moved \*  
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup>Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \*  
shall neither slumber nor sleep;

<sup>5</sup>The LORD himself watches over you; \*  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,

<sup>6</sup>So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \*  
nor the moon by night.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; \*  
it is he who shall keep you safe.

<sup>8</sup>The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \*  
from this time forth forevermore.

## **SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

*The people remain seated.*

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

<sup>1</sup>What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh?

<sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>4</sup>Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup>But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup>For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For

the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

<sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN** *Blessed Jesus, at thy word*

**HYMNAL 440**

*All stand.*

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at thy word we are gath - ered all to  
2 All our know - ledge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark - ness  
3 Gra - cious Lord, thy - self im - part! Light of Light, from God pro -

hear thee; let our hearts and souls be stirred  
shroud - ed, till thy Spi - rit breaks our night  
ceed - ing, o - pen thou our ears and heart,

now to seek and love and fear thee; by thy teach - ings  
with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed; thou a - lone to  
help us by thy Spi - rit's plead - ing. Hear the cry thy

pure and ho - ly, drawn from earth to love thee sole - ly.  
 God canst win us; thou must work all good with - in us.  
 Church up - rais - es; hear, and bless our prayers and prais - es.

## GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

*All stand.*

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

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.”

<sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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

**THE SERMON**

**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca**

**THE CREED**

*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.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*All remain standing.*

Behold, children of God, it is the Lord who watches over you. As people sent forth into the world, let us pray, saying, “Lord, bless us, *so that we may bless others.*”

Lord, preserve your Church from all evil. May we, who have been born of water and the Spirit, proclaim the kingdom of God in all the world.

*Invite the congregation to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

O God, may the leaders of the nations ever seek the truth. Open their hearts to true conversion and divine guidance.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

Maker of heaven and earth, you have blessed us with a wondrous and dynamic creation. Protect us from its rage; comfort us by its tranquility. Give us eyes to see your handiwork in the world around us.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

Lord, your eyes never close on your people. We thank you for your mindfulness of us and our community. Be our help and our safety.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

You did not send your Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world may see and experience your salvation. Bring wholeness to those who look to your Son for their help.

*Invite the congregation to add their petitions, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

O God, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist, keep the dying and the dead from this time forth and for evermore. Give eternal life to all those who trust in you.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

## **THE PEACE**

*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

### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

*The Celebrant says*

If you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. *Matthew 5:23, 24*

OFFERTORY HYMN *And now, O Father, mindful of the love* HYMNAL 337

1 And now, O Fa - ther, mind - ful of the love that  
 2 Look Fa - ther, look on his a - noint - ed face, and  
 \*3 And then for those, our dear - est and our best, by  
 \*4 And so we come; O draw us to thy feet, most

bought us, once for all, on Cal - vary's tree, and hav - ing with us  
 on - ly look on us as found in him; look not on our mis -  
 this pre - vail - ing pres - ence we ap - peal; O fold them clos - er  
 pa - tient Sa - vior, who canst love us still! And by this food, so

him that pleads a - bove, we here pre - sent, we here spread  
 us - ings of thy grace, our prayer so lan - guid, and our  
 to thy mer - cy's breast! O do thine ut - most for their  
 awe - some and so sweet, de - liv - er us from ev - ery

forth to thee, that on - ly of - fering per - fect in thine  
 faith so dim: for lo! be - tween our sins and their re -  
 soul's true weal! From taint - ing mis - chief keep them pure and  
 touch of ill: in thine own ser - vice make us glad and

eyes, the one true, pure, im - mor - tal sac - ri - fice.  
ward, we set the pas - sion of thy Son our Lord.  
clear, and crown thy gifts with strength to per - se - vere.  
free, and grant us nev - er - more to part from thee.

## The Great Thanksgiving

### SURSUM CORDA

*The People stand.*

*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.**

### PROPER PREFACE

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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 S 129 *Holy, holy, holy* - Powell

*Celebrant and People*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*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 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:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

## **EPICLESIS**

*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. *AMEN.*

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

# The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM S 161 *Lamb of God* - Hurd

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

## INVITATION

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## DISTRIBUTION

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

*All stand.*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

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.

## BLESSING

*The Priest blesses the people, saying*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you  
and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

## POST-COMMUNION HYMN *How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord* HYMNAL 637

*Descant*

5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,  
2 "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dis - mayed!  
3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,  
4 "When through fier - y tri - als thy path - way shall lie,  
5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

1 is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!  
2 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
3 the riv - ers of woe shall not thee o - ver - flow;  
4 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;  
5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

5 soul, to shake, no,

1 What more can he say than to you he hath said,  
 2 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
 3 for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,  
 4 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign  
 5 that soul, though all hell shall en - deav - or to shake,

5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

## DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

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**Eucharistic Minister and Reader:** Lawrence Schmidt

**Usher:** Hilton Rodriguez

**Greeter:** Serena Smith

Check the calendar on our website [www.marysstoneharbor.org](http://www.marysstoneharbor.org) for weekly happenings.

## **Recovery Meetings at St. Mary's**

### **Narcotics Anonymous**

Monday 7:30 pm OV

Saturday 12:30 pm

### **Alcoholics Anonymous**

Tuesday 8 pm OSD

Thursday 7 pm BB

### **AL-ANON**

Friday 9 am beginner

Friday 10 am OD

**Second Sunday in Lent**  
**The Holy Eucharist Rite Two**  
Penitential Order, Eucharistic Prayer A  
**Sunday, March 1, 2026**



**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca, Rector**  
**Mr. Curtis McKonly, Organist**

**St. Mary's Episcopal Church**  
9425 Third Ave., Stone Harbor, NJ 08247  
[www.stmarysstoneharbor.org](http://www.stmarysstoneharbor.org) 609-368-5922

# The Word of God

## Penitential Order

ENTRANCE HYMN *My faith looks up to thee*

HYMNAL 691

1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,  
3 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,

Sa - vior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my  
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my  
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day; wipe sor - row's

guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine.  
love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire.  
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People* **His mercy endures for ever.**

## DECALOGUE

*The Decalogue is said, the People kneeling.*

Hear the commandments of God to his people:  
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.  
You shall have no other gods but me.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Honor your father and your mother.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit murder.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit adultery.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not steal.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not be a false witness.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

## CONFESSION OF SIN

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister 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 Priest stands and says*

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.**

## **OPENING ANTHEM OR SONG OF PRAISE**

*The following is sung, all standing*

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One.  
**Have mercy upon us.**

## **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.  
*People*          **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant*      Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **The Lessons**

### **FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the book of Genesis.

<sup>1</sup>Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4a</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

## **PSALM: Psalm 121**

*Remain seated.*

<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*  
from where is my help to come?

<sup>2</sup>My help comes from the LORD, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.

<sup>3</sup>He will not let your foot be moved \*  
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup>Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \*  
shall neither slumber nor sleep;

<sup>5</sup>The LORD himself watches over you; \*  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,

<sup>6</sup>So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \*  
nor the moon by night.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; \*  
it is he who shall keep you safe.

<sup>8</sup>The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \*  
from this time forth forevermore.

## **SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

*The people remain seated.*

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

<sup>1</sup>What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh?

<sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>4</sup>Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup>But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup>For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For

the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

<sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN** *Blessed Jesus, at thy word*

**HYMNAL 440**

*All stand.*

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at thy word we are gath - ered all to  
2 All our know - ledge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark - ness  
3 Gra - cious Lord, thy - self im - part! Light of Light, from God pro -

hear thee; let our hearts and souls be stirred  
shroud - ed, till thy Spi - rit breaks our night  
ceed - ing, o - pen thou our ears and heart,

now to seek and love and fear thee; by thy teach - ings  
with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed; thou a - lone to  
help us by thy Spi - rit's plead - ing. Hear the cry thy

pure and ho - ly, drawn from earth to love thee sole - ly.  
 God canst win us; thou must work all good with - in us.  
 Church up - rais - es; hear, and bless our prayers and prais - es.

## GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

*All stand.*

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

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.”

<sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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

**THE SERMON**

**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca**

**THE CREED**

*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.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*All remain standing.*

Behold, children of God, it is the Lord who watches over you. As people sent forth into the world, let us pray, saying, “Lord, bless us, *so that we may bless others.*”

Lord, preserve your Church from all evil. May we, who have been born of water and the Spirit, proclaim the kingdom of God in all the world.

*Invite the congregation to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

O God, may the leaders of the nations ever seek the truth. Open their hearts to true conversion and divine guidance.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

Maker of heaven and earth, you have blessed us with a wondrous and dynamic creation. Protect us from its rage; comfort us by its tranquility. Give us eyes to see your handiwork in the world around us.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

Lord, your eyes never close on your people. We thank you for your mindfulness of us and our community. Be our help and our safety.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

You did not send your Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world may see and experience your salvation. Bring wholeness to those who look to your Son for their help.

*Invite the congregation to add their petitions, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

O God, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist, keep the dying and the dead from this time forth and for evermore. Give eternal life to all those who trust in you.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

## **THE PEACE**

***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

### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

***The Celebrant says***

If you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. *Matthew 5:23, 24*

OFFERTORY HYMN *And now, O Father, mindful of the love* HYMNAL 337

1 And now, O Fa - ther, mind - ful of the love that  
 2 Look Fa - ther, look on his a - noint - ed face, and  
 \*3 And then for those, our dear - est and our best, by  
 \*4 And so we come; O draw us to thy feet, most

bought us, once for all, on Cal - vary's tree, and hav - ing with us  
 on - ly look on us as found in him; look not on our mis -  
 this pre - vail - ing pres - ence we ap - peal; O fold them clos - er  
 pa - tient Sa - vior, who canst love us still! And by this food, so

him that pleads a - bove, we here pre - sent, we here spread  
 us - ings of thy grace, our prayer so lan - guid, and our  
 to thy mer - cy's breast! O do thine ut - most for their  
 awe - some and so sweet, de - liv - er us from ev - ery

forth to thee, that on - ly of - fering per - fect in thine  
 faith so dim: for lo! be - tween our sins and their re -  
 soul's true weal! From taint - ing mis - chief keep them pure and  
 touch of ill: in thine own ser - vice make us glad and

eyes, the one true, pure, im - mor - tal sac - ri - fice.  
ward, we set the pas - sion of thy Son our Lord.  
clear, and crown thy gifts with strength to per - se - vere.  
free, and grant us nev - er - more to part from thee.

## The Great Thanksgiving

### SURSUM CORDA

*The People stand.*

*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.**

### PROPER PREFACE

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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 S 129 *Holy, holy, holy* - Powell

### *Celebrant and People*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. \_\_\_\_\_

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*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 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:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

## **EPICLESIS**

*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. *AMEN.*

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

# The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM S 161 *Lamb of God* - Hurd

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

## INVITATION

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## DISTRIBUTION

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

*All stand.*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

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.

## BLESSING

*The Priest blesses the people, saying*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you  
and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

## POST-COMMUNION HYMN *How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord* HYMNAL 637

*Descant*

5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,  
2 "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dis - mayed!  
3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,  
4 "When through fier - y tri - als thy path - way shall lie,  
5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

1 is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!  
2 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
3 the riv - ers of woe shall not thee o - ver - flow;  
4 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;  
5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

5 soul, \_\_\_\_\_ to shake, no,

1 What more can he say than to you he hath said,  
 2 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
 3 for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,  
 4 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign  
 5 that soul, though all hell shall en - deav - or to shake,

5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

1 to you that for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?  
 2 up - held by my right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand.  
 3 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.  
 4 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.  
 5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

**DISMISSAL**

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

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**Eucharistic Minister and Reader:** Lawrence Schmidt

**Usher:** Hilton Rodriguez

**Greeter:** Serena Smith

Check the calendar on our website [www.marysstoneharbor.org](http://www.marysstoneharbor.org) for weekly happenings.

## **Recovery Meetings at St. Mary's**

### **Narcotics Anonymous**

Monday 7:30 pm OV

Saturday 12:30 pm

### **Alcoholics Anonymous**

Tuesday 8 pm OSD

Thursday 7 pm BB

### **AL-ANON**

Friday 9 am beginner

Friday 10 am OD

**Second Sunday in Lent**  
**The Holy Eucharist Rite Two**  
Penitential Order, Eucharistic Prayer A  
**Sunday, March 1, 2026**



**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca, Rector**  
**Mr. Curtis McKonly, Organist**

**St. Mary's Episcopal Church**  
9425 Third Ave., Stone Harbor, NJ 08247  
[www.stmarysstoneharbor.org](http://www.stmarysstoneharbor.org) 609-368-5922

# The Word of God

## Penitential Order

ENTRANCE HYMN *My faith looks up to thee*

HYMNAL 691

1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,  
3 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,

Sa - vior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my  
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my  
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day; wipe sor - row's

guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine.  
love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire.  
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People* **His mercy endures for ever.**

## DECALOGUE

*The Decalogue is said, the People kneeling.*

Hear the commandments of God to his people:  
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.  
You shall have no other gods but me.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Honor your father and your mother.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit murder.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit adultery.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not steal.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not be a false witness.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

## CONFESSION OF SIN

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister 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 Priest stands and says*

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.**

## **OPENING ANTHEM OR SONG OF PRAISE**

*The following is sung, all standing*

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One.  
**Have mercy upon us.**

## **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*Celebrant*        The Lord be with you.  
*People*            **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant*        Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **The Lessons**

### **FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the book of Genesis.

<sup>1</sup>Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4a</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

**PSALM: Psalm 121**

*Remain seated.*

<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*  
from where is my help to come?

<sup>2</sup>My help comes from the LORD, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.

<sup>3</sup>He will not let your foot be moved \*  
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup>Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \*  
shall neither slumber nor sleep;

<sup>5</sup>The LORD himself watches over you; \*  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,

<sup>6</sup>So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \*  
nor the moon by night.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; \*  
it is he who shall keep you safe.

<sup>8</sup>The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \*  
from this time forth forevermore.

**SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

*The people remain seated.*

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

<sup>1</sup>What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh?

<sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>4</sup>Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup>But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup>For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For

the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

<sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN** *Blessed Jesus, at thy word*

**HYMNAL 440**

*All stand.*

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at thy word we are gath - ered all to  
2 All our know - ledge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark - ness  
3 Gra - cious Lord, thy - self im - part! Light of Light, from God pro -

hear thee; let our hearts and souls be stirred  
shroud - ed, till thy Spi - rit breaks our night  
ceed - ing, o - pen thou our ears and heart,

now to seek and love and fear thee; by thy teach - ings  
with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed; thou a - lone to  
help us by thy Spi - rit's plead - ing. Hear the cry thy

pure and ho - ly, drawn from earth to love thee sole - ly.  
 God canst win us; thou must work all good with - in us.  
 Church up - rais - es; hear, and bless our prayers and prais - es.

## GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

*All stand.*

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

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.”

<sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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

**THE SERMON**

**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca**

**THE CREED**

*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.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*All remain standing.*

Behold, children of God, it is the Lord who watches over you. As people sent forth into the world, let us pray, saying, “Lord, bless us, *so that we may bless others.*”

Lord, preserve your Church from all evil. May we, who have been born of water and the Spirit, proclaim the kingdom of God in all the world.

*Invite the congregation to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,

*So that we may bless others.*

O God, may the leaders of the nations ever seek the truth. Open their hearts to true conversion and divine guidance.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

*So that we may bless others.*

Maker of heaven and earth, you have blessed us with a wondrous and dynamic creation. Protect us from its rage; comfort us by its tranquility. Give us eyes to see your handiwork in the world around us.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

*So that we may bless others.*

Lord, your eyes never close on your people. We thank you for your mindfulness of us and our community. Be our help and our safety.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

*So that we may bless others.*

You did not send your Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world may see and experience your salvation. Bring wholeness to those who look to your Son for their help.

*Invite the congregation to add their petitions, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

O God, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist, keep the dying and the dead from this time forth and for evermore. Give eternal life to all those who trust in you.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

## **THE PEACE**

*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

### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

*The Celebrant says*

If you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. *Matthew 5:23, 24*

OFFERTORY HYMN *And now, O Father, mindful of the love* HYMNAL 337

1 And now, O Fa - ther, mind - ful of the love that  
 2 Look Fa - ther, look on his a - noint - ed face, and  
 \*3 And then for those, our dear - est and our best, by  
 \*4 And so we come; O draw us to thy feet, most

bought us, once for all, on Cal - vary's tree, and hav - ing with us  
 on - ly look on us as found in him; look not on our mis -  
 this pre - vail - ing pres - ence we ap - peal; O fold them clos - er  
 pa - tient Sa - vior, who canst love us still! And by this food, so

him that pleads a - bove, we here pre - sent, we here spread  
 us - ings of thy grace, our prayer so lan - guid, and our  
 to thy mer - cy's breast! O do thine ut - most for their  
 awe - some and so sweet, de - liv - er us from ev - ery

forth to thee, that on - ly of - fering per - fect in thine  
 faith so dim: for lo! be - tween our sins and their re -  
 soul's true weal! From taint - ing mis - chief keep them pure and  
 touch of ill: in thine own ser - vice make us glad and

eyes, the one true, pure, im - mor - tal sac - ri - fice.  
 ward, we set the pas - sion of thy Son our Lord.  
 clear, and crown thy gifts with strength to per - se - vere.  
 free, and grant us nev - er - more to part from thee.

## The Great Thanksgiving

### SURSUM CORDA

*The People stand.*

*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.**

### PROPER PREFACE

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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 S 129 *Holy, holy, holy* - Powell

### *Celebrant and People*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*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 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:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

## **EPICLESIS**

*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. *AMEN.*

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

# The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM S 161 *Lamb of God* - Hurd

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

## INVITATION

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## DISTRIBUTION

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

*All stand.*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

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.

## BLESSING

*The Priest blesses the people, saying*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you  
and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

## POST-COMMUNION HYMN *How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord* HYMNAL 637

*Descant*

5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,  
2 "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dis - mayed!  
3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,  
4 "When through fier - y tri - als thy path - way shall lie,  
5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

1 is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!  
2 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
3 the riv - ers of woe shall not thee o - ver - flow;  
4 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;  
5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

5 soul, \_\_\_\_\_ to shake, no,

1 What more can he say than to you he hath said,  
 2 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
 3 for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,  
 4 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign  
 5 that soul, though all hell shall en - deav - or to shake,

5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

1 to you that for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?  
 2 up - held by my right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand.  
 3 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.  
 4 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.  
 5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

## DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

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**Eucharistic Minister and Reader:** Lawrence Schmidt

**Usher:** Hilton Rodriguez

**Greeter:** Serena Smith

Check the calendar on our website [www.marysstoneharbor.org](http://www.marysstoneharbor.org) for weekly happenings.

## **Recovery Meetings at St. Mary's**

### **Narcotics Anonymous**

Monday 7:30 pm OV

Saturday 12:30 pm

### **Alcoholics Anonymous**

Tuesday 8 pm OSD

Thursday 7 pm BB

### **AL-ANON**

Friday 9 am beginner

Friday 10 am OD

**Second Sunday in Lent**  
**The Holy Eucharist Rite Two**  
Penitential Order, Eucharistic Prayer A  
**Sunday, March 1, 2026**



**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca, Rector**  
**Mr. Curtis McKonly, Organist**

**St. Mary's Episcopal Church**  
9425 Third Ave., Stone Harbor, NJ 08247  
[www.stmarysstoneharbor.org](http://www.stmarysstoneharbor.org) 609-368-5922

# The Word of God

## Penitential Order

ENTRANCE HYMN *My faith looks up to thee*

HYMNAL 691

1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,  
3 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,

Sa - vior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my  
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my  
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day; wipe sor - row's

guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine.  
love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire.  
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People* **His mercy endures for ever.**

## DECALOGUE

*The Decalogue is said, the People kneeling.*

Hear the commandments of God to his people:  
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.  
You shall have no other gods but me.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Honor your father and your mother.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit murder.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit adultery.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not steal.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not be a false witness.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

## CONFESSION OF SIN

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister 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 Priest stands and says*

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.**

## **OPENING ANTHEM OR SONG OF PRAISE**

*The following is sung, all standing*

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One.  
**Have mercy upon us.**

## **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.  
*People*          **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant*      Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **The Lessons**

### **FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the book of Genesis.

<sup>1</sup>Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4a</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

**PSALM: Psalm 121**

*Remain seated.*

<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*  
from where is my help to come?

<sup>2</sup>My help comes from the LORD, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.

<sup>3</sup>He will not let your foot be moved \*  
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup>Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \*  
shall neither slumber nor sleep;

<sup>5</sup>The LORD himself watches over you; \*  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,

<sup>6</sup>So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \*  
nor the moon by night.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; \*  
it is he who shall keep you safe.

<sup>8</sup>The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \*  
from this time forth forevermore.

**SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

*The people remain seated.*

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

<sup>1</sup>What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh?

<sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>4</sup>Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup>But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup>For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For

the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

<sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN** *Blessed Jesus, at thy word*

**HYMNAL 440**

*All stand.*

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at thy word we are gath - ered all to  
2 All our know - ledge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark - ness  
3 Gra - cious Lord, thy - self im - part! Light of Light, from God pro -

hear thee; let our hearts and souls be stirred  
shroud - ed, till thy Spi - rit breaks our night  
ceed - ing, o - pen thou our ears and heart,

now to seek and love and fear thee; by thy teach - ings  
with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed; thou a - lone to  
help us by thy Spi - rit's plead - ing. Hear the cry thy

pure and ho - ly, drawn from earth to love thee sole - ly.  
 God canst win us; thou must work all good with - in us.  
 Church up - rais - es; hear, and bless our prayers and prais - es.

## GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

*All stand.*

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

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.”

<sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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

**THE SERMON**

**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca**

**THE CREED**

*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.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*All remain standing.*

Behold, children of God, it is the Lord who watches over you. As people sent forth into the world, let us pray, saying, “Lord, bless us, *so that we may bless others.*”

Lord, preserve your Church from all evil. May we, who have been born of water and the Spirit, proclaim the kingdom of God in all the world.

*Invite the congregation to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

O God, may the leaders of the nations ever seek the truth. Open their hearts to true conversion and divine guidance.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

Maker of heaven and earth, you have blessed us with a wondrous and dynamic creation. Protect us from its rage; comfort us by its tranquility. Give us eyes to see your handiwork in the world around us.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

Lord, your eyes never close on your people. We thank you for your mindfulness of us and our community. Be our help and our safety.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

You did not send your Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world may see and experience your salvation. Bring wholeness to those who look to your Son for their help.

*Invite the congregation to add their petitions, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

O God, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist, keep the dying and the dead from this time forth and for evermore. Give eternal life to all those who trust in you.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

## **THE PEACE**

*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

### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

*The Celebrant says*

If you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. *Matthew 5:23, 24*

OFFERTORY HYMN *And now, O Father, mindful of the love* HYMNAL 337

1 And now, O Fa - ther, mind - ful of the love that  
 2 Look Fa - ther, look on his a - noint - ed face, and  
 \*3 And then for those, our dear - est and our best, by  
 \*4 And so we come; O draw us to thy feet, most

bought us, once for all, on Cal - vary's tree, and hav - ing with us  
 on - ly look on us as found in him; look not on our mis -  
 this pre - vail - ing pres - ence we ap - peal; O fold them clos - er  
 pa - tient Sa - vior, who canst love us still! And by this food, so

him that pleads a - bove, we here pre - sent, we here spread  
 us - ings of thy grace, our prayer so lan - guid, and our  
 to thy mer - cy's breast! O do thine ut - most for their  
 awe - some and so sweet, de - liv - er us from ev - ery

forth to thee, that on - ly of - fering per - fect in thine  
 faith so dim: for lo! be - tween our sins and their re -  
 soul's true weal! From taint - ing mis - chief keep them pure and  
 touch of ill: in thine own ser - vice make us glad and

eyes, the one true, pure, im - mor - tal sac - ri - fice.  
ward, we set the pas - sion of thy Son our Lord.  
clear, and crown thy gifts with strength to per - se - vere.  
free, and grant us nev - er - more to part from thee.

## The Great Thanksgiving

### SURSUM CORDA

*The People stand.*

*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.**

### PROPER PREFACE

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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 S 129 *Holy, holy, holy* - Powell

### *Celebrant and People*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. \_\_\_\_\_

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*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 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:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

## **EPICLESIS**

*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. *AMEN.*

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

# The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM S 161 *Lamb of God* - Hurd

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

## INVITATION

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## DISTRIBUTION

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

*All stand.*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

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.

## BLESSING

*The Priest blesses the people, saying*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you  
and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

## POST-COMMUNION HYMN *How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord* HYMNAL 637

*Descant*

5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,  
2 "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dis - mayed!  
3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,  
4 "When through fier - y tri - als thy path - way shall lie,  
5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

1 is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!  
2 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
3 the riv - ers of woe shall not thee o - ver - flow;  
4 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;  
5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

5 soul, \_\_\_\_\_ to shake, no,

1 What more can he say than to you he hath said,  
 2 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
 3 for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,  
 4 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign  
 5 that soul, though all hell shall en - deav - or to shake,

5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

1 to you that for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?  
 2 up - held by my right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand.  
 3 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.  
 4 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.  
 5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

## DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

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**Eucharistic Minister and Reader:** Lawrence Schmidt

**Usher:** Hilton Rodriguez

**Greeter:** Serena Smith

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Friday 9 am beginner

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**Second Sunday in Lent**  
**The Holy Eucharist Rite Two**  
Penitential Order, Eucharistic Prayer A  
**Sunday, March 1, 2026**



**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca, Rector**  
**Mr. Curtis McKonly, Organist**

**St. Mary's Episcopal Church**  
9425 Third Ave., Stone Harbor, NJ 08247  
[www.stmarysstoneharbor.org](http://www.stmarysstoneharbor.org) 609-368-5922

# The Word of God

## Penitential Order

ENTRANCE HYMN *My faith looks up to thee*

HYMNAL 691

1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,  
3 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,

Sa - vior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my  
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my  
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day; wipe sor - row's

guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine.  
love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire.  
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People* **His mercy endures for ever.**

## DECALOGUE

*The Decalogue is said, the People kneeling.*

Hear the commandments of God to his people:  
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.  
You shall have no other gods but me.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Honor your father and your mother.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit murder.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit adultery.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not steal.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not be a false witness.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

## CONFESSION OF SIN

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister 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 Priest stands and says*

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.**

## **OPENING ANTHEM OR SONG OF PRAISE**

*The following is sung, all standing*

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One.  
**Have mercy upon us.**

## **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*Celebrant*        The Lord be with you.  
*People*            **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant*        Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **The Lessons**

### **FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the book of Genesis.

<sup>1</sup>Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4a</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

## **PSALM: Psalm 121**

*Remain seated.*

<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*  
from where is my help to come?

<sup>2</sup>My help comes from the LORD, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.

<sup>3</sup>He will not let your foot be moved \*  
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup>Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \*  
shall neither slumber nor sleep;

<sup>5</sup>The LORD himself watches over you; \*  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,

<sup>6</sup>So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \*  
nor the moon by night.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; \*  
it is he who shall keep you safe.

<sup>8</sup>The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \*  
from this time forth forevermore.

## **SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

*The people remain seated.*

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

<sup>1</sup>What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh?

<sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>4</sup>Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup>But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup>For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For

the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

<sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN** *Blessed Jesus, at thy word*

**HYMNAL 440**

*All stand.*

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at thy word we are gath - ered all to  
2 All our know - ledge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark - ness  
3 Gra - cious Lord, thy - self im - part! Light of Light, from God pro -

hear thee; let our hearts and souls be stirred  
shroud - ed, till thy Spi - rit breaks our night  
ceed - ing, o - pen thou our ears and heart,

now to seek and love and fear thee; by thy teach - ings  
with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed; thou a - lone to  
help us by thy Spi - rit's plead - ing. Hear the cry thy

pure and ho - ly, drawn from earth to love thee sole - ly.  
 God canst win us; thou must work all good with - in us.  
 Church up - rais - es; hear, and bless our prayers and prais - es.

**GOSPEL: John 3:1-17**

*All stand.*

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

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.”

<sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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

**THE SERMON**

**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca**

**THE CREED**

*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.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*All remain standing.*

Behold, children of God, it is the Lord who watches over you. As people sent forth into the world, let us pray, saying, “Lord, bless us, *so that we may bless others.*”

Lord, preserve your Church from all evil. May we, who have been born of water and the Spirit, proclaim the kingdom of God in all the world.

*Invite the congregation to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,

*So that we may bless others.*

O God, may the leaders of the nations ever seek the truth. Open their hearts to true conversion and divine guidance.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

*So that we may bless others.*

Maker of heaven and earth, you have blessed us with a wondrous and dynamic creation. Protect us from its rage; comfort us by its tranquility. Give us eyes to see your handiwork in the world around us.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

*So that we may bless others.*

Lord, your eyes never close on your people. We thank you for your mindfulness of us and our community. Be our help and our safety.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

*So that we may bless others.*

You did not send your Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world may see and experience your salvation. Bring wholeness to those who look to your Son for their help.

*Invite the congregation to add their petitions, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

O God, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist, keep the dying and the dead from this time forth and for evermore. Give eternal life to all those who trust in you.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

## **THE PEACE**

***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

### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

***The Celebrant says***

If you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. *Matthew 5:23, 24*

OFFERTORY HYMN *And now, O Father, mindful of the love* HYMNAL 337

1 And now, O Fa - ther, mind - ful of the love that  
 2 Look Fa - ther, look on his a - noint - ed face, and  
 \*3 And then for those, our dear - est and our best, by  
 \*4 And so we come; O draw us to thy feet, most

bought us, once for all, on Cal - vary's tree, and hav - ing with us  
 on - ly look on us as found in him; look not on our mis -  
 this pre - vail - ing pres - ence we ap - peal; O fold them clos - er  
 pa - tient Sa - vior, who canst love us still! And by this food, so

him that pleads a - bove, we here pre - sent, we here spread  
 us - ings of thy grace, our prayer so lan - guid, and our  
 to thy mer - cy's breast! O do thine ut - most for their  
 awe - some and so sweet, de - liv - er us from ev - ery

forth to thee, that on - ly of - fering per - fect in thine  
 faith so dim: for lo! be - tween our sins and their re -  
 soul's true weal! From taint - ing mis - chief keep them pure and  
 touch of ill: in thine own ser - vice make us glad and

eyes, the one true, pure, im - mor - tal sac - ri - fice.  
ward, we set the pas - sion of thy Son our Lord.  
clear, and crown thy gifts with strength to per - se - vere.  
free, and grant us nev - er - more to part from thee.

## The Great Thanksgiving

### SURSUM CORDA

*The People stand.*

*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.**

### PROPER PREFACE

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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 S 129 *Holy, holy, holy* - Powell

*Celebrant and People*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. \_\_\_\_\_

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*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 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:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

## **EPICLESIS**

*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. *AMEN.*

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

# The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM S 161 *Lamb of God* - Hurd

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

## INVITATION

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## DISTRIBUTION

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

*All stand.*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

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.

## BLESSING

*The Priest blesses the people, saying*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you  
and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

## POST-COMMUNION HYMN *How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord* HYMNAL 637

*Descant*

5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,  
2 "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dis - mayed!  
3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,  
4 "When through fier - y tri - als thy path - way shall lie,  
5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

1 is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!  
2 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
3 the riv - ers of woe shall not thee o - ver - flow;  
4 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;  
5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

5 soul, to shake, no,

1 What more can he say than to you he hath said,  
 2 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
 3 for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,  
 4 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign  
 5 that soul, though all hell shall en - deav - or to shake,

5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

## DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

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**Eucharistic Minister and Reader:** Lawrence Schmidt

**Usher:** Hilton Rodriguez

**Greeter:** Serena Smith

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### **AL-ANON**

Friday 9 am beginner

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**Second Sunday in Lent**  
**The Holy Eucharist Rite Two**  
Penitential Order, Eucharistic Prayer A  
**Sunday, March 1, 2026**



**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca, Rector**  
**Mr. Curtis McKonly, Organist**

**St. Mary's Episcopal Church**  
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# The Word of God

## Penitential Order

ENTRANCE HYMN *My faith looks up to thee*

HYMNAL 691

1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,  
3 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,

Sa - vior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my  
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my  
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day; wipe sor - row's

guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine.  
love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire.  
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People* **His mercy endures for ever.**

## DECALOGUE

*The Decalogue is said, the People kneeling.*

Hear the commandments of God to his people:  
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.  
You shall have no other gods but me.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Honor your father and your mother.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit murder.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit adultery.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not steal.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not be a false witness.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

## CONFESSION OF SIN

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister 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 Priest stands and says*

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.**

## **OPENING ANTHEM OR SONG OF PRAISE**

*The following is sung, all standing*

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One.  
**Have mercy upon us.**

## **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*Celebrant*        The Lord be with you.  
*People*            **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant*        Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **The Lessons**

### **FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the book of Genesis.

<sup>1</sup>Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4a</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

## **PSALM: Psalm 121**

*Remain seated.*

<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*  
from where is my help to come?

<sup>2</sup>My help comes from the LORD, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.

<sup>3</sup>He will not let your foot be moved \*  
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup>Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \*  
shall neither slumber nor sleep;

<sup>5</sup>The LORD himself watches over you; \*  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,

<sup>6</sup>So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \*  
nor the moon by night.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; \*  
it is he who shall keep you safe.

<sup>8</sup>The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \*  
from this time forth forevermore.

## **SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

*The people remain seated.*

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

<sup>1</sup>What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh?

<sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>4</sup>Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup>But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup>For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For

the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

<sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN** *Blessed Jesus, at thy word*

**HYMNAL 440**

*All stand.*

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at thy word we are gath - ered all to  
2 All our know - ledge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark - ness  
3 Gra - cious Lord, thy - self im - part! Light of Light, from God pro -

hear thee; let our hearts and souls be stirred  
shroud - ed, till thy Spi - rit breaks our night  
ceed - ing, o - pen thou our ears and heart,

now to seek and love and fear thee; by thy teach - ings  
with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed; thou a - lone to  
help us by thy Spi - rit's plead - ing. Hear the cry thy

pure and ho - ly, drawn from earth to love thee sole - ly.  
 God canst win us; thou must work all good with - in us.  
 Church up - rais - es; hear, and bless our prayers and prais - es.

## GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

*All stand.*

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

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.”

<sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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

**THE SERMON**

**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca**

**THE CREED**

*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.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*All remain standing.*

Behold, children of God, it is the Lord who watches over you. As people sent forth into the world, let us pray, saying, “Lord, bless us, *so that we may bless others.*”

Lord, preserve your Church from all evil. May we, who have been born of water and the Spirit, proclaim the kingdom of God in all the world.

*Invite the congregation to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

O God, may the leaders of the nations ever seek the truth. Open their hearts to true conversion and divine guidance.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

Maker of heaven and earth, you have blessed us with a wondrous and dynamic creation. Protect us from its rage; comfort us by its tranquility. Give us eyes to see your handiwork in the world around us.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

Lord, your eyes never close on your people. We thank you for your mindfulness of us and our community. Be our help and our safety.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

You did not send your Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world may see and experience your salvation. Bring wholeness to those who look to your Son for their help.

*Invite the congregation to add their petitions, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

O God, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist, keep the dying and the dead from this time forth and for evermore. Give eternal life to all those who trust in you.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

## **THE PEACE**

***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

### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

***The Celebrant says***

If you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. *Matthew 5:23, 24*

OFFERTORY HYMN *And now, O Father, mindful of the love* HYMNAL 337

1 And now, O Fa - ther, mind - ful of the love that  
 2 Look Fa - ther, look on his a - noint - ed face, and  
 \*3 And then for those, our dear - est and our best, by  
 \*4 And so we come; O draw us to thy feet, most

bought us, once for all, on Cal - vary's tree, and hav - ing with us  
 on - ly look on us as found in him; look not on our mis -  
 this pre - vail - ing pres - ence we ap - peal; O fold them clos - er  
 pa - tient Sa - vior, who canst love us still! And by this food, so

him that pleads a - bove, we here pre - sent, we here spread  
 us - ings of thy grace, our prayer so lan - guid, and our  
 to thy mer - cy's breast! O do thine ut - most for their  
 awe - some and so sweet, de - liv - er us from ev - ery

forth to thee, that on - ly of - fering per - fect in thine  
 faith so dim: for lo! be - tween our sins and their re -  
 soul's true weal! From taint - ing mis - chief keep them pure and  
 touch of ill: in thine own ser - vice make us glad and

eyes, the one true, pure, im - mor - tal sac - ri - fice.  
 ward, we set the pas - sion of thy Son our Lord.  
 clear, and crown thy gifts with strength to per - se - vere.  
 free, and grant us nev - er - more to part from thee.

## The Great Thanksgiving

### SURSUM CORDA

*The People stand.*

*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.**

### PROPER PREFACE

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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 S 129 *Holy, holy, holy* - Powell

*Celebrant and People*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*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 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:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

## **EPICLESIS**

*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. *AMEN.*

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

# The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM S 161 *Lamb of God* - Hurd

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

## INVITATION

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## DISTRIBUTION

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

*All stand.*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

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.

## BLESSING

*The Priest blesses the people, saying*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you  
and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

## POST-COMMUNION HYMN *How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord* HYMNAL 637

*Descant*

5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,  
2 "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dis - mayed!  
3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,  
4 "When through fier - y tri - als thy path - way shall lie,  
5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

1 is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!  
2 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
3 the riv - ers of woe shall not thee o - ver - flow;  
4 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;  
5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

5 soul, \_\_\_\_\_ to shake, no,

1 What more can he say than to you he hath said,  
 2 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
 3 for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,  
 4 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign  
 5 that soul, though all hell shall en - deav - or to shake,

5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake.”

1 to you that for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?  
 2 up - held by my right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand.  
 3 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.  
 4 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.  
 5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake.”

## DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

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**Eucharistic Minister and Reader:** Lawrence Schmidt

**Usher:** Hilton Rodriguez

**Greeter:** Serena Smith

Check the calendar on our website [www.marysstoneharbor.org](http://www.marysstoneharbor.org) for weekly happenings.

## **Recovery Meetings at St. Mary's**

### **Narcotics Anonymous**

Monday 7:30 pm OV

Saturday 12:30 pm

### **Alcoholics Anonymous**

Tuesday 8 pm OSD

Thursday 7 pm BB

### **AL-ANON**

Friday 9 am beginner

Friday 10 am OD

**Second Sunday in Lent**  
**The Holy Eucharist Rite Two**  
Penitential Order, Eucharistic Prayer A  
**Sunday, March 1, 2026**



**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca, Rector**  
**Mr. Curtis McKonly, Organist**

**St. Mary's Episcopal Church**  
9425 Third Ave., Stone Harbor, NJ 08247  
[www.stmarysstoneharbor.org](http://www.stmarysstoneharbor.org) 609-368-5922

# The Word of God

## Penitential Order

ENTRANCE HYMN *My faith looks up to thee*

HYMNAL 691

1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,  
3 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,

Sa - vior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my  
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my  
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day; wipe sor - row's

guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine.  
love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire.  
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People* **His mercy endures for ever.**

## DECALOGUE

*The Decalogue is said, the People kneeling.*

Hear the commandments of God to his people:  
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.  
You shall have no other gods but me.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Honor your father and your mother.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit murder.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit adultery.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not steal.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not be a false witness.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

## CONFESSION OF SIN

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister 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 Priest stands and says*

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.**

## **OPENING ANTHEM OR SONG OF PRAISE**

*The following is sung, all standing*

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One.  
**Have mercy upon us.**

## **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.  
*People*          **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant*      Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **The Lessons**

### **FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the book of Genesis.

<sup>1</sup>Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4a</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

## **PSALM: Psalm 121**

*Remain seated.*

<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*  
from where is my help to come?

<sup>2</sup>My help comes from the LORD, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.

<sup>3</sup>He will not let your foot be moved \*  
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup>Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \*  
shall neither slumber nor sleep;

<sup>5</sup>The LORD himself watches over you; \*  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,

<sup>6</sup>So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \*  
nor the moon by night.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; \*  
it is he who shall keep you safe.

<sup>8</sup>The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \*  
from this time forth forevermore.

## **SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

*The people remain seated.*

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

<sup>1</sup>What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh?

<sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>4</sup>Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup>But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup>For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For

the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

<sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN** *Blessed Jesus, at thy word*

**HYMNAL 440**

*All stand.*

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at thy word we are gath - ered all to  
2 All our know - ledge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark - ness  
3 Gra - cious Lord, thy - self im - part! Light of Light, from God pro -

hear thee; let our hearts and souls be stirred  
shroud - ed, till thy Spi - rit breaks our night  
ceed - ing, o - pen thou our ears and heart,

now to seek and love and fear thee; by thy teach - ings  
with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed; thou a - lone to  
help us by thy Spi - rit's plead - ing. Hear the cry thy

pure and ho - ly, drawn from earth to love thee sole - ly.  
 God canst win us; thou must work all good with - in us.  
 Church up - rais - es; hear, and bless our prayers and prais - es.

**GOSPEL: John 3:1-17**

*All stand.*

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

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.”

<sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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

**THE SERMON**

**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca**

**THE CREED**

*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.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*All remain standing.*

Behold, children of God, it is the Lord who watches over you. As people sent forth into the world, let us pray, saying, “Lord, bless us, *so that we may bless others.*”

Lord, preserve your Church from all evil. May we, who have been born of water and the Spirit, proclaim the kingdom of God in all the world.

*Invite the congregation to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,

*So that we may bless others.*

O God, may the leaders of the nations ever seek the truth. Open their hearts to true conversion and divine guidance.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

*So that we may bless others.*

Maker of heaven and earth, you have blessed us with a wondrous and dynamic creation. Protect us from its rage; comfort us by its tranquility. Give us eyes to see your handiwork in the world around us.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

*So that we may bless others.*

Lord, your eyes never close on your people. We thank you for your mindfulness of us and our community. Be our help and our safety.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

*So that we may bless others.*

You did not send your Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world may see and experience your salvation. Bring wholeness to those who look to your Son for their help.

*Invite the congregation to add their petitions, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

O God, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist, keep the dying and the dead from this time forth and for evermore. Give eternal life to all those who trust in you.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

## **THE PEACE**

*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

### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

*The Celebrant says*

If you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. *Matthew 5:23, 24*

OFFERTORY HYMN *And now, O Father, mindful of the love* HYMNAL 337

1 And now, O Fa - ther, mind - ful of the love that  
 2 Look Fa - ther, look on his a - noint - ed face, and  
 \*3 And then for those, our dear - est and our best, by  
 \*4 And so we come; O draw us to thy feet, most

bought us, once for all, on Cal - vary's tree, and hav - ing with us  
 on - ly look on us as found in him; look not on our mis -  
 this pre - vail - ing pres - ence we ap - peal; O fold them clos - er  
 pa - tient Sa - vior, who canst love us still! And by this food, so

him that pleads a - bove, we here pre - sent, we here spread  
 us - ings of thy grace, our prayer so lan - guid, and our  
 to thy mer - cy's breast! O do thine ut - most for their  
 awe - some and so sweet, de - liv - er us from ev - ery

forth to thee, that on - ly of - fering per - fect in thine  
 faith so dim: for lo! be - tween our sins and their re -  
 soul's true weal! From taint - ing mis - chief keep them pure and  
 touch of ill: in thine own ser - vice make us glad and

eyes, the one true, pure, im - mor - tal sac - ri - fice.  
ward, we set the pas - sion of thy Son our Lord.  
clear, and crown thy gifts with strength to per - se - vere.  
free, and grant us nev - er - more to part from thee.

## The Great Thanksgiving

### SURSUM CORDA

*The People stand.*

*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.**

### PROPER PREFACE

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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 S 129 *Holy, holy, holy* - Powell

*Celebrant and People*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. \_\_\_\_\_

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*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 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:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

## **EPICLESIS**

*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. *AMEN.*

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

# The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM S 161 *Lamb of God* - Hurd

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

## INVITATION

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## DISTRIBUTION

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

*All stand.*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

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.

## BLESSING

*The Priest blesses the people, saying*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you  
and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

## POST-COMMUNION HYMN *How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord* HYMNAL 637

*Descant*

5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,  
2 "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dis - mayed!  
3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,  
4 "When through fier - y tri - als thy path - way shall lie,  
5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

1 is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!  
2 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
3 the riv - ers of woe shall not thee o - ver - flow;  
4 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;  
5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

5 soul, to shake, no,

1 What more can he say than to you he hath said,  
 2 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
 3 for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,  
 4 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign  
 5 that soul, though all hell shall en - deav - or to shake,

5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

## DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

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**Eucharistic Minister and Reader:** Lawrence Schmidt

**Usher:** Hilton Rodriguez

**Greeter:** Serena Smith

Check the calendar on our website [www.marysstoneharbor.org](http://www.marysstoneharbor.org) for weekly happenings.

## **Recovery Meetings at St. Mary's**

### **Narcotics Anonymous**

Monday 7:30 pm OV

Saturday 12:30 pm

### **Alcoholics Anonymous**

Tuesday 8 pm OSD

Thursday 7 pm BB

### **AL-ANON**

Friday 9 am beginner

Friday 10 am OD

**Second Sunday in Lent**  
**The Holy Eucharist Rite Two**  
Penitential Order, Eucharistic Prayer A  
**Sunday, March 1, 2026**



**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca, Rector**  
**Mr. Curtis McKonly, Organist**

**St. Mary's Episcopal Church**  
9425 Third Ave., Stone Harbor, NJ 08247  
[www.stmarysstoneharbor.org](http://www.stmarysstoneharbor.org) 609-368-5922

# The Word of God

## Penitential Order

ENTRANCE HYMN *My faith looks up to thee*

HYMNAL 691

1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,  
3 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,

Sa - vior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my  
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my  
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day; wipe sor - row's

guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine.  
love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire.  
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People* **His mercy endures for ever.**

## DECALOGUE

*The Decalogue is said, the People kneeling.*

Hear the commandments of God to his people:  
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.  
You shall have no other gods but me.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Honor your father and your mother.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit murder.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit adultery.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not steal.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not be a false witness.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

## CONFESSION OF SIN

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister 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 Priest stands and says*

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.**

## **OPENING ANTHEM OR SONG OF PRAISE**

*The following is sung, all standing*

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One.  
**Have mercy upon us.**

## **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.  
*People*          **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant*      Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **The Lessons**

### **FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the book of Genesis.

<sup>1</sup>Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4a</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

## **PSALM: Psalm 121**

*Remain seated.*

<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*  
from where is my help to come?

<sup>2</sup>My help comes from the LORD, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.

<sup>3</sup>He will not let your foot be moved \*  
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup>Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \*  
shall neither slumber nor sleep;

<sup>5</sup>The LORD himself watches over you; \*  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,

<sup>6</sup>So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \*  
nor the moon by night.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; \*  
it is he who shall keep you safe.

<sup>8</sup>The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \*  
from this time forth forevermore.

## **SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

*The people remain seated.*

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

<sup>1</sup>What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh?

<sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>4</sup>Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup>But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup>For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For

the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

<sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN** *Blessed Jesus, at thy word*

**HYMNAL 440**

*All stand.*

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at thy word we are gath - ered all to  
2 All our know - ledge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark - ness  
3 Gra - cious Lord, thy - self im - part! Light of Light, from God pro -

hear thee; let our hearts and souls be stirred  
shroud - ed, till thy Spi - rit breaks our night  
ceed - ing, o - pen thou our ears and heart,

now to seek and love and fear thee; by thy teach - ings  
with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed; thou a - lone to  
help us by thy Spi - rit's plead - ing. Hear the cry thy

pure and ho - ly, drawn from earth to love thee sole - ly.  
 God canst win us; thou must work all good with - in us.  
 Church up - rais - es; hear, and bless our prayers and prais - es.

## GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

*All stand.*

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

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.”

<sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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

**THE SERMON**

**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca**

**THE CREED**

*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.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*All remain standing.*

Behold, children of God, it is the Lord who watches over you. As people sent forth into the world, let us pray, saying, “Lord, bless us, *so that we may bless others.*”

Lord, preserve your Church from all evil. May we, who have been born of water and the Spirit, proclaim the kingdom of God in all the world.

*Invite the congregation to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

O God, may the leaders of the nations ever seek the truth. Open their hearts to true conversion and divine guidance.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

Maker of heaven and earth, you have blessed us with a wondrous and dynamic creation. Protect us from its rage; comfort us by its tranquility. Give us eyes to see your handiwork in the world around us.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

Lord, your eyes never close on your people. We thank you for your mindfulness of us and our community. Be our help and our safety.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

You did not send your Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world may see and experience your salvation. Bring wholeness to those who look to your Son for their help.

*Invite the congregation to add their petitions, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

O God, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist, keep the dying and the dead from this time forth and for evermore. Give eternal life to all those who trust in you.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

## **THE PEACE**

*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

### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

*The Celebrant says*

If you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. *Matthew 5:23, 24*

OFFERTORY HYMN *And now, O Father, mindful of the love* HYMNAL 337

1 And now, O Fa - ther, mind - ful of the love that  
 2 Look Fa - ther, look on his a - noint - ed face, and  
 \*3 And then for those, our dear - est and our best, by  
 \*4 And so we come; O draw us to thy feet, most

bought us, once for all, on Cal - vary's tree, and hav - ing with us  
 on - ly look on us as found in him; look not on our mis -  
 this pre - vail - ing pres - ence we ap - peal; O fold them clos - er  
 pa - tient Sa - vior, who canst love us still! And by this food, so

him that pleads a - bove, we here pre - sent, we here spread  
 us - ings of thy grace, our prayer so lan - guid, and our  
 to thy mer - cy's breast! O do thine ut - most for their  
 awe - some and so sweet, de - liv - er us from ev - ery

forth to thee, that on - ly of - fering per - fect in thine  
 faith so dim: for lo! be - tween our sins and their re -  
 soul's true weal! From taint - ing mis - chief keep them pure and  
 touch of ill: in thine own ser - vice make us glad and

eyes, the one true, pure, im - mor - tal sac - ri - fice.  
ward, we set the pas - sion of thy Son our Lord.  
clear, and crown thy gifts with strength to per - se - vere.  
free, and grant us nev - er - more to part from thee.

## The Great Thanksgiving

### SURSUM CORDA

*The People stand.*

*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.**

### PROPER PREFACE

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

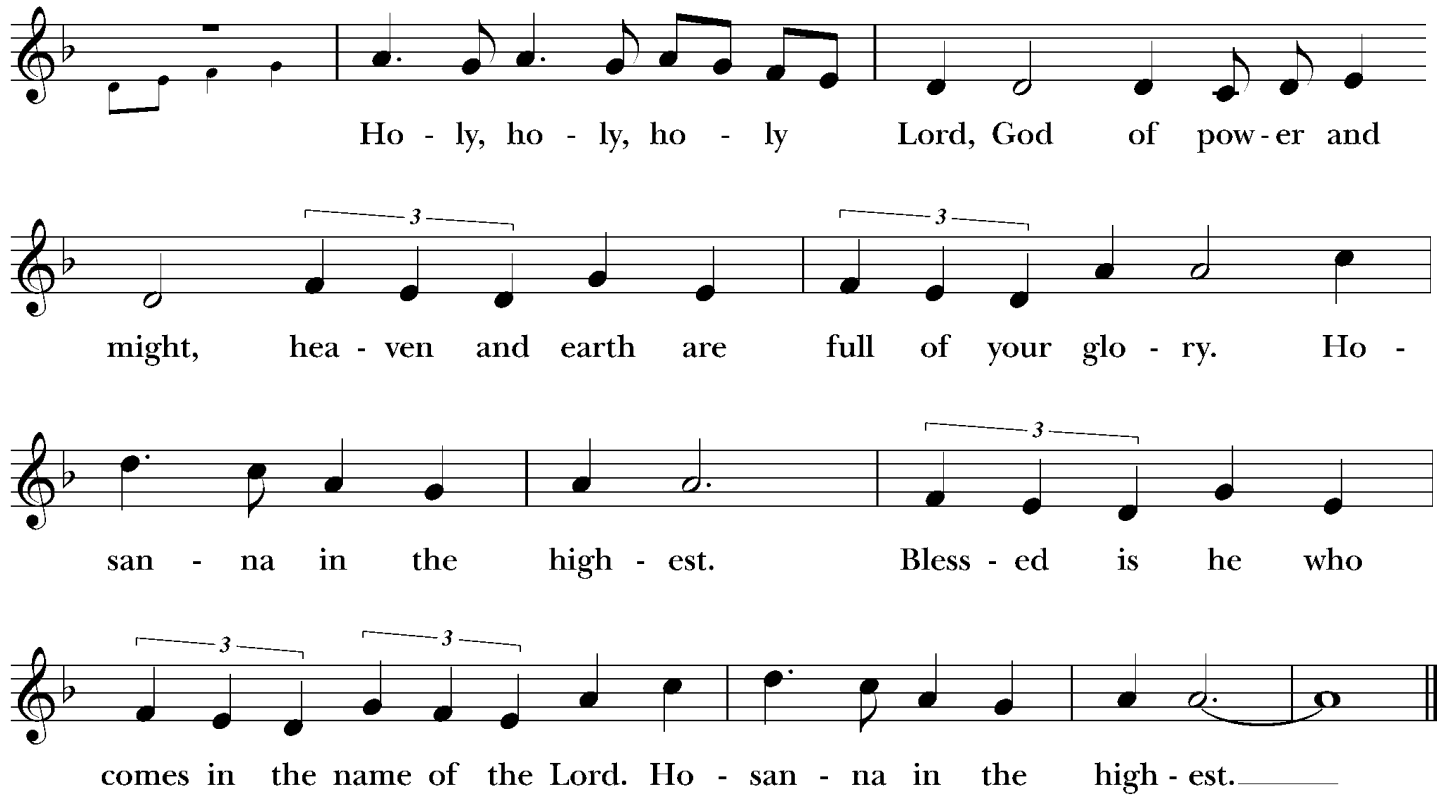
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

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 S 129 *Holy, holy, holy* - Powell

*Celebrant and People*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. \_\_\_\_\_

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*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 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:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

## **EPICLESIS**

*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. *AMEN.*

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

# The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM S 161 *Lamb of God* - Hurd

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

## INVITATION

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## DISTRIBUTION

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

*All stand.*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

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.

## BLESSING

*The Priest blesses the people, saying*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you  
and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

## POST-COMMUNION HYMN *How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord* HYMNAL 637

*Descant*

5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,  
2 "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dis - mayed!  
3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,  
4 "When through fier - y tri - als thy path - way shall lie,  
5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

1 is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!  
2 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
3 the riv - ers of woe shall not thee o - ver - flow;  
4 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;  
5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

5 soul, \_\_\_\_\_ to shake, no,

1 What more can he say than to you he hath said,  
 2 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
 3 for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,  
 4 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign  
 5 that soul, though all hell shall en - deav - or to shake,

5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

1 to you that for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?  
 2 up - held by my right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand.  
 3 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.  
 4 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.  
 5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

## DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

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**Eucharistic Minister and Reader:** Lawrence Schmidt

**Usher:** Hilton Rodriguez

**Greeter:** Serena Smith

Check the calendar on our website [www.marysstoneharbor.org](http://www.marysstoneharbor.org) for weekly happenings.

## **Recovery Meetings at St. Mary's**

### **Narcotics Anonymous**

Monday 7:30 pm OV

Saturday 12:30 pm

### **Alcoholics Anonymous**

Tuesday 8 pm OSD

Thursday 7 pm BB

### **AL-ANON**

Friday 9 am beginner

Friday 10 am OD

**Second Sunday in Lent**  
**The Holy Eucharist Rite Two**  
Penitential Order, Eucharistic Prayer A  
**Sunday, March 1, 2026**



**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca, Rector**  
**Mr. Curtis McKonly, Organist**

**St. Mary's Episcopal Church**  
9425 Third Ave., Stone Harbor, NJ 08247  
[www.stmarysstoneharbor.org](http://www.stmarysstoneharbor.org) 609-368-5922

# The Word of God

## Penitential Order

ENTRANCE HYMN *My faith looks up to thee*

HYMNAL 691

1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,  
3 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,

Sa - vior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my  
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my  
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day; wipe sor - row's

guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine.  
love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire.  
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People* **His mercy endures for ever.**

## DECALOGUE

*The Decalogue is said, the People kneeling.*

Hear the commandments of God to his people:  
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.  
You shall have no other gods but me.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Honor your father and your mother.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit murder.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit adultery.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not steal.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not be a false witness.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

## CONFESSION OF SIN

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister 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 Priest stands and says*

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.**

## **OPENING ANTHEM OR SONG OF PRAISE**

*The following is sung, all standing*

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One.  
**Have mercy upon us.**

## **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*Celebrant*        The Lord be with you.  
*People*            **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant*        Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **The Lessons**

### **FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the book of Genesis.

<sup>1</sup>Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4a</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

## **PSALM: Psalm 121**

*Remain seated.*

<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*  
from where is my help to come?

<sup>2</sup>My help comes from the LORD, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.

<sup>3</sup>He will not let your foot be moved \*  
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup>Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \*  
shall neither slumber nor sleep;

<sup>5</sup>The LORD himself watches over you; \*  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,

<sup>6</sup>So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \*  
nor the moon by night.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; \*  
it is he who shall keep you safe.

<sup>8</sup>The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \*  
from this time forth forevermore.

## **SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

*The people remain seated.*

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

<sup>1</sup>What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh?

<sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>4</sup>Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup>But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup>For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For

the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

<sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN** *Blessed Jesus, at thy word*

**HYMNAL 440**

*All stand.*

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at thy word we are gath - ered all to  
2 All our know - ledge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark - ness  
3 Gra - cious Lord, thy - self im - part! Light of Light, from God pro -

hear thee; let our hearts and souls be stirred  
shroud - ed, till thy Spi - rit breaks our night  
ceed - ing, o - pen thou our ears and heart,

now to seek and love and fear thee; by thy teach - ings  
with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed; thou a - lone to  
help us by thy Spi - rit's plead - ing. Hear the cry thy

pure and ho - ly, drawn from earth to love thee sole - ly.  
 God canst win us; thou must work all good with - in us.  
 Church up - rais - es; hear, and bless our prayers and prais - es.

**GOSPEL: John 3:1-17**

*All stand.*

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

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.”

<sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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

**THE SERMON**

**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca**

**THE CREED**

*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.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*All remain standing.*

Behold, children of God, it is the Lord who watches over you. As people sent forth into the world, let us pray, saying, “Lord, bless us, *so that we may bless others.*”

Lord, preserve your Church from all evil. May we, who have been born of water and the Spirit, proclaim the kingdom of God in all the world.

*Invite the congregation to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

O God, may the leaders of the nations ever seek the truth. Open their hearts to true conversion and divine guidance.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

Maker of heaven and earth, you have blessed us with a wondrous and dynamic creation. Protect us from its rage; comfort us by its tranquility. Give us eyes to see your handiwork in the world around us.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

Lord, your eyes never close on your people. We thank you for your mindfulness of us and our community. Be our help and our safety.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

You did not send your Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world may see and experience your salvation. Bring wholeness to those who look to your Son for their help.

*Invite the congregation to add their petitions, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

O God, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist, keep the dying and the dead from this time forth and for evermore. Give eternal life to all those who trust in you.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

## **THE PEACE**

*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

### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

*The Celebrant says*

If you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. *Matthew 5:23, 24*

OFFERTORY HYMN *And now, O Father, mindful of the love* HYMNAL 337

1 And now, O Fa - ther, mind - ful of the love that  
 2 Look Fa - ther, look on his a - noint - ed face, and  
 \*3 And then for those, our dear - est and our best, by  
 \*4 And so we come; O draw us to thy feet, most

bought us, once for all, on Cal - vary's tree, and hav - ing with us  
 on - ly look on us as found in him; look not on our mis -  
 this pre - vail - ing pres - ence we ap - peal; O fold them clos - er  
 pa - tient Sa - vior, who canst love us still! And by this food, so

him that pleads a - bove, we here pre - sent, we here spread  
 us - ings of thy grace, our prayer so lan - guid, and our  
 to thy mer - cy's breast! O do thine ut - most for their  
 awe - some and so sweet, de - liv - er us from ev - ery

forth to thee, that on - ly of - fering per - fect in thine  
 faith so dim: for lo! be - tween our sins and their re -  
 soul's true weal! From taint - ing mis - chief keep them pure and  
 touch of ill: in thine own ser - vice make us glad and

eyes, the one true, pure, im - mor - tal sac - ri - fice.  
 ward, we set the pas - sion of thy Son our Lord.  
 clear, and crown thy gifts with strength to per - se - vere.  
 free, and grant us nev - er - more to part from thee.

## The Great Thanksgiving

### SURSUM CORDA

*The People stand.*

*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.**

### PROPER PREFACE

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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 S 129 *Holy, holy, holy* - Powell

*Celebrant and People*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*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 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:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

## **EPICLESIS**

*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. *AMEN.*

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

# The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM S 161 *Lamb of God* - Hurd

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

## INVITATION

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## DISTRIBUTION

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

*All stand.*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

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.

## BLESSING

*The Priest blesses the people, saying*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you  
and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

## POST-COMMUNION HYMN *How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord* HYMNAL 637

*Descant*

5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,  
2 "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dis - mayed!  
3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,  
4 "When through fier - y tri - als thy path - way shall lie,  
5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

1 is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!  
2 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
3 the riv - ers of woe shall not thee o - ver - flow;  
4 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;  
5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

5 soul, \_\_\_\_\_ to shake, no,

1 What more can he say than to you he hath said,  
 2 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
 3 for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,  
 4 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign  
 5 that soul, though all hell shall en - deav - or to shake,

5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

1 to you that for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?  
 2 up - held by my right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand.  
 3 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.  
 4 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.  
 5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

## DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

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**Eucharistic Minister and Reader:** Lawrence Schmidt

**Usher:** Hilton Rodriguez

**Greeter:** Serena Smith

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Monday 7:30 pm OV

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Friday 9 am beginner

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**Second Sunday in Lent**  
**The Holy Eucharist Rite Two**  
Penitential Order, Eucharistic Prayer A  
**Sunday, March 1, 2026**



**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca, Rector**  
**Mr. Curtis McKonly, Organist**

**St. Mary's Episcopal Church**  
9425 Third Ave., Stone Harbor, NJ 08247  
[www.stmarysstoneharbor.org](http://www.stmarysstoneharbor.org) 609-368-5922

# The Word of God


## Penitential Order

ENTRANCE HYMN *My faith looks up to thee*

HYMNAL 691



1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,  
3 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,



Sa - vior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my  
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my  
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day; wipe sor - row's



guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine.  
love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire.  
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People* **His mercy endures for ever.**

## DECALOGUE

*The Decalogue is said, the People kneeling.*

Hear the commandments of God to his people:  
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.  
You shall have no other gods but me.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Honor your father and your mother.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit murder.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit adultery.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not steal.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not be a false witness.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

## CONFESSION OF SIN

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister 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 Priest stands and says*

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.**

## **OPENING ANTHEM OR SONG OF PRAISE**

*The following is sung, all standing*

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One.  
**Have mercy upon us.**

## **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*Celebrant*        The Lord be with you.  
*People*            **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant*        Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **The Lessons**

### **FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the book of Genesis.

<sup>1</sup>Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4a</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

**PSALM: Psalm 121**

*Remain seated.*

<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*  
from where is my help to come?

<sup>2</sup>My help comes from the LORD, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.

<sup>3</sup>He will not let your foot be moved \*  
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup>Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \*  
shall neither slumber nor sleep;

<sup>5</sup>The LORD himself watches over you; \*  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,

<sup>6</sup>So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \*  
nor the moon by night.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; \*  
it is he who shall keep you safe.

<sup>8</sup>The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \*  
from this time forth forevermore.

**SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

*The people remain seated.*

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

<sup>1</sup>What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh?

<sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>4</sup>Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup>But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup>For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For

the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

<sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN** *Blessed Jesus, at thy word*

**HYMNAL 440**

*All stand.*

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at thy word we are gath - ered all to  
2 All our know - ledge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark - ness  
3 Gra - cious Lord, thy - self im - part! Light of Light, from God pro -

hear thee; let our hearts and souls be stirred  
shroud - ed, till thy Spi - rit breaks our night  
ceed - ing, o - pen thou our ears and heart,

now to seek and love and fear thee; by thy teach - ings  
with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed; thou a - lone to  
help us by thy Spi - rit's plead - ing. Hear the cry thy

pure and ho - ly, drawn from earth to love thee sole - ly.  
 God canst win us; thou must work all good with - in us.  
 Church up - rais - es; hear, and bless our prayers and prais - es.

## GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

*All stand.*

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

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.”

<sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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

**THE SERMON**

**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca**

**THE CREED**

*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.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*All remain standing.*

Behold, children of God, it is the Lord who watches over you. As people sent forth into the world, let us pray, saying, “Lord, bless us, *so that we may bless others.*”

Lord, preserve your Church from all evil. May we, who have been born of water and the Spirit, proclaim the kingdom of God in all the world.

*Invite the congregation to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,

*So that we may bless others.*

O God, may the leaders of the nations ever seek the truth. Open their hearts to true conversion and divine guidance.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

*So that we may bless others.*

Maker of heaven and earth, you have blessed us with a wondrous and dynamic creation. Protect us from its rage; comfort us by its tranquility. Give us eyes to see your handiwork in the world around us.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

*So that we may bless others.*

Lord, your eyes never close on your people. We thank you for your mindfulness of us and our community. Be our help and our safety.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

*So that we may bless others.*

You did not send your Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world may see and experience your salvation. Bring wholeness to those who look to your Son for their help.

*Invite the congregation to add their petitions, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

O God, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist, keep the dying and the dead from this time forth and for evermore. Give eternal life to all those who trust in you.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

## **THE PEACE**

*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

### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

*The Celebrant says*

If you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. *Matthew 5:23, 24*

OFFERTORY HYMN *And now, O Father, mindful of the love* HYMNAL 337

1 And now, O Fa - ther, mind - ful of the love that  
 2 Look Fa - ther, look on his a - noint - ed face, and  
 \*3 And then for those, our dear - est and our best, by  
 \*4 And so we come; O draw us to thy feet, most

bought us, once for all, on Cal - vary's tree, and hav - ing with us  
 on - ly look on us as found in him; look not on our mis -  
 this pre - vail - ing pres - ence we ap - peal; O fold them clos - er  
 pa - tient Sa - vior, who canst love us still! And by this food, so

him that pleads a - bove, we here pre - sent, we here spread  
 us - ings of thy grace, our prayer so lan - guid, and our  
 to thy mer - cy's breast! O do thine ut - most for their  
 awe - some and so sweet, de - liv - er us from ev - ery

forth to thee, that on - ly of - fering per - fect in thine  
 faith so dim: for lo! be - tween our sins and their re -  
 soul's true weal! From taint - ing mis - chief keep them pure and  
 touch of ill: in thine own ser - vice make us glad and

eyes, the one true, pure, im - mor - tal sac - ri - fice.  
ward, we set the pas - sion of thy Son our Lord.  
clear, and crown thy gifts with strength to per - se - vere.  
free, and grant us nev - er - more to part from thee.

## The Great Thanksgiving

### SURSUM CORDA

*The People stand.*

*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.**

### PROPER PREFACE

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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 S 129 *Holy, holy, holy* - Powell

*Celebrant and People*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*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 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:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

## **EPICLESIS**

*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. *AMEN.*

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

# The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM S 161 *Lamb of God* - Hurd

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

## INVITATION

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## DISTRIBUTION

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

*All stand.*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

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.

## BLESSING

*The Priest blesses the people, saying*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you  
and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

## POST-COMMUNION HYMN *How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord* HYMNAL 637

*Descant*

5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,  
2 "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dis - mayed!  
3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,  
4 "When through fier - y tri - als thy path - way shall lie,  
5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

1 is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!  
2 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
3 the riv - ers of woe shall not thee o - ver - flow;  
4 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;  
5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

5 soul, \_\_\_\_\_ to shake, no,

1 What more can he say than to you he hath said,  
 2 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
 3 for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,  
 4 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign  
 5 that soul, though all hell shall en - deav - or to shake,

5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

1 to you that for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?  
 2 up - held by my right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand.  
 3 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.  
 4 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.  
 5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

**DISMISSAL**

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

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**Eucharistic Minister and Reader:** Lawrence Schmidt

**Usher:** Hilton Rodriguez

**Greeter:** Serena Smith

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Monday 7:30 pm OV

Saturday 12:30 pm

### **Alcoholics Anonymous**

Tuesday 8 pm OSD

Thursday 7 pm BB

### **AL-ANON**

Friday 9 am beginner

Friday 10 am OD

**Second Sunday in Lent**  
**The Holy Eucharist Rite Two**  
Penitential Order, Eucharistic Prayer A  
**Sunday, March 1, 2026**



**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca, Rector**  
**Mr. Curtis McKonly, Organist**

**St. Mary's Episcopal Church**  
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# The Word of God

## Penitential Order

ENTRANCE HYMN *My faith looks up to thee*

HYMNAL 691

1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,  
3 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,

Sa - vior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my  
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my  
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day; wipe sor - row's

guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine.  
love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire.  
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People* **His mercy endures for ever.**

## DECALOGUE

*The Decalogue is said, the People kneeling.*

Hear the commandments of God to his people:  
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.  
You shall have no other gods but me.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Honor your father and your mother.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit murder.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit adultery.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not steal.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not be a false witness.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

## CONFESSION OF SIN

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister 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 Priest stands and says*

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.**

## **OPENING ANTHEM OR SONG OF PRAISE**

*The following is sung, all standing*

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One.  
**Have mercy upon us.**

## **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.  
*People*          **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant*      Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **The Lessons**

### **FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the book of Genesis.

<sup>1</sup>Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4a</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

## **PSALM: Psalm 121**

*Remain seated.*

<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*  
from where is my help to come?

<sup>2</sup>My help comes from the LORD, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.

<sup>3</sup>He will not let your foot be moved \*  
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup>Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \*  
shall neither slumber nor sleep;

<sup>5</sup>The LORD himself watches over you; \*  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,

<sup>6</sup>So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \*  
nor the moon by night.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; \*  
it is he who shall keep you safe.

<sup>8</sup>The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \*  
from this time forth forevermore.

## **SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

*The people remain seated.*

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

<sup>1</sup>What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh?

<sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>4</sup>Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup>But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup>For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For

the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

<sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN** *Blessed Jesus, at thy word*

**HYMNAL 440**

*All stand.*

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at thy word we are gath - ered all to  
2 All our know - ledge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark - ness  
3 Gra - cious Lord, thy - self im - part! Light of Light, from God pro -

hear thee; let our hearts and souls be stirred  
shroud - ed, till thy Spi - rit breaks our night  
ceed - ing, o - pen thou our ears and heart,

now to seek and love and fear thee; by thy teach - ings  
with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed; thou a - lone to  
help us by thy Spi - rit's plead - ing. Hear the cry thy

pure and ho - ly, drawn from earth to love thee sole - ly.  
 God canst win us; thou must work all good with - in us.  
 Church up - rais - es; hear, and bless our prayers and prais - es.

## GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

*All stand.*

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

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.”

<sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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

**THE SERMON**

**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca**

**THE CREED**

*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.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*All remain standing.*

Behold, children of God, it is the Lord who watches over you. As people sent forth into the world, let us pray, saying, “Lord, bless us, *so that we may bless others.*”

Lord, preserve your Church from all evil. May we, who have been born of water and the Spirit, proclaim the kingdom of God in all the world.

*Invite the congregation to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,

*So that we may bless others.*

O God, may the leaders of the nations ever seek the truth. Open their hearts to true conversion and divine guidance.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

*So that we may bless others.*

Maker of heaven and earth, you have blessed us with a wondrous and dynamic creation. Protect us from its rage; comfort us by its tranquility. Give us eyes to see your handiwork in the world around us.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

*So that we may bless others.*

Lord, your eyes never close on your people. We thank you for your mindfulness of us and our community. Be our help and our safety.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

*So that we may bless others.*

You did not send your Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world may see and experience your salvation. Bring wholeness to those who look to your Son for their help.

*Invite the congregation to add their petitions, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

O God, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist, keep the dying and the dead from this time forth and for evermore. Give eternal life to all those who trust in you.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

## **THE PEACE**

*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

### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

*The Celebrant says*

If you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. *Matthew 5:23, 24*

OFFERTORY HYMN *And now, O Father, mindful of the love* HYMNAL 337

1 And now, O Fa - ther, mind - ful of the love that  
 2 Look Fa - ther, look on his a - noint - ed face, and  
 \*3 And then for those, our dear - est and our best, by  
 \*4 And so we come; O draw us to thy feet, most

bought us, once for all, on Cal - vary's tree, and hav - ing with us  
 on - ly look on us as found in him; look not on our mis -  
 this pre - vail - ing pres - ence we ap - peal; O fold them clos - er  
 pa - tient Sa - vior, who canst love us still! And by this food, so

him that pleads a - bove, we here pre - sent, we here spread  
 us - ings of thy grace, our prayer so lan - guid, and our  
 to thy mer - cy's breast! O do thine ut - most for their  
 awe - some and so sweet, de - liv - er us from ev - ery

forth to thee, that on - ly of - fering per - fect in thine  
 faith so dim: for lo! be - tween our sins and their re -  
 soul's true weal! From taint - ing mis - chief keep them pure and  
 touch of ill: in thine own ser - vice make us glad and

eyes, the one true, pure, im - mor - tal sac - ri - fice.  
ward, we set the pas - sion of thy Son our Lord.  
clear, and crown thy gifts with strength to per - se - vere.  
free, and grant us nev - er - more to part from thee.

## The Great Thanksgiving

### SURSUM CORDA

*The People stand.*

*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.**

### PROPER PREFACE

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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 S 129 *Holy, holy, holy* - Powell

*Celebrant and People*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. \_\_\_\_\_

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*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 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:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

## **EPICLESIS**

*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. *AMEN.*

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

# The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM S 161 *Lamb of God* - Hurd

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

## INVITATION

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## DISTRIBUTION

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

*All stand.*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

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.

## BLESSING

*The Priest blesses the people, saying*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you  
and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

## POST-COMMUNION HYMN *How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord* HYMNAL 637

*Descant*

5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,  
2 "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dis - mayed!  
3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,  
4 "When through fier - y tri - als thy path - way shall lie,  
5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

1 is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!  
2 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
3 the riv - ers of woe shall not thee o - ver - flow;  
4 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;  
5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

5 soul, to shake, no,

1 What more can he say than to you he hath said,  
 2 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
 3 for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,  
 4 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign  
 5 that soul, though all hell shall en - deav - or to shake,

5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

## DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

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**Eucharistic Minister and Reader:** Lawrence Schmidt

**Usher:** Hilton Rodriguez

**Greeter:** Serena Smith

Check the calendar on our website [www.marysstoneharbor.org](http://www.marysstoneharbor.org) for weekly happenings.

## **Recovery Meetings at St. Mary's**

### **Narcotics Anonymous**

Monday 7:30 pm OV

Saturday 12:30 pm

### **Alcoholics Anonymous**

Tuesday 8 pm OSD

Thursday 7 pm BB

### **AL-ANON**

Friday 9 am beginner

Friday 10 am OD

**Second Sunday in Lent**  
**The Holy Eucharist Rite Two**  
Penitential Order, Eucharistic Prayer A  
**Sunday, March 1, 2026**



**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca, Rector**  
**Mr. Curtis McKonly, Organist**

**St. Mary's Episcopal Church**  
9425 Third Ave., Stone Harbor, NJ 08247  
[www.stmarysstoneharbor.org](http://www.stmarysstoneharbor.org) 609-368-5922

# The Word of God

## Penitential Order

ENTRANCE HYMN *My faith looks up to thee*

HYMNAL 691

1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,  
3 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,

Sa - vior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my  
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my  
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day; wipe sor - row's

guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine.  
love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire.  
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People* **His mercy endures for ever.**

## DECALOGUE

*The Decalogue is said, the People kneeling.*

Hear the commandments of God to his people:  
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.  
You shall have no other gods but me.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Honor your father and your mother.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit murder.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit adultery.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not steal.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not be a false witness.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

## CONFESSION OF SIN

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister 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 Priest stands and says*

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.**

## **OPENING ANTHEM OR SONG OF PRAISE**

*The following is sung, all standing*

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One.  
**Have mercy upon us.**

## **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.  
*People*          **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant*      Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **The Lessons**

### **FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the book of Genesis.

<sup>1</sup>Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4a</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

## **PSALM: Psalm 121**

*Remain seated.*

<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*  
from where is my help to come?

<sup>2</sup>My help comes from the LORD, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.

<sup>3</sup>He will not let your foot be moved \*  
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup>Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \*  
shall neither slumber nor sleep;

<sup>5</sup>The LORD himself watches over you; \*  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,

<sup>6</sup>So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \*  
nor the moon by night.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; \*  
it is he who shall keep you safe.

<sup>8</sup>The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \*  
from this time forth forevermore.

## **SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

*The people remain seated.*

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

<sup>1</sup>What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh?

<sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>4</sup>Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup>But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup>For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For

the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

<sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN** *Blessed Jesus, at thy word*

**HYMNAL 440**

*All stand.*

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at thy word we are gath - ered all to  
2 All our know - ledge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark - ness  
3 Gra - cious Lord, thy - self im - part! Light of Light, from God pro -

hear thee; let our hearts and souls be stirred  
shroud - ed, till thy Spi - rit breaks our night  
ceed - ing, o - pen thou our ears and heart,

now to seek and love and fear thee; by thy teach - ings  
with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed; thou a - lone to  
help us by thy Spi - rit's plead - ing. Hear the cry thy

pure and ho - ly, drawn from earth to love thee sole - ly.  
 God canst win us; thou must work all good with - in us.  
 Church up - rais - es; hear, and bless our prayers and prais - es.

## GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

*All stand.*

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

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.”

<sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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

**THE SERMON**

**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca**

**THE CREED**

*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.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*All remain standing.*

Behold, children of God, it is the Lord who watches over you. As people sent forth into the world, let us pray, saying, “Lord, bless us, *so that we may bless others.*”

Lord, preserve your Church from all evil. May we, who have been born of water and the Spirit, proclaim the kingdom of God in all the world.

*Invite the congregation to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

O God, may the leaders of the nations ever seek the truth. Open their hearts to true conversion and divine guidance.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

Maker of heaven and earth, you have blessed us with a wondrous and dynamic creation. Protect us from its rage; comfort us by its tranquility. Give us eyes to see your handiwork in the world around us.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

Lord, your eyes never close on your people. We thank you for your mindfulness of us and our community. Be our help and our safety.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

You did not send your Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world may see and experience your salvation. Bring wholeness to those who look to your Son for their help.

*Invite the congregation to add their petitions, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

O God, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist, keep the dying and the dead from this time forth and for evermore. Give eternal life to all those who trust in you.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

## **THE PEACE**

*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

### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

*The Celebrant says*

If you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. *Matthew 5:23, 24*

OFFERTORY HYMN *And now, O Father, mindful of the love* HYMNAL 337

1 And now, O Fa - ther, mind - ful of the love that  
 2 Look Fa - ther, look on his a - noint - ed face, and  
 \*3 And then for those, our dear - est and our best, by  
 \*4 And so we come; O draw us to thy feet, most

bought us, once for all, on Cal - vary's tree, and hav - ing with us  
 on - ly look on us as found in him; look not on our mis -  
 this pre - vail - ing pres - ence we ap - peal; O fold them clos - er  
 pa - tient Sa - vior, who canst love us still! And by this food, so

him that pleads a - bove, we here pre - sent, we here spread  
 us - ings of thy grace, our prayer so lan - guid, and our  
 to thy mer - cy's breast! O do thine ut - most for their  
 awe - some and so sweet, de - liv - er us from ev - ery

forth to thee, that on - ly of - fering per - fect in thine  
 faith so dim: for lo! be - tween our sins and their re -  
 soul's true weal! From taint - ing mis - chief keep them pure and  
 touch of ill: in thine own ser - vice make us glad and

eyes, the one true, pure, im - mor - tal sac - ri - fice.  
ward, we set the pas - sion of thy Son our Lord.  
clear, and crown thy gifts with strength to per - se - vere.  
free, and grant us nev - er - more to part from thee.

## The Great Thanksgiving

### SURSUM CORDA

*The People stand.*

*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.**

### PROPER PREFACE

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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 S 129 *Holy, holy, holy* - Powell

*Celebrant and People*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*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 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:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

## **EPICLESIS**

*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. *AMEN.*

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

# The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM S 161 *Lamb of God* - Hurd

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

## INVITATION

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## DISTRIBUTION

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

*All stand.*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

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.

## BLESSING

*The Priest blesses the people, saying*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you  
and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

## POST-COMMUNION HYMN *How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord* HYMNAL 637

*Descant*

5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,  
2 "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dis - mayed!  
3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,  
4 "When through fier - y tri - als thy path - way shall lie,  
5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

1 is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!  
2 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
3 the riv - ers of woe shall not thee o - ver - flow;  
4 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;  
5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

5 soul, \_\_\_\_\_ to shake, no,

1 What more can he say than to you he hath said,  
 2 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
 3 for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,  
 4 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign  
 5 that soul, though all hell shall en - deav - or to shake,

5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

1 to you that for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?  
 2 up - held by my right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand.  
 3 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.  
 4 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.  
 5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

**DISMISSAL**

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

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**Eucharistic Minister and Reader:** Lawrence Schmidt

**Usher:** Hilton Rodriguez

**Greeter:** Serena Smith

Check the calendar on our website [www.marysstoneharbor.org](http://www.marysstoneharbor.org) for weekly happenings.

## **Recovery Meetings at St. Mary's**

### **Narcotics Anonymous**

Monday 7:30 pm OV

Saturday 12:30 pm

### **Alcoholics Anonymous**

Tuesday 8 pm OSD

Thursday 7 pm BB

### **AL-ANON**

Friday 9 am beginner

Friday 10 am OD

**Second Sunday in Lent**  
**The Holy Eucharist Rite Two**  
Penitential Order, Eucharistic Prayer A  
**Sunday, March 1, 2026**



**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca, Rector**  
**Mr. Curtis McKonly, Organist**

**St. Mary's Episcopal Church**  
9425 Third Ave., Stone Harbor, NJ 08247  
[www.stmarysstoneharbor.org](http://www.stmarysstoneharbor.org) 609-368-5922

# The Word of God

## Penitential Order

ENTRANCE HYMN *My faith looks up to thee*

HYMNAL 691

1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,  
3 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,

Sa - vior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my  
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my  
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day; wipe sor - row's

guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine.  
love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire.  
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People* **His mercy endures for ever.**

## DECALOGUE

*The Decalogue is said, the People kneeling.*

Hear the commandments of God to his people:  
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.  
You shall have no other gods but me.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Honor your father and your mother.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit murder.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit adultery.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not steal.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not be a false witness.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

## CONFESSION OF SIN

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister 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 Priest stands and says*

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.**

## **OPENING ANTHEM OR SONG OF PRAISE**

*The following is sung, all standing*

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One.  
**Have mercy upon us.**

## **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.  
*People*          **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant*      Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **The Lessons**

### **FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the book of Genesis.

<sup>1</sup>Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4a</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

**PSALM: Psalm 121**

*Remain seated.*

<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*  
from where is my help to come?

<sup>2</sup>My help comes from the LORD, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.

<sup>3</sup>He will not let your foot be moved \*  
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup>Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \*  
shall neither slumber nor sleep;

<sup>5</sup>The LORD himself watches over you; \*  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,

<sup>6</sup>So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \*  
nor the moon by night.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; \*  
it is he who shall keep you safe.

<sup>8</sup>The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \*  
from this time forth forevermore.

**SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

*The people remain seated.*

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

<sup>1</sup>What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh?

<sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>4</sup>Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup>But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup>For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For

the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

<sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN** *Blessed Jesus, at thy word*

**HYMNAL 440**

*All stand.*

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at thy word we are gath - ered all to  
2 All our know - ledge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark - ness  
3 Gra - cious Lord, thy - self im - part! Light of Light, from God pro -

hear thee; let our hearts and souls be stirred  
shroud - ed, till thy Spi - rit breaks our night  
ceed - ing, o - pen thou our ears and heart,

now to seek and love and fear thee; by thy teach - ings  
with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed; thou a - lone to  
help us by thy Spi - rit's plead - ing. Hear the cry thy

pure and ho - ly, drawn from earth to love thee sole - ly.  
 God canst win us; thou must work all good with - in us.  
 Church up - rais - es; hear, and bless our prayers and prais - es.

## GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

*All stand.*

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

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.”

<sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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

**THE SERMON**

**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca**

**THE CREED**

*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.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*All remain standing.*

Behold, children of God, it is the Lord who watches over you. As people sent forth into the world, let us pray, saying, “Lord, bless us, *so that we may bless others.*”

Lord, preserve your Church from all evil. May we, who have been born of water and the Spirit, proclaim the kingdom of God in all the world.

*Invite the congregation to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,

*So that we may bless others.*

O God, may the leaders of the nations ever seek the truth. Open their hearts to true conversion and divine guidance.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

*So that we may bless others.*

Maker of heaven and earth, you have blessed us with a wondrous and dynamic creation. Protect us from its rage; comfort us by its tranquility. Give us eyes to see your handiwork in the world around us.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

*So that we may bless others.*

Lord, your eyes never close on your people. We thank you for your mindfulness of us and our community. Be our help and our safety.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

*So that we may bless others.*

You did not send your Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world may see and experience your salvation. Bring wholeness to those who look to your Son for their help.

*Invite the congregation to add their petitions, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

O God, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist, keep the dying and the dead from this time forth and for evermore. Give eternal life to all those who trust in you.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

## **THE PEACE**

***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

### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

***The Celebrant says***

If you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. *Matthew 5:23, 24*

OFFERTORY HYMN *And now, O Father, mindful of the love* HYMNAL 337

1 And now, O Fa - ther, mind - ful of the love that  
 2 Look Fa - ther, look on his a - noint - ed face, and  
 \*3 And then for those, our dear - est and our best, by  
 \*4 And so we come; O draw us to thy feet, most

bought us, once for all, on Cal - vary's tree, and hav - ing with us  
 on - ly look on us as found in him; look not on our mis -  
 this pre - vail - ing pres - ence we ap - peal; O fold them clos - er  
 pa - tient Sa - vior, who canst love us still! And by this food, so

him that pleads a - bove, we here pre - sent, we here spread  
 us - ings of thy grace, our prayer so lan - guid, and our  
 to thy mer - cy's breast! O do thine ut - most for their  
 awe - some and so sweet, de - liv - er us from ev - ery

forth to thee, that on - ly of - fering per - fect in thine  
 faith so dim: for lo! be - tween our sins and their re -  
 soul's true weal! From taint - ing mis - chief keep them pure and  
 touch of ill: in thine own ser - vice make us glad and

eyes, the one true, pure, im - mor - tal sac - ri - fice.  
ward, we set the pas - sion of thy Son our Lord.  
clear, and crown thy gifts with strength to per - se - vere.  
free, and grant us nev - er - more to part from thee.

## The Great Thanksgiving

### SURSUM CORDA

*The People stand.*

*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.**

### PROPER PREFACE

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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 S 129 *Holy, holy, holy* - Powell

*Celebrant and People*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.\_\_\_\_\_

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*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 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:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

## **EPICLESIS**

*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. *AMEN.*

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

# The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM S 161 *Lamb of God* - Hurd

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

## INVITATION

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## DISTRIBUTION

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

*All stand.*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

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.

## BLESSING

*The Priest blesses the people, saying*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you  
and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

## POST-COMMUNION HYMN *How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord* HYMNAL 637

*Descant*

5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,  
2 "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dis - mayed!  
3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,  
4 "When through fier - y tri - als thy path - way shall lie,  
5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

1 is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!  
2 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
3 the riv - ers of woe shall not thee o - ver - flow;  
4 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;  
5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

5 soul, \_\_\_\_\_ to shake, no,

1 What more can he say than to you he hath said,  
 2 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
 3 for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,  
 4 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign  
 5 that soul, though all hell shall en - deav - or to shake,

5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake.”

1 to you that for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?  
 2 up - held by my right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand.  
 3 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.  
 4 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.  
 5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake.”

## DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

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**Eucharistic Minister and Reader:** Lawrence Schmidt

**Usher:** Hilton Rodriguez

**Greeter:** Serena Smith

Check the calendar on our website [www.marysstoneharbor.org](http://www.marysstoneharbor.org) for weekly happenings.

## **Recovery Meetings at St. Mary's**

### **Narcotics Anonymous**

Monday 7:30 pm OV

Saturday 12:30 pm

### **Alcoholics Anonymous**

Tuesday 8 pm OSD

Thursday 7 pm BB

### **AL-ANON**

Friday 9 am beginner

Friday 10 am OD

**Second Sunday in Lent**  
**The Holy Eucharist Rite Two**  
Penitential Order, Eucharistic Prayer A  
**Sunday, March 1, 2026**



**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca, Rector**  
**Mr. Curtis McKonly, Organist**

**St. Mary's Episcopal Church**  
9425 Third Ave., Stone Harbor, NJ 08247  
[www.stmarysstoneharbor.org](http://www.stmarysstoneharbor.org) 609-368-5922

# The Word of God

## Penitential Order

ENTRANCE HYMN *My faith looks up to thee*

HYMNAL 691

1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,  
3 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,

Sa - vior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my  
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my  
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day; wipe sor - row's

guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine.  
love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire.  
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People* **His mercy endures for ever.**

## DECALOGUE

*The Decalogue is said, the People kneeling.*

Hear the commandments of God to his people:  
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.  
You shall have no other gods but me.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Honor your father and your mother.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit murder.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit adultery.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not steal.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not be a false witness.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

## CONFESSION OF SIN

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister 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 Priest stands and says*

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.**

## **OPENING ANTHEM OR SONG OF PRAISE**

*The following is sung, all standing*

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One.  
**Have mercy upon us.**

## **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*Celebrant*        The Lord be with you.  
*People*            **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant*        Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **The Lessons**

### **FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the book of Genesis.

<sup>1</sup>Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4a</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

## **PSALM: Psalm 121**

*Remain seated.*

<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*  
from where is my help to come?

<sup>2</sup>My help comes from the LORD, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.

<sup>3</sup>He will not let your foot be moved \*  
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup>Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \*  
shall neither slumber nor sleep;

<sup>5</sup>The LORD himself watches over you; \*  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,

<sup>6</sup>So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \*  
nor the moon by night.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; \*  
it is he who shall keep you safe.

<sup>8</sup>The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \*  
from this time forth forevermore.

## **SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

*The people remain seated.*

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

<sup>1</sup>What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh?

<sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>4</sup>Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup>But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup>For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For

the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

<sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN** *Blessed Jesus, at thy word*

**HYMNAL 440**

*All stand.*

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at thy word we are gath - ered all to  
2 All our know - ledge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark - ness  
3 Gra - cious Lord, thy - self im - part! Light of Light, from God pro -

hear thee; let our hearts and souls be stirred  
shroud - ed, till thy Spi - rit breaks our night  
ceed - ing, o - pen thou our ears and heart,

now to seek and love and fear thee; by thy teach - ings  
with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed; thou a - lone to  
help us by thy Spi - rit's plead - ing. Hear the cry thy

pure and ho - ly, drawn from earth to love thee sole - ly.  
 God canst win us; thou must work all good with - in us.  
 Church up - rais - es; hear, and bless our prayers and prais - es.

## GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

*All stand.*

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

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.”

<sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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

**THE SERMON**

**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca**

**THE CREED**

*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.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*All remain standing.*

Behold, children of God, it is the Lord who watches over you. As people sent forth into the world, let us pray, saying, “Lord, bless us, *so that we may bless others.*”

Lord, preserve your Church from all evil. May we, who have been born of water and the Spirit, proclaim the kingdom of God in all the world.

*Invite the congregation to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

O God, may the leaders of the nations ever seek the truth. Open their hearts to true conversion and divine guidance.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

Maker of heaven and earth, you have blessed us with a wondrous and dynamic creation. Protect us from its rage; comfort us by its tranquility. Give us eyes to see your handiwork in the world around us.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

Lord, your eyes never close on your people. We thank you for your mindfulness of us and our community. Be our help and our safety.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

You did not send your Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world may see and experience your salvation. Bring wholeness to those who look to your Son for their help.

*Invite the congregation to add their petitions, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

O God, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist, keep the dying and the dead from this time forth and for evermore. Give eternal life to all those who trust in you.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

## **THE PEACE**

*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

### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

*The Celebrant says*

If you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. *Matthew 5:23, 24*

OFFERTORY HYMN *And now, O Father, mindful of the love* HYMNAL 337

1 And now, O Fa - ther, mind - ful of the love that  
 2 Look Fa - ther, look on his a - noint - ed face, and  
 \*3 And then for those, our dear - est and our best, by  
 \*4 And so we come; O draw us to thy feet, most

bought us, once for all, on Cal - vary's tree, and hav - ing with us  
 on - ly look on us as found in him; look not on our mis -  
 this pre - vail - ing pres - ence we ap - peal; O fold them clos - er  
 pa - tient Sa - vior, who canst love us still! And by this food, so

him that pleads a - bove, we here pre - sent, we here spread  
 us - ings of thy grace, our prayer so lan - guid, and our  
 to thy mer - cy's breast! O do thine ut - most for their  
 awe - some and so sweet, de - liv - er us from ev - ery

forth to thee, that on - ly of - fering per - fect in thine  
 faith so dim: for lo! be - tween our sins and their re -  
 soul's true weal! From taint - ing mis - chief keep them pure and  
 touch of ill: in thine own ser - vice make us glad and

eyes, the one true, pure, im - mor - tal sac - ri - fice.  
ward, we set the pas - sion of thy Son our Lord.  
clear, and crown thy gifts with strength to per - se - vere.  
free, and grant us nev - er - more to part from thee.

## The Great Thanksgiving

### SURSUM CORDA

*The People stand.*

*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.**

### PROPER PREFACE

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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 S 129 *Holy, holy, holy* - Powell

*Celebrant and People*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*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 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:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

## **EPICLESIS**

*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. *AMEN.*

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

# The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM S 161 *Lamb of God* - Hurd

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

## INVITATION

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## DISTRIBUTION

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

*All stand.*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

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.

## BLESSING

*The Priest blesses the people, saying*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you  
and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

## POST-COMMUNION HYMN *How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord* HYMNAL 637

*Descant*

5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,  
2 "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dis - mayed!  
3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,  
4 "When through fier - y tri - als thy path - way shall lie,  
5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

1 is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!  
2 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
3 the riv - ers of woe shall not thee o - ver - flow;  
4 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;  
5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

5 soul, to shake, no,

1 What more can he say than to you he hath said,  
 2 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
 3 for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,  
 4 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign  
 5 that soul, though all hell shall en - deav - or to shake,

5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

## DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

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**Eucharistic Minister and Reader:** Lawrence Schmidt

**Usher:** Hilton Rodriguez

**Greeter:** Serena Smith

Check the calendar on our website [www.marysstoneharbor.org](http://www.marysstoneharbor.org) for weekly happenings.

## **Recovery Meetings at St. Mary's**

### **Narcotics Anonymous**

Monday 7:30 pm OV

Saturday 12:30 pm

### **Alcoholics Anonymous**

Tuesday 8 pm OSD

Thursday 7 pm BB

### **AL-ANON**

Friday 9 am beginner

Friday 10 am OD

**Second Sunday in Lent**  
**The Holy Eucharist Rite Two**  
Penitential Order, Eucharistic Prayer A  
**Sunday, March 1, 2026**



**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca, Rector**  
**Mr. Curtis McKonly, Organist**

**St. Mary's Episcopal Church**  
9425 Third Ave., Stone Harbor, NJ 08247  
[www.stmarysstoneharbor.org](http://www.stmarysstoneharbor.org) 609-368-5922

# The Word of God

## Penitential Order

ENTRANCE HYMN *My faith looks up to thee*

HYMNAL 691

1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,  
3 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,

Sa - vior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my  
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my  
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day; wipe sor - row's

guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine.  
love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire.  
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People* **His mercy endures for ever.**

## DECALOGUE

*The Decalogue is said, the People kneeling.*

Hear the commandments of God to his people:  
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.  
You shall have no other gods but me.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Honor your father and your mother.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit murder.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit adultery.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not steal.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not be a false witness.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

## CONFESSION OF SIN

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister 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 Priest stands and says*

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.**

## **OPENING ANTHEM OR SONG OF PRAISE**

*The following is sung, all standing*

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One.  
**Have mercy upon us.**

## **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.  
*People*          **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant*      Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **The Lessons**

### **FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the book of Genesis.

<sup>1</sup>Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4a</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

## **PSALM: Psalm 121**

*Remain seated.*

<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*  
from where is my help to come?

<sup>2</sup>My help comes from the LORD, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.

<sup>3</sup>He will not let your foot be moved \*  
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup>Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \*  
shall neither slumber nor sleep;

<sup>5</sup>The LORD himself watches over you; \*  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,

<sup>6</sup>So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \*  
nor the moon by night.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; \*  
it is he who shall keep you safe.

<sup>8</sup>The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \*  
from this time forth forevermore.

## **SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

*The people remain seated.*

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

<sup>1</sup>What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh?

<sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>4</sup>Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup>But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup>For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For

the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

<sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN** *Blessed Jesus, at thy word*

**HYMNAL 440**

*All stand.*

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at thy word we are gath - ered all to  
2 All our know - ledge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark - ness  
3 Gra - cious Lord, thy - self im - part! Light of Light, from God pro -

hear thee; let our hearts and souls be stirred  
shroud - ed, till thy Spi - rit breaks our night  
ceed - ing, o - pen thou our ears and heart,

now to seek and love and fear thee; by thy teach - ings  
with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed; thou a - lone to  
help us by thy Spi - rit's plead - ing. Hear the cry thy

pure and ho - ly, drawn from earth to love thee sole - ly.  
 God canst win us; thou must work all good with - in us.  
 Church up - rais - es; hear, and bless our prayers and prais - es.

## GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

*All stand.*

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

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.”

<sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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

**THE SERMON**

**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca**

**THE CREED**

*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.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*All remain standing.*

Behold, children of God, it is the Lord who watches over you. As people sent forth into the world, let us pray, saying, “Lord, bless us, *so that we may bless others.*”

Lord, preserve your Church from all evil. May we, who have been born of water and the Spirit, proclaim the kingdom of God in all the world.

*Invite the congregation to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

O God, may the leaders of the nations ever seek the truth. Open their hearts to true conversion and divine guidance.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

Maker of heaven and earth, you have blessed us with a wondrous and dynamic creation. Protect us from its rage; comfort us by its tranquility. Give us eyes to see your handiwork in the world around us.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

Lord, your eyes never close on your people. We thank you for your mindfulness of us and our community. Be our help and our safety.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

You did not send your Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world may see and experience your salvation. Bring wholeness to those who look to your Son for their help.

*Invite the congregation to add their petitions, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

O God, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist, keep the dying and the dead from this time forth and for evermore. Give eternal life to all those who trust in you.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

## **THE PEACE**

*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

### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

*The Celebrant says*

If you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. *Matthew 5:23, 24*

OFFERTORY HYMN *And now, O Father, mindful of the love* HYMNAL 337

1 And now, O Fa - ther, mind - ful of the love that  
 2 Look Fa - ther, look on his a - noint - ed face, and  
 \*3 And then for those, our dear - est and our best, by  
 \*4 And so we come; O draw us to thy feet, most

bought us, once for all, on Cal - vary's tree, and hav - ing with us  
 on - ly look on us as found in him; look not on our mis -  
 this pre - vail - ing pres - ence we ap - peal; O fold them clos - er  
 pa - tient Sa - vior, who canst love us still! And by this food, so

him that pleads a - bove, we here pre - sent, we here spread  
 us - ings of thy grace, our prayer so lan - guid, and our  
 to thy mer - cy's breast! O do thine ut - most for their  
 awe - some and so sweet, de - liv - er us from ev - ery

forth to thee, that on - ly of - fering per - fect in thine  
 faith so dim: for lo! be - tween our sins and their re -  
 soul's true weal! From taint - ing mis - chief keep them pure and  
 touch of ill: in thine own ser - vice make us glad and

eyes, the one true, pure, im - mor - tal sac - ri - fice.  
ward, we set the pas - sion of thy Son our Lord.  
clear, and crown thy gifts with strength to per - se - vere.  
free, and grant us nev - er - more to part from thee.

## The Great Thanksgiving

### SURSUM CORDA

*The People stand.*

*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.**

### PROPER PREFACE

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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 S 129 *Holy, holy, holy* - Powell

*Celebrant and People*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. \_\_\_\_\_

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*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 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:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

## **EPICLESIS**

*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. *AMEN.*

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

# The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM S 161 *Lamb of God* - Hurd

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

## INVITATION

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## DISTRIBUTION

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

*All stand.*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

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.

## BLESSING

*The Priest blesses the people, saying*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you  
and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

## POST-COMMUNION HYMN *How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord* HYMNAL 637

*Descant*

5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,  
2 "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dis - mayed!  
3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,  
4 "When through fier - y tri - als thy path - way shall lie,  
5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

1 is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!  
2 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
3 the riv - ers of woe shall not thee o - ver - flow;  
4 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;  
5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

5 soul, \_\_\_\_\_ to shake, no,

1 What more can he say than to you he hath said,  
 2 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
 3 for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,  
 4 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign  
 5 that soul, though all hell shall en - deav - or to shake,

5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake.”

1 to you that for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?  
 2 up - held by my right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand.  
 3 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.  
 4 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.  
 5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake.”

## DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

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**Eucharistic Minister and Reader:** Lawrence Schmidt

**Usher:** Hilton Rodriguez

**Greeter:** Serena Smith

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Monday 7:30 pm OV

Saturday 12:30 pm

### **Alcoholics Anonymous**

Tuesday 8 pm OSD

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### **AL-ANON**

Friday 9 am beginner

Friday 10 am OD

**Second Sunday in Lent**  
**The Holy Eucharist Rite Two**  
Penitential Order, Eucharistic Prayer A  
**Sunday, March 1, 2026**



**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca, Rector**  
**Mr. Curtis McKonly, Organist**

**St. Mary's Episcopal Church**  
9425 Third Ave., Stone Harbor, NJ 08247  
[www.stmarysstoneharbor.org](http://www.stmarysstoneharbor.org) 609-368-5922

# The Word of God

## Penitential Order

ENTRANCE HYMN *My faith looks up to thee*

HYMNAL 691

1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,  
3 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,

Sa - vior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my  
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my  
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day; wipe sor - row's

guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine.  
love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire.  
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People* **His mercy endures for ever.**

## DECALOGUE

*The Decalogue is said, the People kneeling.*

Hear the commandments of God to his people:  
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.  
You shall have no other gods but me.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Honor your father and your mother.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit murder.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit adultery.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not steal.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not be a false witness.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

## CONFESSION OF SIN

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister 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 Priest stands and says*

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.**

## **OPENING ANTHEM OR SONG OF PRAISE**

*The following is sung, all standing*

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One.  
**Have mercy upon us.**

## **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.  
*People*          **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant*      Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **The Lessons**

### **FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the book of Genesis.

<sup>1</sup>Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4a</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

**PSALM: Psalm 121**

*Remain seated.*

<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*  
from where is my help to come?

<sup>2</sup>My help comes from the LORD, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.

<sup>3</sup>He will not let your foot be moved \*  
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup>Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \*  
shall neither slumber nor sleep;

<sup>5</sup>The LORD himself watches over you; \*  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,

<sup>6</sup>So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \*  
nor the moon by night.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; \*  
it is he who shall keep you safe.

<sup>8</sup>The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \*  
from this time forth forevermore.

**SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

*The people remain seated.*

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

<sup>1</sup>What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh?

<sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>4</sup>Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup>But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup>For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For

the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

<sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN** *Blessed Jesus, at thy word*

**HYMNAL 440**

*All stand.*

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at thy word we are gath - ered all to  
2 All our know - ledge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark - ness  
3 Gra - cious Lord, thy - self im - part! Light of Light, from God pro -

hear thee; let our hearts and souls be stirred  
shroud - ed, till thy Spi - rit breaks our night  
ceed - ing, o - pen thou our ears and heart,

now to seek and love and fear thee; by thy teach - ings  
with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed; thou a - lone to  
help us by thy Spi - rit's plead - ing. Hear the cry thy

pure and ho - ly, drawn from earth to love thee sole - ly.  
 God canst win us; thou must work all good with - in us.  
 Church up - rais - es; hear, and bless our prayers and prais - es.

## GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

*All stand.*

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

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.”

<sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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

**THE SERMON**

**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca**

**THE CREED**

*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.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*All remain standing.*

Behold, children of God, it is the Lord who watches over you. As people sent forth into the world, let us pray, saying, “Lord, bless us, *so that we may bless others.*”

Lord, preserve your Church from all evil. May we, who have been born of water and the Spirit, proclaim the kingdom of God in all the world.

*Invite the congregation to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

O God, may the leaders of the nations ever seek the truth. Open their hearts to true conversion and divine guidance.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

Maker of heaven and earth, you have blessed us with a wondrous and dynamic creation. Protect us from its rage; comfort us by its tranquility. Give us eyes to see your handiwork in the world around us.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

Lord, your eyes never close on your people. We thank you for your mindfulness of us and our community. Be our help and our safety.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

You did not send your Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world may see and experience your salvation. Bring wholeness to those who look to your Son for their help.

*Invite the congregation to add their petitions, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

O God, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist, keep the dying and the dead from this time forth and for evermore. Give eternal life to all those who trust in you.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

## **THE PEACE**

*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

### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

*The Celebrant says*

If you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. *Matthew 5:23, 24*

OFFERTORY HYMN *And now, O Father, mindful of the love* HYMNAL 337

1 And now, O Fa - ther, mind - ful of the love that  
 2 Look Fa - ther, look on his a - noint - ed face, and  
 \*3 And then for those, our dear - est and our best, by  
 \*4 And so we come; O draw us to thy feet, most

bought us, once for all, on Cal - vary's tree, and hav - ing with us  
 on - ly look on us as found in him; look not on our mis -  
 this pre - vail - ing pres - ence we ap - peal; O fold them clos - er  
 pa - tient Sa - vior, who canst love us still! And by this food, so

him that pleads a - bove, we here pre - sent, we here spread  
 us - ings of thy grace, our prayer so lan - guid, and our  
 to thy mer - cy's breast! O do thine ut - most for their  
 awe - some and so sweet, de - liv - er us from ev - ery

forth to thee, that on - ly of - fering per - fect in thine  
 faith so dim: for lo! be - tween our sins and their re -  
 soul's true weal! From taint - ing mis - chief keep them pure and  
 touch of ill: in thine own ser - vice make us glad and

eyes, the one true, pure, im - mor - tal sac - ri - fice.  
ward, we set the pas - sion of thy Son our Lord.  
clear, and crown thy gifts with strength to per - se - vere.  
free, and grant us nev - er - more to part from thee.

## The Great Thanksgiving

### SURSUM CORDA

*The People stand.*

*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.**

### PROPER PREFACE

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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 S 129 *Holy, holy, holy* - Powell

### *Celebrant and People*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. \_\_\_\_\_

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*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 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:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

## **EPICLESIS**

*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. *AMEN.*

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

# The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM S 161 *Lamb of God* - Hurd

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

## INVITATION

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## DISTRIBUTION

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

*All stand.*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

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.

## BLESSING

*The Priest blesses the people, saying*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you  
and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

## POST-COMMUNION HYMN *How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord* HYMNAL 637

*Descant*

5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,  
2 "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dis - mayed!  
3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,  
4 "When through fier - y tri - als thy path - way shall lie,  
5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

1 is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!  
2 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
3 the riv - ers of woe shall not thee o - ver - flow;  
4 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;  
5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

5 soul, to shake, no,

1 What more can he say than to you he hath said,  
 2 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
 3 for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,  
 4 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign  
 5 that soul, though all hell shall en - deav - or to shake,

5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

## DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

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**Eucharistic Minister and Reader:** Lawrence Schmidt

**Usher:** Hilton Rodriguez

**Greeter:** Serena Smith

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Monday 7:30 pm OV

Saturday 12:30 pm

### **Alcoholics Anonymous**

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### **AL-ANON**

Friday 9 am beginner

Friday 10 am OD

**Second Sunday in Lent**  
**The Holy Eucharist Rite Two**  
Penitential Order, Eucharistic Prayer A  
**Sunday, March 1, 2026**



**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca, Rector**  
**Mr. Curtis McKonly, Organist**

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# The Word of God

## Penitential Order

ENTRANCE HYMN *My faith looks up to thee*

HYMNAL 691

1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,  
3 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,

Sa - vior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my  
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my  
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day; wipe sor - row's

guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine.  
love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire.  
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People* **His mercy endures for ever.**

## DECALOGUE

*The Decalogue is said, the People kneeling.*

Hear the commandments of God to his people:  
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.  
You shall have no other gods but me.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Honor your father and your mother.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit murder.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit adultery.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not steal.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not be a false witness.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

## CONFESSION OF SIN

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister 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 Priest stands and says*

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.**

## **OPENING ANTHEM OR SONG OF PRAISE**

*The following is sung, all standing*

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One.  
**Have mercy upon us.**

## **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*Celebrant*        The Lord be with you.  
*People*            **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant*        Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **The Lessons**

### **FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the book of Genesis.

<sup>1</sup>Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4a</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

**PSALM: Psalm 121**

*Remain seated.*

<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*  
from where is my help to come?

<sup>2</sup>My help comes from the LORD, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.

<sup>3</sup>He will not let your foot be moved \*  
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup>Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \*  
shall neither slumber nor sleep;

<sup>5</sup>The LORD himself watches over you; \*  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,

<sup>6</sup>So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \*  
nor the moon by night.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; \*  
it is he who shall keep you safe.

<sup>8</sup>The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \*  
from this time forth forevermore.

**SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

*The people remain seated.*

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

<sup>1</sup>What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh?

<sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>4</sup>Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup>But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup>For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For

the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

<sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN** *Blessed Jesus, at thy word*

**HYMNAL 440**

*All stand.*

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at thy word we are gath - ered all to  
2 All our know - ledge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark - ness  
3 Gra - cious Lord, thy - self im - part! Light of Light, from God pro -

hear thee; let our hearts and souls be stirred  
shroud - ed, till thy Spi - rit breaks our night  
ceed - ing, o - pen thou our ears and heart,

now to seek and love and fear thee; by thy teach - ings  
with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed; thou a - lone to  
help us by thy Spi - rit's plead - ing. Hear the cry thy

pure and ho - ly, drawn from earth to love thee sole - ly.  
 God canst win us; thou must work all good with - in us.  
 Church up - rais - es; hear, and bless our prayers and prais - es.

## GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

*All stand.*

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

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.”

<sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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

**THE SERMON**

**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca**

**THE CREED**

*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.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*All remain standing.*

Behold, children of God, it is the Lord who watches over you. As people sent forth into the world, let us pray, saying, “Lord, bless us, *so that we may bless others.*”

Lord, preserve your Church from all evil. May we, who have been born of water and the Spirit, proclaim the kingdom of God in all the world.

*Invite the congregation to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

O God, may the leaders of the nations ever seek the truth. Open their hearts to true conversion and divine guidance.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

Maker of heaven and earth, you have blessed us with a wondrous and dynamic creation. Protect us from its rage; comfort us by its tranquility. Give us eyes to see your handiwork in the world around us.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

Lord, your eyes never close on your people. We thank you for your mindfulness of us and our community. Be our help and our safety.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

You did not send your Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world may see and experience your salvation. Bring wholeness to those who look to your Son for their help.

*Invite the congregation to add their petitions, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

O God, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist, keep the dying and the dead from this time forth and for evermore. Give eternal life to all those who trust in you.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

## **THE PEACE**

***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

### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

***The Celebrant says***

If you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. *Matthew 5:23, 24*

OFFERTORY HYMN *And now, O Father, mindful of the love* HYMNAL 337

1 And now, O Fa - ther, mind - ful of the love that  
 2 Look Fa - ther, look on his a - noint - ed face, and  
 \*3 And then for those, our dear - est and our best, by  
 \*4 And so we come; O draw us to thy feet, most

bought us, once for all, on Cal - vary's tree, and hav - ing with us  
 on - ly look on us as found in him; look not on our mis -  
 this pre - vail - ing pres - ence we ap - peal; O fold them clos - er  
 pa - tient Sa - vior, who canst love us still! And by this food, so

him that pleads a - bove, we here pre - sent, we here spread  
 us - ings of thy grace, our prayer so lan - guid, and our  
 to thy mer - cy's breast! O do thine ut - most for their  
 awe - some and so sweet, de - liv - er us from ev - ery

forth to thee, that on - ly of - fering per - fect in thine  
 faith so dim: for lo! be - tween our sins and their re -  
 soul's true weal! From taint - ing mis - chief keep them pure and  
 touch of ill: in thine own ser - vice make us glad and

eyes, the one true, pure, im - mor - tal sac - ri - fice.  
ward, we set the pas - sion of thy Son our Lord.  
clear, and crown thy gifts with strength to per - se - vere.  
free, and grant us nev - er - more to part from thee.

## The Great Thanksgiving

### SURSUM CORDA

*The People stand.*

*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.**

### PROPER PREFACE

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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 S 129 *Holy, holy, holy* - Powell

*Celebrant and People*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. \_\_\_\_\_

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*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 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:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

## **EPICLESIS**

*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. *AMEN.*

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

# The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM S 161 *Lamb of God* - Hurd

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

## INVITATION

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## DISTRIBUTION

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

*All stand.*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

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.

## BLESSING

*The Priest blesses the people, saying*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you  
and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

## POST-COMMUNION HYMN *How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord* HYMNAL 637

*Descant*

5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,  
2 "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dis - mayed!  
3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,  
4 "When through fier - y tri - als thy path - way shall lie,  
5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

1 is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!  
2 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
3 the riv - ers of woe shall not thee o - ver - flow;  
4 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;  
5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

5 soul, \_\_\_\_\_ to shake, no,

1 What more can he say than to you he hath said,  
 2 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
 3 for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,  
 4 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign  
 5 that soul, though all hell shall en - deav - or to shake,

5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

1 to you that for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?  
 2 up - held by my right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand.  
 3 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.  
 4 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.  
 5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

## DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

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**Eucharistic Minister and Reader:** Lawrence Schmidt

**Usher:** Hilton Rodriguez

**Greeter:** Serena Smith

Check the calendar on our website [www.marysstoneharbor.org](http://www.marysstoneharbor.org) for weekly happenings.

## **Recovery Meetings at St. Mary's**

### **Narcotics Anonymous**

Monday 7:30 pm OV

Saturday 12:30 pm

### **Alcoholics Anonymous**

Tuesday 8 pm OSD

Thursday 7 pm BB

### **AL-ANON**

Friday 9 am beginner

Friday 10 am OD

**Second Sunday in Lent**  
**The Holy Eucharist Rite Two**  
Penitential Order, Eucharistic Prayer A  
**Sunday, March 1, 2026**



**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca, Rector**  
**Mr. Curtis McKonly, Organist**

**St. Mary's Episcopal Church**  
9425 Third Ave., Stone Harbor, NJ 08247  
[www.stmarysstoneharbor.org](http://www.stmarysstoneharbor.org) 609-368-5922

# The Word of God

## Penitential Order

ENTRANCE HYMN *My faith looks up to thee*

HYMNAL 691

1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,  
3 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,

Sa - vior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my  
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my  
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day; wipe sor - row's

guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine.  
love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire.  
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People* **His mercy endures for ever.**

## DECALOGUE

*The Decalogue is said, the People kneeling.*

Hear the commandments of God to his people:  
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.  
You shall have no other gods but me.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Honor your father and your mother.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit murder.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit adultery.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not steal.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not be a false witness.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

## CONFESSION OF SIN

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister 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 Priest stands and says*

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.**

## **OPENING ANTHEM OR SONG OF PRAISE**

*The following is sung, all standing*

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One.  
**Have mercy upon us.**

## **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*Celebrant*        The Lord be with you.  
*People*            **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant*        Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **The Lessons**

### **FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the book of Genesis.

<sup>1</sup>Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4a</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

## **PSALM: Psalm 121**

*Remain seated.*

<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*  
from where is my help to come?

<sup>2</sup>My help comes from the LORD, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.

<sup>3</sup>He will not let your foot be moved \*  
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup>Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \*  
shall neither slumber nor sleep;

<sup>5</sup>The LORD himself watches over you; \*  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,

<sup>6</sup>So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \*  
nor the moon by night.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; \*  
it is he who shall keep you safe.

<sup>8</sup>The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \*  
from this time forth forevermore.

## **SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

*The people remain seated.*

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

<sup>1</sup>What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh?

<sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>4</sup>Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup>But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup>For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For

the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

<sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN** *Blessed Jesus, at thy word*

**HYMNAL 440**

*All stand.*

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at thy word we are gath - ered all to  
2 All our know - ledge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark - ness  
3 Gra - cious Lord, thy - self im - part! Light of Light, from God pro -

hear thee; let our hearts and souls be stirred  
shroud - ed, till thy Spi - rit breaks our night  
ceed - ing, o - pen thou our ears and heart,

now to seek and love and fear thee; by thy teach - ings  
with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed; thou a - lone to  
help us by thy Spi - rit's plead - ing. Hear the cry thy

pure and ho - ly, drawn from earth to love thee sole - ly.  
 God canst win us; thou must work all good with - in us.  
 Church up - rais - es; hear, and bless our prayers and prais - es.

## GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

*All stand.*

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

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.”

<sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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

**THE SERMON**

**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca**

**THE CREED**

*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.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*All remain standing.*

Behold, children of God, it is the Lord who watches over you. As people sent forth into the world, let us pray, saying, “Lord, bless us, *so that we may bless others.*”

Lord, preserve your Church from all evil. May we, who have been born of water and the Spirit, proclaim the kingdom of God in all the world.

*Invite the congregation to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

O God, may the leaders of the nations ever seek the truth. Open their hearts to true conversion and divine guidance.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

Maker of heaven and earth, you have blessed us with a wondrous and dynamic creation. Protect us from its rage; comfort us by its tranquility. Give us eyes to see your handiwork in the world around us.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

Lord, your eyes never close on your people. We thank you for your mindfulness of us and our community. Be our help and our safety.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

You did not send your Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world may see and experience your salvation. Bring wholeness to those who look to your Son for their help.

*Invite the congregation to add their petitions, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

O God, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist, keep the dying and the dead from this time forth and for evermore. Give eternal life to all those who trust in you.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

## **THE PEACE**

***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**

### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

***The Celebrant says***

If you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. *Matthew 5:23, 24*

OFFERTORY HYMN *And now, O Father, mindful of the love* HYMNAL 337

1 And now, O Fa - ther, mind - ful of the love that  
 2 Look Fa - ther, look on his a - noint - ed face, and  
 \*3 And then for those, our dear - est and our best, by  
 \*4 And so we come; O draw us to thy feet, most

bought us, once for all, on Cal - vary's tree, and hav - ing with us  
 on - ly look on us as found in him; look not on our mis -  
 this pre - vail - ing pres - ence we ap - peal; O fold them clos - er  
 pa - tient Sa - vior, who canst love us still! And by this food, so

him that pleads a - bove, we here pre - sent, we here spread  
 us - ings of thy grace, our prayer so lan - guid, and our  
 to thy mer - cy's breast! O do thine ut - most for their  
 awe - some and so sweet, de - liv - er us from ev - ery

forth to thee, that on - ly of - fering per - fect in thine  
 faith so dim: for lo! be - tween our sins and their re -  
 soul's true weal! From taint - ing mis - chief keep them pure and  
 touch of ill: in thine own ser - vice make us glad and

eyes, the one true, pure, im - mor - tal sac - ri - fice.  
ward, we set the pas - sion of thy Son our Lord.  
clear, and crown thy gifts with strength to per - se - vere.  
free, and grant us nev - er - more to part from thee.

## The Great Thanksgiving

### SURSUM CORDA

*The People stand.*

*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.**

### PROPER PREFACE

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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 S 129 *Holy, holy, holy* - Powell

*Celebrant and People*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*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 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:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

## **EPICLESIS**

*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. *AMEN.*

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

# The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM S 161 *Lamb of God* - Hurd

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

## INVITATION

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## DISTRIBUTION

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

*All stand.*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

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.

## BLESSING

*The Priest blesses the people, saying*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you  
and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

## POST-COMMUNION HYMN *How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord* HYMNAL 637

*Descant*

5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,  
2 "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dis - mayed!  
3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,  
4 "When through fier - y tri - als thy path - way shall lie,  
5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

1 is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!  
2 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
3 the riv - ers of woe shall not thee o - ver - flow;  
4 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;  
5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

5 soul, \_\_\_\_\_ to shake, no,

1 What more can he say than to you he hath said,  
 2 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
 3 for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,  
 4 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign  
 5 that soul, though all hell shall en - deav - or to shake,

5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

1 to you that for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?  
 2 up - held by my right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand.  
 3 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.  
 4 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.  
 5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

## DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

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**Eucharistic Minister and Reader:** Lawrence Schmidt

**Usher:** Hilton Rodriguez

**Greeter:** Serena Smith

Check the calendar on our website [www.marysstoneharbor.org](http://www.marysstoneharbor.org) for weekly happenings.

## **Recovery Meetings at St. Mary's**

### **Narcotics Anonymous**

Monday 7:30 pm OV

Saturday 12:30 pm

### **Alcoholics Anonymous**

Tuesday 8 pm OSD

Thursday 7 pm BB

### **AL-ANON**

Friday 9 am beginner

Friday 10 am OD

**Second Sunday in Lent**  
**The Holy Eucharist Rite Two**  
Penitential Order, Eucharistic Prayer A  
**Sunday, March 1, 2026**



**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca, Rector**  
**Mr. Curtis McKonly, Organist**

**St. Mary's Episcopal Church**  
9425 Third Ave., Stone Harbor, NJ 08247  
[www.stmarysstoneharbor.org](http://www.stmarysstoneharbor.org) 609-368-5922

# The Word of God

## Penitential Order

ENTRANCE HYMN *My faith looks up to thee*

HYMNAL 691

1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,  
3 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,

Sa - vior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my  
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my  
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day; wipe sor - row's

guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine.  
love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire.  
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People* **His mercy endures for ever.**

## DECALOGUE

*The Decalogue is said, the People kneeling.*

Hear the commandments of God to his people:  
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.  
You shall have no other gods but me.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Honor your father and your mother.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit murder.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit adultery.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not steal.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not be a false witness.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

## CONFESSION OF SIN

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister 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 Priest stands and says*

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.**

## **OPENING ANTHEM OR SONG OF PRAISE**

*The following is sung, all standing*

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One.  
**Have mercy upon us.**

## **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.  
*People*          **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant*      Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **The Lessons**

### **FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the book of Genesis.

<sup>1</sup>Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4a</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

## **PSALM: Psalm 121**

*Remain seated.*

<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*  
from where is my help to come?

<sup>2</sup>My help comes from the LORD, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.

<sup>3</sup>He will not let your foot be moved \*  
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup>Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \*  
shall neither slumber nor sleep;

<sup>5</sup>The LORD himself watches over you; \*  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,

<sup>6</sup>So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \*  
nor the moon by night.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; \*  
it is he who shall keep you safe.

<sup>8</sup>The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \*  
from this time forth forevermore.

## **SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

*The people remain seated.*

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

<sup>1</sup>What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh?

<sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>4</sup>Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup>But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup>For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For

the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

<sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN** *Blessed Jesus, at thy word*

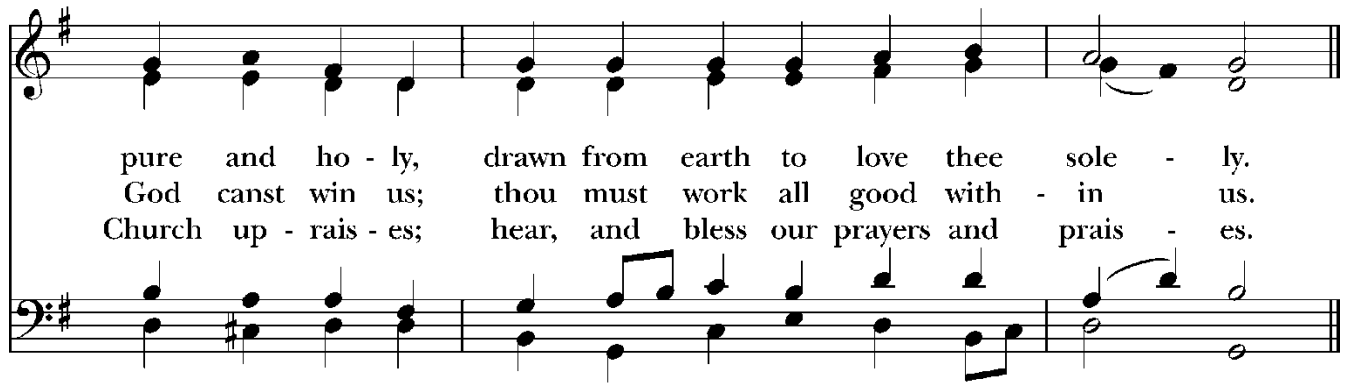
**HYMNAL 440**

*All stand.*

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at thy word we are gath - ered all to  
2 All our know - ledge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark - ness  
3 Gra - cious Lord, thy - self im - part! Light of Light, from God pro -

hear thee; let our hearts and souls be stirred  
shroud - ed, till thy Spi - rit breaks our night  
ceed - ing, o - pen thou our ears and heart,

now to seek and love and fear thee; by thy teach - ings  
with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed; thou a - lone to  
help us by thy Spi - rit's plead - ing. Hear the cry thy



## GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

*All stand.*

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

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.”

<sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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

**THE SERMON**

**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca**

**THE CREED**

*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.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*All remain standing.*

Behold, children of God, it is the Lord who watches over you. As people sent forth into the world, let us pray, saying, “Lord, bless us, *so that we may bless others.*”

Lord, preserve your Church from all evil. May we, who have been born of water and the Spirit, proclaim the kingdom of God in all the world.

*Invite the congregation to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,

*So that we may bless others.*

O God, may the leaders of the nations ever seek the truth. Open their hearts to true conversion and divine guidance.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

*So that we may bless others.*

Maker of heaven and earth, you have blessed us with a wondrous and dynamic creation. Protect us from its rage; comfort us by its tranquility. Give us eyes to see your handiwork in the world around us.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

*So that we may bless others.*

Lord, your eyes never close on your people. We thank you for your mindfulness of us and our community. Be our help and our safety.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

*So that we may bless others.*

You did not send your Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world may see and experience your salvation. Bring wholeness to those who look to your Son for their help.

*Invite the congregation to add their petitions, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

O God, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist, keep the dying and the dead from this time forth and for evermore. Give eternal life to all those who trust in you.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

## **THE PEACE**

***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

### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

***The Celebrant says***

If you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. *Matthew 5:23, 24*

OFFERTORY HYMN *And now, O Father, mindful of the love* HYMNAL 337

1 And now, O Fa - ther, mind - ful of the love that  
 2 Look Fa - ther, look on his a - noint - ed face, and  
 \*3 And then for those, our dear - est and our best, by  
 \*4 And so we come; O draw us to thy feet, most

bought us, once for all, on Cal - vary's tree, and hav - ing with us  
 on - ly look on us as found in him; look not on our mis -  
 this pre - vail - ing pres - ence we ap - peal; O fold them clos - er  
 pa - tient Sa - vior, who canst love us still! And by this food, so

him that pleads a - bove, we here pre - sent, we here spread  
 us - ings of thy grace, our prayer so lan - guid, and our  
 to thy mer - cy's breast! O do thine ut - most for their  
 awe - some and so sweet, de - liv - er us from ev - ery

forth to thee, that on - ly of - fering per - fect in thine  
 faith so dim: for lo! be - tween our sins and their re -  
 soul's true weal! From taint - ing mis - chief keep them pure and  
 touch of ill: in thine own ser - vice make us glad and

eyes, the one true, pure, im - mor - tal sac - ri - fice.  
ward, we set the pas - sion of thy Son our Lord.  
clear, and crown thy gifts with strength to per - se - vere.  
free, and grant us nev - er - more to part from thee.

## The Great Thanksgiving

### SURSUM CORDA

*The People stand.*

*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.**

### PROPER PREFACE

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

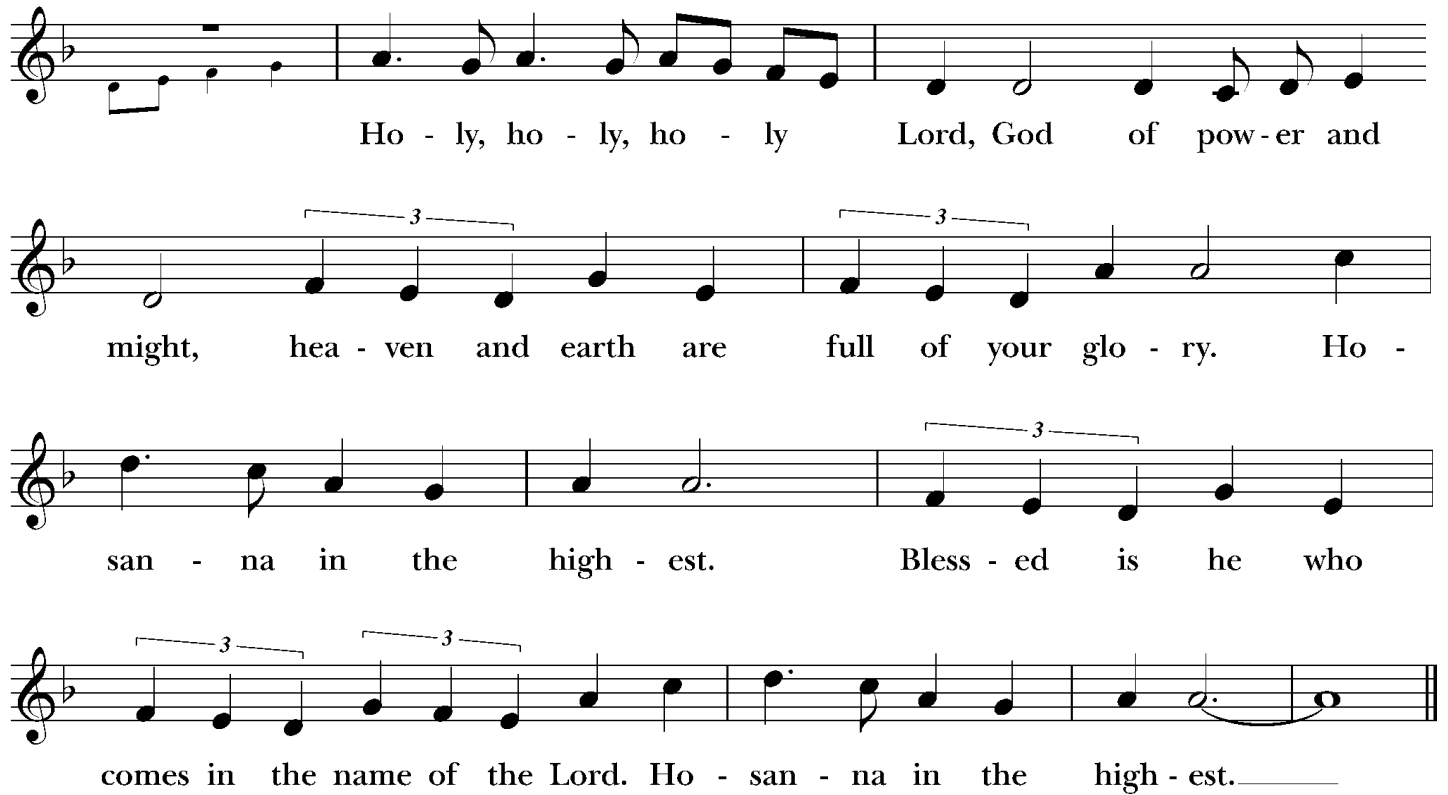
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

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 S 129 *Holy, holy, holy* - Powell

*Celebrant and People*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. \_\_\_\_\_

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*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 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:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

## **EPICLESIS**

*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. *AMEN.*

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

# The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM S 161 *Lamb of God* - Hurd

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

## INVITATION

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## DISTRIBUTION

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

*All stand.*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

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.

## BLESSING

*The Priest blesses the people, saying*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you  
and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

## POST-COMMUNION HYMN *How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord* HYMNAL 637

*Descant*

5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,  
2 "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dis - mayed!  
3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,  
4 "When through fier - y tri - als thy path - way shall lie,  
5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

1 is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!  
2 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
3 the riv - ers of woe shall not thee o - ver - flow;  
4 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;  
5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

5 soul, \_\_\_\_\_ to shake, no,

1 What more can he say than to you he hath said,  
 2 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
 3 for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,  
 4 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign  
 5 that soul, though all hell shall en - deav - or to shake,

5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

1 to you that for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?  
 2 up - held by my right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand.  
 3 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.  
 4 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.  
 5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

## DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

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**Eucharistic Minister and Reader:** Lawrence Schmidt

**Usher:** Hilton Rodriguez

**Greeter:** Serena Smith

Check the calendar on our website [www.marysstoneharbor.org](http://www.marysstoneharbor.org) for weekly happenings.

## **Recovery Meetings at St. Mary's**

### **Narcotics Anonymous**

Monday 7:30 pm OV

Saturday 12:30 pm

### **Alcoholics Anonymous**

Tuesday 8 pm OSD

Thursday 7 pm BB

### **AL-ANON**

Friday 9 am beginner

Friday 10 am OD

**Second Sunday in Lent**  
**The Holy Eucharist Rite Two**  
Penitential Order, Eucharistic Prayer A  
**Sunday, March 1, 2026**



**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca, Rector**  
**Mr. Curtis McKonly, Organist**

**St. Mary's Episcopal Church**  
9425 Third Ave., Stone Harbor, NJ 08247  
[www.stmarysstoneharbor.org](http://www.stmarysstoneharbor.org) 609-368-5922

# The Word of God

## Penitential Order

ENTRANCE HYMN *My faith looks up to thee*

HYMNAL 691

1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,  
3 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,

Sa - vior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my  
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my  
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day; wipe sor - row's

guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine.  
love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire.  
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People* **His mercy endures for ever.**

## DECALOGUE

*The Decalogue is said, the People kneeling.*

Hear the commandments of God to his people:  
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.  
You shall have no other gods but me.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Honor your father and your mother.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit murder.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit adultery.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not steal.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not be a false witness.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

## CONFESSION OF SIN

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister 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 Priest stands and says*

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.**

## **OPENING ANTHEM OR SONG OF PRAISE**

*The following is sung, all standing*

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One.  
**Have mercy upon us.**

## **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.  
*People*          **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant*      Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **The Lessons**

### **FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the book of Genesis.

<sup>1</sup>Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4a</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

**PSALM: Psalm 121**

*Remain seated.*

<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*  
from where is my help to come?

<sup>2</sup>My help comes from the LORD, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.

<sup>3</sup>He will not let your foot be moved \*  
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup>Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \*  
shall neither slumber nor sleep;

<sup>5</sup>The LORD himself watches over you; \*  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,

<sup>6</sup>So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \*  
nor the moon by night.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; \*  
it is he who shall keep you safe.

<sup>8</sup>The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \*  
from this time forth forevermore.

**SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

*The people remain seated.*

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

<sup>1</sup>What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh?

<sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>4</sup>Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup>But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup>For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For

the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

<sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN** *Blessed Jesus, at thy word*

**HYMNAL 440**

*All stand.*

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at thy word we are gath - ered all to  
2 All our know - ledge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark - ness  
3 Gra - cious Lord, thy - self im - part! Light of Light, from God pro -

hear thee; let our hearts and souls be stirred  
shroud - ed, till thy Spi - rit breaks our night  
ceed - ing, o - pen thou our ears and heart,

now to seek and love and fear thee; by thy teach - ings  
with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed; thou a - lone to  
help us by thy Spi - rit's plead - ing. Hear the cry thy

pure and ho - ly, drawn from earth to love thee sole - ly.  
 God canst win us; thou must work all good with - in us.  
 Church up - rais - es; hear, and bless our prayers and prais - es.

**GOSPEL: John 3:1-17**

*All stand.*

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

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.”

<sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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

**THE SERMON**

**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca**

**THE CREED**

*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.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*All remain standing.*

Behold, children of God, it is the Lord who watches over you. As people sent forth into the world, let us pray, saying, “Lord, bless us, *so that we may bless others.*”

Lord, preserve your Church from all evil. May we, who have been born of water and the Spirit, proclaim the kingdom of God in all the world.

*Invite the congregation to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

O God, may the leaders of the nations ever seek the truth. Open their hearts to true conversion and divine guidance.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

Maker of heaven and earth, you have blessed us with a wondrous and dynamic creation. Protect us from its rage; comfort us by its tranquility. Give us eyes to see your handiwork in the world around us.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

Lord, your eyes never close on your people. We thank you for your mindfulness of us and our community. Be our help and our safety.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

You did not send your Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world may see and experience your salvation. Bring wholeness to those who look to your Son for their help.

*Invite the congregation to add their petitions, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

O God, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist, keep the dying and the dead from this time forth and for evermore. Give eternal life to all those who trust in you.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

## **THE PEACE**

***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

### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

***The Celebrant says***

If you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. *Matthew 5:23, 24*

OFFERTORY HYMN *And now, O Father, mindful of the love* HYMNAL 337

1 And now, O Fa - ther, mind - ful of the love that  
 2 Look Fa - ther, look on his a - noint - ed face, and  
 \*3 And then for those, our dear - est and our best, by  
 \*4 And so we come; O draw us to thy feet, most

bought us, once for all, on Cal - vary's tree, and hav - ing with us  
 on - ly look on us as found in him; look not on our mis -  
 this pre - vail - ing pres - ence we ap - peal; O fold them clos - er  
 pa - tient Sa - vior, who canst love us still! And by this food, so

him that pleads a - bove, we here pre - sent, we here spread  
 us - ings of thy grace, our prayer so lan - guid, and our  
 to thy mer - cy's breast! O do thine ut - most for their  
 awe - some and so sweet, de - liv - er us from ev - ery

forth to thee, that on - ly of - fering per - fect in thine  
 faith so dim: for lo! be - tween our sins and their re -  
 soul's true weal! From taint - ing mis - chief keep them pure and  
 touch of ill: in thine own ser - vice make us glad and

eyes, the one true, pure, im - mor - tal sac - ri - fice.  
ward, we set the pas - sion of thy Son our Lord.  
clear, and crown thy gifts with strength to per - se - vere.  
free, and grant us nev - er - more to part from thee.

## The Great Thanksgiving

### SURSUM CORDA

*The People stand.*

*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.**

### PROPER PREFACE

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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 S 129 *Holy, holy, holy* - Powell

*Celebrant and People*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*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 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:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

## **EPICLESIS**

*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. *AMEN.*

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

# The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM S 161 *Lamb of God* - Hurd

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

## INVITATION

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## DISTRIBUTION

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

*All stand.*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

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.

## BLESSING

*The Priest blesses the people, saying*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you  
and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

## POST-COMMUNION HYMN *How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord* HYMNAL 637

*Descant*

5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,  
2 "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dis - mayed!  
3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,  
4 "When through fier - y tri - als thy path - way shall lie,  
5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

1 is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!  
2 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
3 the riv - ers of woe shall not thee o - ver - flow;  
4 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;  
5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

5 soul, \_\_\_\_\_ to shake, no,

1 What more can he say than to you he hath said,  
 2 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
 3 for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,  
 4 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign  
 5 that soul, though all hell shall en - deav - or to shake,

5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

1 to you that for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?  
 2 up - held by my right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand.  
 3 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.  
 4 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.  
 5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

## DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

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**Eucharistic Minister and Reader:** Lawrence Schmidt

**Usher:** Hilton Rodriguez

**Greeter:** Serena Smith

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**The Holy Eucharist Rite Two**  
Penitential Order, Eucharistic Prayer A  
**Sunday, March 1, 2026**



**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca, Rector**  
**Mr. Curtis McKonly, Organist**

**St. Mary's Episcopal Church**  
9425 Third Ave., Stone Harbor, NJ 08247  
[www.stmarysstoneharbor.org](http://www.stmarysstoneharbor.org) 609-368-5922

# The Word of God

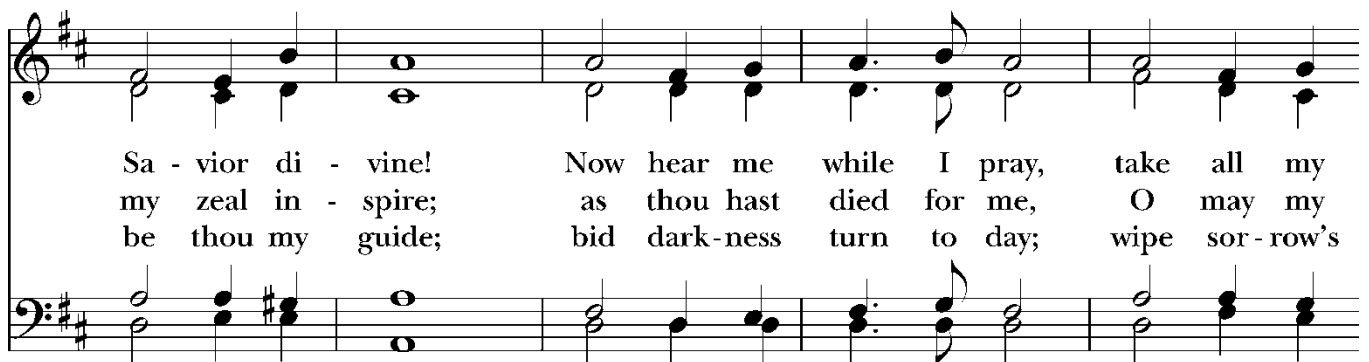
## Penitential Order

ENTRANCE HYMN *My faith looks up to thee*

HYMNAL 691



1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,  
3 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,



Sa - vior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my  
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my  
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day; wipe sor - row's



guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine.  
love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire.  
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People* **His mercy endures for ever.**

## DECALOGUE

*The Decalogue is said, the People kneeling.*

Hear the commandments of God to his people:  
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.  
You shall have no other gods but me.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Honor your father and your mother.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit murder.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit adultery.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not steal.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not be a false witness.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

## CONFESSION OF SIN

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister 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 Priest stands and says*

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.**

## **OPENING ANTHEM OR SONG OF PRAISE**

*The following is sung, all standing*

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One.  
**Have mercy upon us.**

## **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*Celebrant*        The Lord be with you.  
*People*            **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant*        Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **The Lessons**

### **FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the book of Genesis.

<sup>1</sup>Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4a</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

## **PSALM: Psalm 121**

*Remain seated.*

<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*  
from where is my help to come?

<sup>2</sup>My help comes from the LORD, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.

<sup>3</sup>He will not let your foot be moved \*  
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup>Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \*  
shall neither slumber nor sleep;

<sup>5</sup>The LORD himself watches over you; \*  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,

<sup>6</sup>So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \*  
nor the moon by night.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; \*  
it is he who shall keep you safe.

<sup>8</sup>The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \*  
from this time forth forevermore.

## **SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

*The people remain seated.*

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

<sup>1</sup>What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh?

<sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>4</sup>Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup>But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup>For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For

the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

<sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN** *Blessed Jesus, at thy word*

**HYMNAL 440**

*All stand.*

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at thy word we are gath - ered all to  
2 All our know - ledge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark - ness  
3 Gra - cious Lord, thy - self im - part! Light of Light, from God pro -

hear thee; let our hearts and souls be stirred  
shroud - ed, till thy Spi - rit breaks our night  
ceed - ing, o - pen thou our ears and heart,

now to seek and love and fear thee; by thy teach - ings  
with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed; thou a - lone to  
help us by thy Spi - rit's plead - ing. Hear the cry thy

pure and ho - ly, drawn from earth to love thee sole - ly.  
 God canst win us; thou must work all good with - in us.  
 Church up - rais - es; hear, and bless our prayers and prais - es.

## GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

*All stand.*

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

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.”

<sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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

**THE SERMON**

**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca**

**THE CREED**

*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.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*All remain standing.*

Behold, children of God, it is the Lord who watches over you. As people sent forth into the world, let us pray, saying, “Lord, bless us, *so that we may bless others.*”

Lord, preserve your Church from all evil. May we, who have been born of water and the Spirit, proclaim the kingdom of God in all the world.

*Invite the congregation to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,

*So that we may bless others.*

O God, may the leaders of the nations ever seek the truth. Open their hearts to true conversion and divine guidance.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

*So that we may bless others.*

Maker of heaven and earth, you have blessed us with a wondrous and dynamic creation. Protect us from its rage; comfort us by its tranquility. Give us eyes to see your handiwork in the world around us.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

*So that we may bless others.*

Lord, your eyes never close on your people. We thank you for your mindfulness of us and our community. Be our help and our safety.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

*So that we may bless others.*

You did not send your Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world may see and experience your salvation. Bring wholeness to those who look to your Son for their help.

*Invite the congregation to add their petitions, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

O God, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist, keep the dying and the dead from this time forth and for evermore. Give eternal life to all those who trust in you.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

## **THE PEACE**

*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

### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

*The Celebrant says*

If you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. *Matthew 5:23, 24*

OFFERTORY HYMN *And now, O Father, mindful of the love* HYMNAL 337

1 And now, O Fa - ther, mind - ful of the love that  
 2 Look Fa - ther, look on his a - noint - ed face, and  
 \*3 And then for those, our dear - est and our best, by  
 \*4 And so we come; O draw us to thy feet, most

bought us, once for all, on Cal - vary's tree, and hav - ing with us  
 on - ly look on us as found in him; look not on our mis -  
 this pre - vail - ing pres - ence we ap - peal; O fold them clos - er  
 pa - tient Sa - vior, who canst love us still! And by this food, so

him that pleads a - bove, we here pre - sent, we here spread  
 us - ings of thy grace, our prayer so lan - guid, and our  
 to thy mer - cy's breast! O do thine ut - most for their  
 awe - some and so sweet, de - liv - er us from ev - ery

forth to thee, that on - ly of - fering per - fect in thine  
 faith so dim: for lo! be - tween our sins and their re -  
 soul's true weal! From taint - ing mis - chief keep them pure and  
 touch of ill: in thine own ser - vice make us glad and

eyes, the one true, pure, im - mor - tal sac - ri - fice.  
ward, we set the pas - sion of thy Son our Lord.  
clear, and crown thy gifts with strength to per - se - vere.  
free, and grant us nev - er - more to part from thee.

## The Great Thanksgiving

### SURSUM CORDA

*The People stand.*

*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.**

### PROPER PREFACE

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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 S 129 *Holy, holy, holy* - Powell

*Celebrant and People*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*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 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:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

## **EPICLESIS**

*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. *AMEN.*

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

# The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM S 161 *Lamb of God* - Hurd

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

## INVITATION

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## DISTRIBUTION

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

*All stand.*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

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.

## BLESSING

*The Priest blesses the people, saying*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you  
and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

## POST-COMMUNION HYMN *How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord* HYMNAL 637

*Descant*

5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,  
2 "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dis - mayed!  
3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,  
4 "When through fier - y tri - als thy path - way shall lie,  
5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

1 is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!  
2 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
3 the riv - ers of woe shall not thee o - ver - flow;  
4 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;  
5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

5 soul, \_\_\_\_\_ to shake, no,

1 What more can he say than to you he hath said,  
 2 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
 3 for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,  
 4 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign  
 5 that soul, though all hell shall en - deav - or to shake,

5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

1 to you that for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?  
 2 up - held by my right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand.  
 3 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.  
 4 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.  
 5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

## DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

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**Eucharistic Minister and Reader:** Lawrence Schmidt

**Usher:** Hilton Rodriguez

**Greeter:** Serena Smith

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### **Narcotics Anonymous**

Monday 7:30 pm OV

Saturday 12:30 pm

### **Alcoholics Anonymous**

Tuesday 8 pm OSD

Thursday 7 pm BB

### **AL-ANON**

Friday 9 am beginner

Friday 10 am OD

**Second Sunday in Lent**  
**The Holy Eucharist Rite Two**  
Penitential Order, Eucharistic Prayer A  
**Sunday, March 1, 2026**



**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca, Rector**  
**Mr. Curtis McKonly, Organist**

**St. Mary's Episcopal Church**  
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# The Word of God

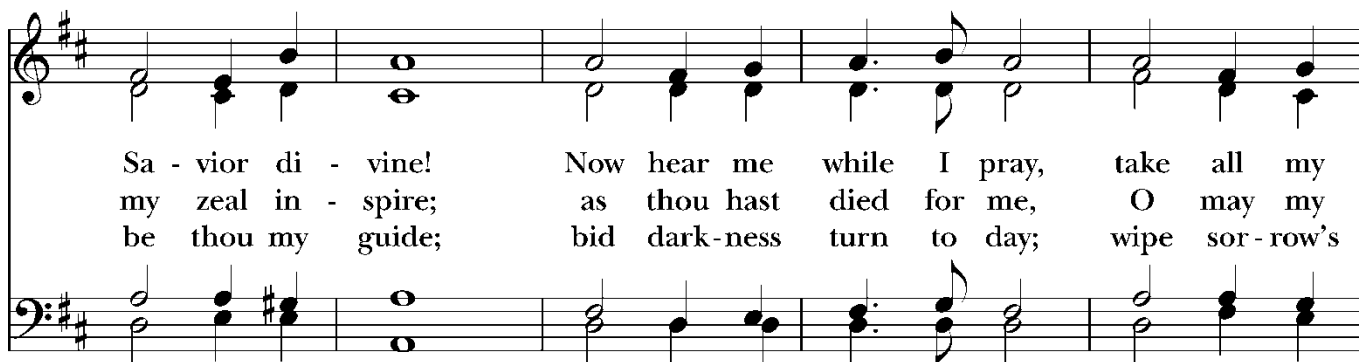
## Penitential Order

ENTRANCE HYMN *My faith looks up to thee*

HYMNAL 691



1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,  
3 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,



Sa - vior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my  
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my  
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day; wipe sor - row's



guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine.  
love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire.  
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People* **His mercy endures for ever.**

## DECALOGUE

*The Decalogue is said, the People kneeling.*

Hear the commandments of God to his people:  
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.  
You shall have no other gods but me.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Honor your father and your mother.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit murder.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit adultery.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not steal.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not be a false witness.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

## CONFESSION OF SIN

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister 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 Priest stands and says*

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.**

## **OPENING ANTHEM OR SONG OF PRAISE**

*The following is sung, all standing*

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One.  
**Have mercy upon us.**

## **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*Celebrant*        The Lord be with you.  
*People*            **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant*        Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **The Lessons**

### **FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the book of Genesis.

<sup>1</sup>Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4a</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

**PSALM: Psalm 121**

*Remain seated.*

<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*  
from where is my help to come?

<sup>2</sup>My help comes from the LORD, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.

<sup>3</sup>He will not let your foot be moved \*  
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup>Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \*  
shall neither slumber nor sleep;

<sup>5</sup>The LORD himself watches over you; \*  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,

<sup>6</sup>So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \*  
nor the moon by night.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; \*  
it is he who shall keep you safe.

<sup>8</sup>The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \*  
from this time forth forevermore.

**SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

*The people remain seated.*

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

<sup>1</sup>What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh?

<sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>4</sup>Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup>But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup>For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For

the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

<sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN** *Blessed Jesus, at thy word*

**HYMNAL 440**

*All stand.*

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at thy word we are gath - ered all to  
2 All our know - ledge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark - ness  
3 Gra - cious Lord, thy - self im - part! Light of Light, from God pro -

hear thee; let our hearts and souls be stirred  
shroud - ed, till thy Spi - rit breaks our night  
ceed - ing, o - pen thou our ears and heart,

now to seek and love and fear thee; by thy teach - ings  
with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed; thou a - lone to  
help us by thy Spi - rit's plead - ing. Hear the cry thy

pure and ho - ly, drawn from earth to love thee sole - ly.  
 God canst win us; thou must work all good with - in us.  
 Church up - rais - es; hear, and bless our prayers and prais - es.

## GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

*All stand.*

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

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.”

<sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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

**THE SERMON**

**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca**

**THE CREED**

*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.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*All remain standing.*

Behold, children of God, it is the Lord who watches over you. As people sent forth into the world, let us pray, saying, “Lord, bless us, *so that we may bless others.*”

Lord, preserve your Church from all evil. May we, who have been born of water and the Spirit, proclaim the kingdom of God in all the world.

*Invite the congregation to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,

*So that we may bless others.*

O God, may the leaders of the nations ever seek the truth. Open their hearts to true conversion and divine guidance.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

*So that we may bless others.*

Maker of heaven and earth, you have blessed us with a wondrous and dynamic creation. Protect us from its rage; comfort us by its tranquility. Give us eyes to see your handiwork in the world around us.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

*So that we may bless others.*

Lord, your eyes never close on your people. We thank you for your mindfulness of us and our community. Be our help and our safety.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

*So that we may bless others.*

You did not send your Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world may see and experience your salvation. Bring wholeness to those who look to your Son for their help.

*Invite the congregation to add their petitions, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

O God, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist, keep the dying and the dead from this time forth and for evermore. Give eternal life to all those who trust in you.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

## **THE PEACE**

*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

### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

*The Celebrant says*

If you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. *Matthew 5:23, 24*

OFFERTORY HYMN *And now, O Father, mindful of the love* HYMNAL 337

1 And now, O Fa - ther, mind - ful of the love that  
 2 Look Fa - ther, look on his a - noint - ed face, and  
 \*3 And then for those, our dear - est and our best, by  
 \*4 And so we come; O draw us to thy feet, most

bought us, once for all, on Cal - vary's tree, and hav - ing with us  
 on - ly look on us as found in him; look not on our mis -  
 this pre - vail - ing pres - ence we ap - peal; O fold them clos - er  
 pa - tient Sa - vior, who canst love us still! And by this food, so

him that pleads a - bove, we here pre - sent, we here spread  
 us - ings of thy grace, our prayer so lan - guid, and our  
 to thy mer - cy's breast! O do thine ut - most for their  
 awe - some and so sweet, de - liv - er us from ev - ery

forth to thee, that on - ly of - fering per - fect in thine  
 faith so dim: for lo! be - tween our sins and their re -  
 soul's true weal! From taint - ing mis - chief keep them pure and  
 touch of ill: in thine own ser - vice make us glad and

eyes, the one true, pure, im - mor - tal sac - ri - fice.  
ward, we set the pas - sion of thy Son our Lord.  
clear, and crown thy gifts with strength to per - se - vere.  
free, and grant us nev - er - more to part from thee.

## The Great Thanksgiving

### SURSUM CORDA

*The People stand.*

*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.**

### PROPER PREFACE

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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 S 129 *Holy, holy, holy* - Powell

*Celebrant and People*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. \_\_\_\_\_

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*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 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:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

## **EPICLESIS**

*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. *AMEN.*

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

# The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM S 161 *Lamb of God* - Hurd

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

## INVITATION

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## DISTRIBUTION

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

*All stand.*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

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.

## BLESSING

*The Priest blesses the people, saying*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you  
and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

## POST-COMMUNION HYMN *How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord* HYMNAL 637

*Descant*

5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,  
2 "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dis - mayed!  
3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,  
4 "When through fier - y tri - als thy path - way shall lie,  
5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

1 is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!  
2 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
3 the riv - ers of woe shall not thee o - ver - flow;  
4 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;  
5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

5 soul, \_\_\_\_\_ to shake, no,

1 What more can he say than to you he hath said,  
 2 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
 3 for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,  
 4 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign  
 5 that soul, though all hell shall en - deav - or to shake,

5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

1 to you that for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?  
 2 up - held by my right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand.  
 3 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.  
 4 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.  
 5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

**DISMISSAL**

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People*

**Thanks be to God.**

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**Eucharistic Minister and Reader:** Lawrence Schmidt

**Usher:** Hilton Rodriguez

**Greeter:** Serena Smith

Check the calendar on our website [www.marysstoneharbor.org](http://www.marysstoneharbor.org) for weekly happenings.

## **Recovery Meetings at St. Mary's**

### **Narcotics Anonymous**

Monday 7:30 pm OV

Saturday 12:30 pm

### **Alcoholics Anonymous**

Tuesday 8 pm OSD

Thursday 7 pm BB

### **AL-ANON**

Friday 9 am beginner

Friday 10 am OD

**Second Sunday in Lent**  
**The Holy Eucharist Rite Two**  
Penitential Order, Eucharistic Prayer A  
**Sunday, March 1, 2026**



**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca, Rector**  
**Mr. Curtis McKonly, Organist**

**St. Mary's Episcopal Church**  
9425 Third Ave., Stone Harbor, NJ 08247  
[www.stmarysstoneharbor.org](http://www.stmarysstoneharbor.org) 609-368-5922

# The Word of God

## Penitential Order

ENTRANCE HYMN *My faith looks up to thee*

HYMNAL 691

1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,  
3 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,

Sa - vior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my  
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my  
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day; wipe sor - row's

guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine.  
love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire.  
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People* **His mercy endures for ever.**

## DECALOGUE

*The Decalogue is said, the People kneeling.*

Hear the commandments of God to his people:  
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.  
You shall have no other gods but me.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Honor your father and your mother.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit murder.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit adultery.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not steal.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not be a false witness.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

## CONFESSION OF SIN

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister 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 Priest stands and says*

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.**

## **OPENING ANTHEM OR SONG OF PRAISE**

*The following is sung, all standing*

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One.  
**Have mercy upon us.**

## **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.  
*People*          **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant*      Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **The Lessons**

### **FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the book of Genesis.

<sup>1</sup>Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4a</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

## **PSALM: Psalm 121**

*Remain seated.*

<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*  
from where is my help to come?

<sup>2</sup>My help comes from the LORD, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.

<sup>3</sup>He will not let your foot be moved \*  
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup>Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \*  
shall neither slumber nor sleep;

<sup>5</sup>The LORD himself watches over you; \*  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,

<sup>6</sup>So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \*  
nor the moon by night.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; \*  
it is he who shall keep you safe.

<sup>8</sup>The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \*  
from this time forth forevermore.

## **SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

*The people remain seated.*

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

<sup>1</sup>What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh?

<sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>4</sup>Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup>But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup>For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For

the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

<sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN** *Blessed Jesus, at thy word*

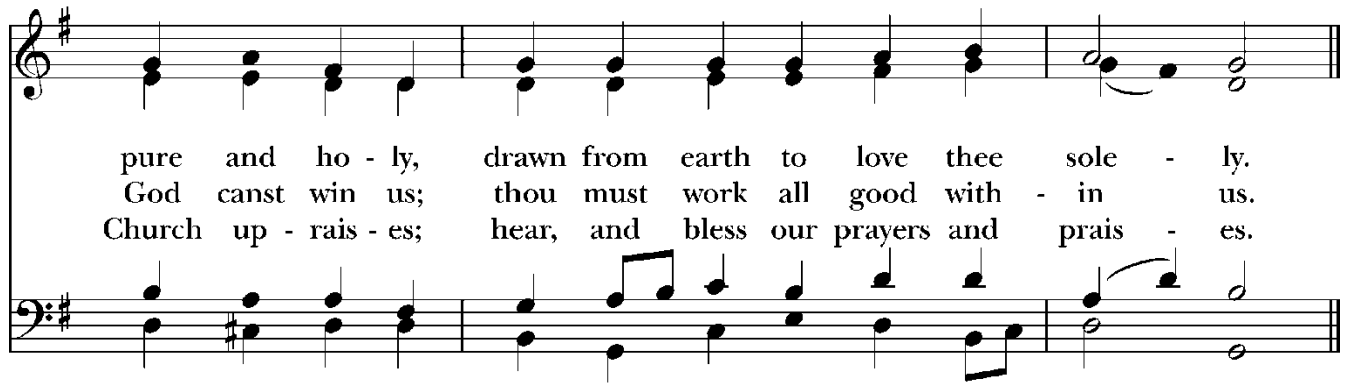
**HYMNAL 440**

*All stand.*

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at thy word we are gath - ered all to  
2 All our know - ledge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark - ness  
3 Gra - cious Lord, thy - self im - part! Light of Light, from God pro -

hear thee; let our hearts and souls be stirred  
shroud - ed, till thy Spi - rit breaks our night  
ceed - ing, o - pen thou our ears and heart,

now to seek and love and fear thee; by thy teach - ings  
with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed; thou a - lone to  
help us by thy Spi - rit's plead - ing. Hear the cry thy



## GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

*All stand.*

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

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.”

<sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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

**THE SERMON**

**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca**

**THE CREED**

*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.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*All remain standing.*

Behold, children of God, it is the Lord who watches over you. As people sent forth into the world, let us pray, saying, “Lord, bless us, *so that we may bless others.*”

Lord, preserve your Church from all evil. May we, who have been born of water and the Spirit, proclaim the kingdom of God in all the world.

*Invite the congregation to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

O God, may the leaders of the nations ever seek the truth. Open their hearts to true conversion and divine guidance.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

Maker of heaven and earth, you have blessed us with a wondrous and dynamic creation. Protect us from its rage; comfort us by its tranquility. Give us eyes to see your handiwork in the world around us.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

Lord, your eyes never close on your people. We thank you for your mindfulness of us and our community. Be our help and our safety.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

You did not send your Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world may see and experience your salvation. Bring wholeness to those who look to your Son for their help.

*Invite the congregation to add their petitions, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

O God, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist, keep the dying and the dead from this time forth and for evermore. Give eternal life to all those who trust in you.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

## **THE PEACE**

*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

### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

*The Celebrant says*

If you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. *Matthew 5:23, 24*

OFFERTORY HYMN *And now, O Father, mindful of the love* HYMNAL 337

1 And now, O Fa - ther, mind - ful of the love that  
 2 Look Fa - ther, look on his a - noint - ed face, and  
 \*3 And then for those, our dear - est and our best, by  
 \*4 And so we come; O draw us to thy feet, most

bought us, once for all, on Cal - vary's tree, and hav - ing with us  
 on - ly look on us as found in him; look not on our mis -  
 this pre - vail - ing pres - ence we ap - peal; O fold them clos - er  
 pa - tient Sa - vior, who canst love us still! And by this food, so

him that pleads a - bove, we here pre - sent, we here spread  
 us - ings of thy grace, our prayer so lan - guid, and our  
 to thy mer - cy's breast! O do thine ut - most for their  
 awe - some and so sweet, de - liv - er us from ev - ery

forth to thee, that on - ly of - fering per - fect in thine  
 faith so dim: for lo! be - tween our sins and their re -  
 soul's true weal! From taint - ing mis - chief keep them pure and  
 touch of ill: in thine own ser - vice make us glad and

eyes, the one true, pure, im - mor - tal sac - ri - fice.  
ward, we set the pas - sion of thy Son our Lord.  
clear, and crown thy gifts with strength to per - se - vere.  
free, and grant us nev - er - more to part from thee.

## The Great Thanksgiving

### SURSUM CORDA

*The People stand.*

*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.**

### PROPER PREFACE

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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 S 129 *Holy, holy, holy* - Powell

*Celebrant and People*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. \_\_\_\_\_

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*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 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:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

## **EPICLESIS**

*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. *AMEN.*

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

# The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM S 161 *Lamb of God* - Hurd

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

## INVITATION

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## DISTRIBUTION

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

*All stand.*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

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.

## BLESSING

*The Priest blesses the people, saying*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you  
and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

## POST-COMMUNION HYMN *How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord* HYMNAL 637

*Descant*

5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,  
2 "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dis - mayed!  
3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,  
4 "When through fier - y tri - als thy path - way shall lie,  
5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

1 is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!  
2 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
3 the riv - ers of woe shall not thee o - ver - flow;  
4 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;  
5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

5 soul, \_\_\_\_\_ to shake, no,

1 What more can he say than to you he hath said,  
 2 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
 3 for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,  
 4 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign  
 5 that soul, though all hell shall en - deav - or to shake,

5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

1 to you that for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?  
 2 up - held by my right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand.  
 3 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.  
 4 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.  
 5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

**DISMISSAL**

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People*

**Thanks be to God.**

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**Eucharistic Minister and Reader:** Lawrence Schmidt

**Usher:** Hilton Rodriguez

**Greeter:** Serena Smith

Check the calendar on our website [www.marysstoneharbor.org](http://www.marysstoneharbor.org) for weekly happenings.

## **Recovery Meetings at St. Mary's**

### **Narcotics Anonymous**

Monday 7:30 pm OV

Saturday 12:30 pm

### **Alcoholics Anonymous**

Tuesday 8 pm OSD

Thursday 7 pm BB

### **AL-ANON**

Friday 9 am beginner

Friday 10 am OD

**Second Sunday in Lent**  
**The Holy Eucharist Rite Two**  
Penitential Order, Eucharistic Prayer A  
**Sunday, March 1, 2026**



**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca, Rector**  
**Mr. Curtis McKonly, Organist**

**St. Mary's Episcopal Church**  
9425 Third Ave., Stone Harbor, NJ 08247  
[www.stmarysstoneharbor.org](http://www.stmarysstoneharbor.org) 609-368-5922

# The Word of God

## Penitential Order

ENTRANCE HYMN *My faith looks up to thee*

HYMNAL 691



1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,  
3 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,



Sa - vior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my  
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my  
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day; wipe sor - row's



guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine.  
love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire.  
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People* **His mercy endures for ever.**

## DECALOGUE

*The Decalogue is said, the People kneeling.*

Hear the commandments of God to his people:  
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.  
You shall have no other gods but me.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Honor your father and your mother.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit murder.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit adultery.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not steal.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not be a false witness.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

## CONFESSION OF SIN

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister 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 Priest stands and says*

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.**

## **OPENING ANTHEM OR SONG OF PRAISE**

*The following is sung, all standing*

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One.  
**Have mercy upon us.**

## **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*Celebrant*        The Lord be with you.  
*People*            **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant*        Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **The Lessons**

### **FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the book of Genesis.

<sup>1</sup>Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4a</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

**PSALM: Psalm 121**

*Remain seated.*

<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*  
from where is my help to come?

<sup>2</sup>My help comes from the LORD, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.

<sup>3</sup>He will not let your foot be moved \*  
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup>Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \*  
shall neither slumber nor sleep;

<sup>5</sup>The LORD himself watches over you; \*  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,

<sup>6</sup>So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \*  
nor the moon by night.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; \*  
it is he who shall keep you safe.

<sup>8</sup>The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \*  
from this time forth forevermore.

**SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

*The people remain seated.*

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

<sup>1</sup>What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh?

<sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>4</sup>Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup>But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup>For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For

the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

<sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN** *Blessed Jesus, at thy word*

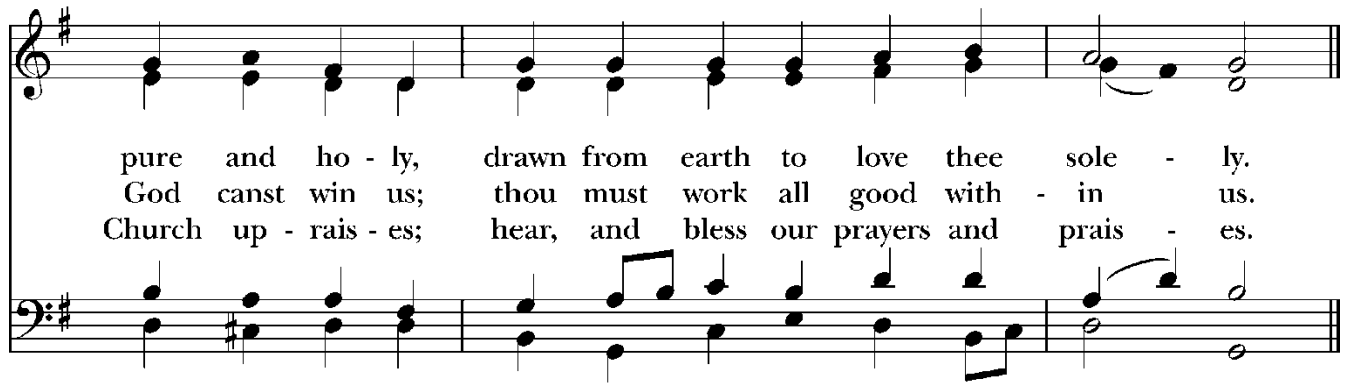
**HYMNAL 440**

*All stand.*

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at thy word we are gath - ered all to  
2 All our know - ledge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark - ness  
3 Gra - cious Lord, thy - self im - part! Light of Light, from God pro -

hear thee; let our hearts and souls be stirred  
shroud - ed, till thy Spi - rit breaks our night  
ceed - ing, o - pen thou our ears and heart,

now to seek and love and fear thee; by thy teach - ings  
with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed; thou a - lone to  
help us by thy Spi - rit's plead - ing. Hear the cry thy



## GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

*All stand.*

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

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.”

<sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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

**THE SERMON**

**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca**

**THE CREED**

*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.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*All remain standing.*

Behold, children of God, it is the Lord who watches over you. As people sent forth into the world, let us pray, saying, “Lord, bless us, *so that we may bless others.*”

Lord, preserve your Church from all evil. May we, who have been born of water and the Spirit, proclaim the kingdom of God in all the world.

*Invite the congregation to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

O God, may the leaders of the nations ever seek the truth. Open their hearts to true conversion and divine guidance.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

Maker of heaven and earth, you have blessed us with a wondrous and dynamic creation. Protect us from its rage; comfort us by its tranquility. Give us eyes to see your handiwork in the world around us.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

Lord, your eyes never close on your people. We thank you for your mindfulness of us and our community. Be our help and our safety.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

You did not send your Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world may see and experience your salvation. Bring wholeness to those who look to your Son for their help.

*Invite the congregation to add their petitions, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

O God, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist, keep the dying and the dead from this time forth and for evermore. Give eternal life to all those who trust in you.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

## **THE PEACE**

***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

### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

***The Celebrant says***

If you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. *Matthew 5:23, 24*

OFFERTORY HYMN *And now, O Father, mindful of the love* HYMNAL 337

1 And now, O Fa - ther, mind - ful of the love that  
 2 Look Fa - ther, look on his a - noint - ed face, and  
 \*3 And then for those, our dear - est and our best, by  
 \*4 And so we come; O draw us to thy feet, most

bought us, once for all, on Cal - vary's tree, and hav - ing with us  
 on - ly look on us as found in him; look not on our mis -  
 this pre - vail - ing pres - ence we ap - peal; O fold them clos - er  
 pa - tient Sa - vior, who canst love us still! And by this food, so

him that pleads a - bove, we here pre - sent, we here spread  
 us - ings of thy grace, our prayer so lan - guid, and our  
 to thy mer - cy's breast! O do thine ut - most for their  
 awe - some and so sweet, de - liv - er us from ev - ery

forth to thee, that on - ly of - fering per - fect in thine  
 faith so dim: for lo! be - tween our sins and their re -  
 soul's true weal! From taint - ing mis - chief keep them pure and  
 touch of ill: in thine own ser - vice make us glad and

eyes, the one true, pure, im - mor - tal sac - ri - fice.  
 ward, we set the pas - sion of thy Son our Lord.  
 clear, and crown thy gifts with strength to per - se - vere.  
 free, and grant us nev - er - more to part from thee.

## The Great Thanksgiving

### SURSUM CORDA

*The People stand.*

*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.**

### PROPER PREFACE

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

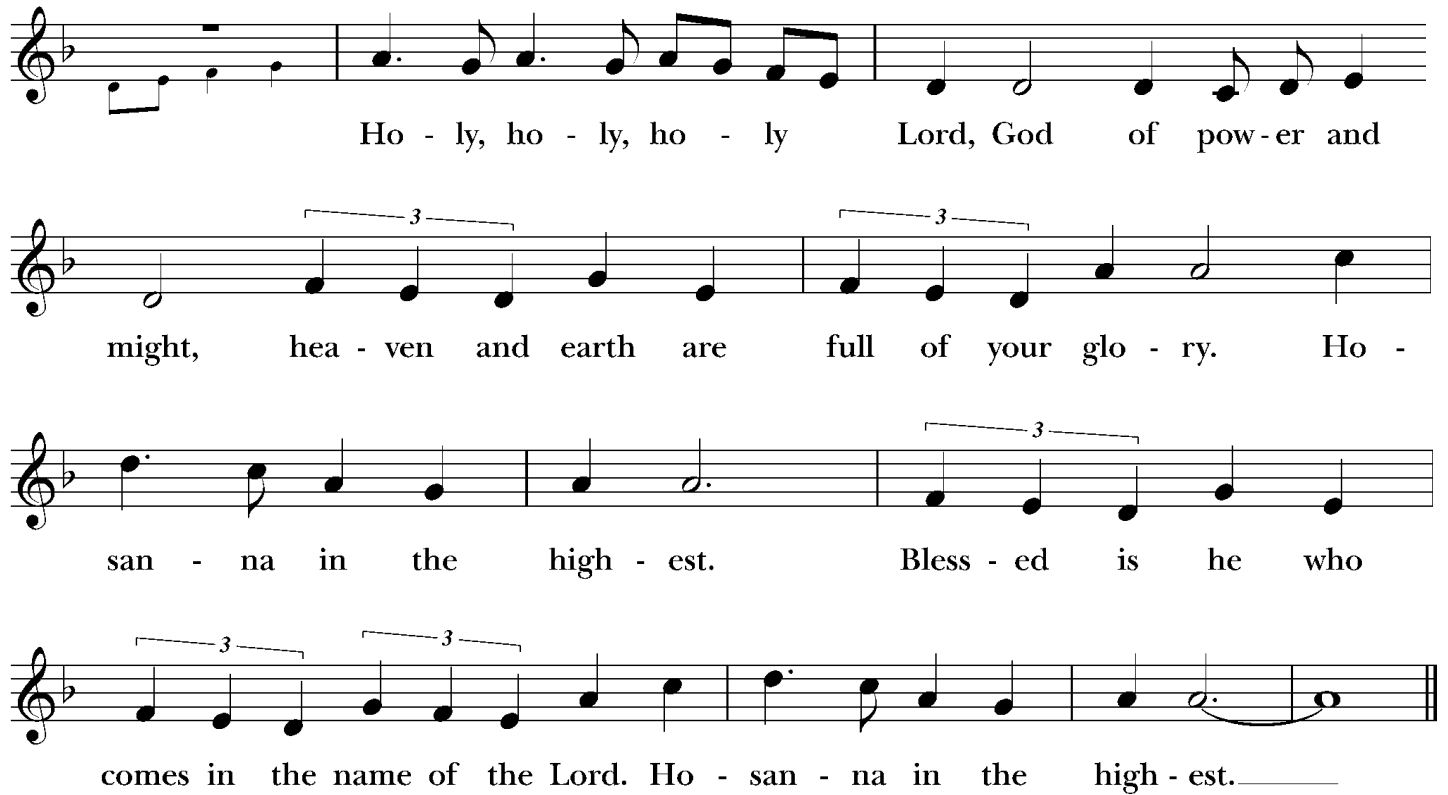
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

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 S 129 *Holy, holy, holy* - Powell

*Celebrant and People*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. \_\_\_\_\_

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*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 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:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

## **EPICLESIS**

*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. *AMEN.*

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

# The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM S 161 *Lamb of God* - Hurd

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

## INVITATION

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## DISTRIBUTION

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

*All stand.*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

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.

## BLESSING

*The Priest blesses the people, saying*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you  
and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

## POST-COMMUNION HYMN *How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord* HYMNAL 637

*Descant*

5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,  
2 "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dis - mayed!  
3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,  
4 "When through fier - y tri - als thy path - way shall lie,  
5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

1 is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!  
2 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
3 the riv - ers of woe shall not thee o - ver - flow;  
4 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;  
5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

5 soul, \_\_\_\_\_ to shake, no,

1 What more can he say than to you he hath said,  
 2 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
 3 for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,  
 4 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign  
 5 that soul, though all hell shall en - deav - or to shake,

5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

1 to you that for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?  
 2 up - held by my right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand.  
 3 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.  
 4 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.  
 5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

## DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

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**Eucharistic Minister and Reader:** Lawrence Schmidt

**Usher:** Hilton Rodriguez

**Greeter:** Serena Smith

Check the calendar on our website [www.marysstoneharbor.org](http://www.marysstoneharbor.org) for weekly happenings.

## **Recovery Meetings at St. Mary's**

### **Narcotics Anonymous**

Monday 7:30 pm OV

Saturday 12:30 pm

### **Alcoholics Anonymous**

Tuesday 8 pm OSD

Thursday 7 pm BB

### **AL-ANON**

Friday 9 am beginner

Friday 10 am OD

**Second Sunday in Lent**  
**The Holy Eucharist Rite Two**  
Penitential Order, Eucharistic Prayer A  
**Sunday, March 1, 2026**



**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca, Rector**  
**Mr. Curtis McKonly, Organist**

**St. Mary's Episcopal Church**  
9425 Third Ave., Stone Harbor, NJ 08247  
[www.stmarysstoneharbor.org](http://www.stmarysstoneharbor.org) 609-368-5922

# The Word of God

## Penitential Order

ENTRANCE HYMN *My faith looks up to thee*

HYMNAL 691



1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,  
3 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,



Sa - vior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my  
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my  
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day; wipe sor - row's



guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine.  
love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire.  
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People* **His mercy endures for ever.**

## DECALOGUE

*The Decalogue is said, the People kneeling.*

Hear the commandments of God to his people:  
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.  
You shall have no other gods but me.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Honor your father and your mother.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit murder.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit adultery.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not steal.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not be a false witness.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

## CONFESSION OF SIN

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister 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 Priest stands and says*

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.**

## **OPENING ANTHEM OR SONG OF PRAISE**

*The following is sung, all standing*

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One.  
**Have mercy upon us.**

## **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*Celebrant*        The Lord be with you.  
*People*            **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant*        Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **The Lessons**

### **FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the book of Genesis.

<sup>1</sup>Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4a</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

## **PSALM: Psalm 121**

*Remain seated.*

<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*  
from where is my help to come?

<sup>2</sup>My help comes from the LORD, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.

<sup>3</sup>He will not let your foot be moved \*  
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup>Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \*  
shall neither slumber nor sleep;

<sup>5</sup>The LORD himself watches over you; \*  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,

<sup>6</sup>So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \*  
nor the moon by night.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; \*  
it is he who shall keep you safe.

<sup>8</sup>The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \*  
from this time forth forevermore.

## **SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

*The people remain seated.*

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

<sup>1</sup>What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh?

<sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>4</sup>Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup>But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup>For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For

the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

<sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN** *Blessed Jesus, at thy word*

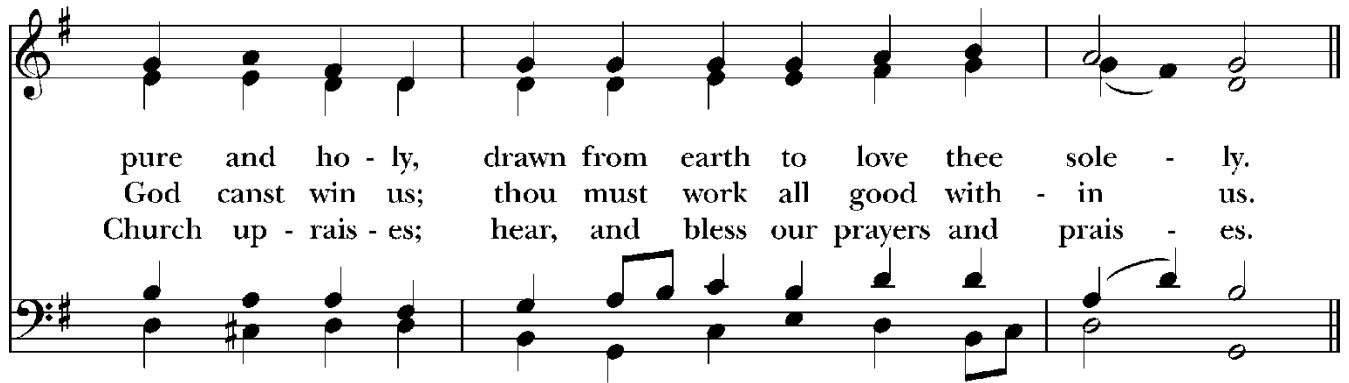
**HYMNAL 440**

*All stand.*

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at thy word we are gath - ered all to  
2 All our know - ledge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark - ness  
3 Gra - cious Lord, thy - self im - part! Light of Light, from God pro -

hear thee; let our hearts and souls be stirred  
shroud - ed, till thy Spi - rit breaks our night  
ceed - ing, o - pen thou our ears and heart,

now to seek and love and fear thee; by thy teach - ings  
with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed; thou a - lone to  
help us by thy Spi - rit's plead - ing. Hear the cry thy



## GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

*All stand.*

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

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.”

<sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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

**THE SERMON**

**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca**

**THE CREED**

*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.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*All remain standing.*

Behold, children of God, it is the Lord who watches over you. As people sent forth into the world, let us pray, saying, “Lord, bless us, *so that we may bless others.*”

Lord, preserve your Church from all evil. May we, who have been born of water and the Spirit, proclaim the kingdom of God in all the world.

*Invite the congregation to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,

*So that we may bless others.*

O God, may the leaders of the nations ever seek the truth. Open their hearts to true conversion and divine guidance.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

*So that we may bless others.*

Maker of heaven and earth, you have blessed us with a wondrous and dynamic creation. Protect us from its rage; comfort us by its tranquility. Give us eyes to see your handiwork in the world around us.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

*So that we may bless others.*

Lord, your eyes never close on your people. We thank you for your mindfulness of us and our community. Be our help and our safety.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

*So that we may bless others.*

You did not send your Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world may see and experience your salvation. Bring wholeness to those who look to your Son for their help.

*Invite the congregation to add their petitions, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

O God, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist, keep the dying and the dead from this time forth and for evermore. Give eternal life to all those who trust in you.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

## **THE PEACE**

***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

### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

***The Celebrant says***

If you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. *Matthew 5:23, 24*

OFFERTORY HYMN *And now, O Father, mindful of the love* HYMNAL 337

1 And now, O Fa - ther, mind - ful of the love that  
 2 Look Fa - ther, look on his a - noint - ed face, and  
 \*3 And then for those, our dear - est and our best, by  
 \*4 And so we come; O draw us to thy feet, most

bought us, once for all, on Cal - vary's tree, and hav - ing with us  
 on - ly look on us as found in him; look not on our mis -  
 this pre - vail - ing pres - ence we ap - peal; O fold them clos - er  
 pa - tient Sa - vior, who canst love us still! And by this food, so

him that pleads a - bove, we here pre - sent, we here spread  
 us - ings of thy grace, our prayer so lan - guid, and our  
 to thy mer - cy's breast! O do thine ut - most for their  
 awe - some and so sweet, de - liv - er us from ev - ery

forth to thee, that on - ly of - fering per - fect in thine  
 faith so dim: for lo! be - tween our sins and their re -  
 soul's true weal! From taint - ing mis - chief keep them pure and  
 touch of ill: in thine own ser - vice make us glad and

eyes, the one true, pure, im - mor - tal sac - ri - fice.  
ward, we set the pas - sion of thy Son our Lord.  
clear, and crown thy gifts with strength to per - se - vere.  
free, and grant us nev - er - more to part from thee.

## The Great Thanksgiving

### SURSUM CORDA

*The People stand.*

*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.**

### PROPER PREFACE

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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 S 129 *Holy, holy, holy* - Powell

*Celebrant and People*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*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 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:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

## **EPICLESIS**

*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. *AMEN.*

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

# The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM S 161 *Lamb of God* - Hurd

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

## INVITATION

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## DISTRIBUTION

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

*All stand.*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

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.

## BLESSING

*The Priest blesses the people, saying*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you  
and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

## POST-COMMUNION HYMN *How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord* HYMNAL 637

*Descant*

5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,  
2 "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dis - mayed!  
3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,  
4 "When through fier - y tri - als thy path - way shall lie,  
5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

1 is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!  
2 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
3 the riv - ers of woe shall not thee o - ver - flow;  
4 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;  
5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

5 soul, \_\_\_\_\_ to shake, no,

1 What more can he say than to you he hath said,  
 2 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
 3 for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,  
 4 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign  
 5 that soul, though all hell shall en - deav - or to shake,

5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake.”

1 to you that for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?  
 2 up - held by my right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand.  
 3 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.  
 4 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.  
 5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake.”

## DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

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**Eucharistic Minister and Reader:** Lawrence Schmidt

**Usher:** Hilton Rodriguez

**Greeter:** Serena Smith

Check the calendar on our website [www.marysstoneharbor.org](http://www.marysstoneharbor.org) for weekly happenings.

## **Recovery Meetings at St. Mary's**

### **Narcotics Anonymous**

Monday 7:30 pm OV

Saturday 12:30 pm

### **Alcoholics Anonymous**

Tuesday 8 pm OSD

Thursday 7 pm BB

### **AL-ANON**

Friday 9 am beginner

Friday 10 am OD

**Second Sunday in Lent**  
**The Holy Eucharist Rite Two**  
Penitential Order, Eucharistic Prayer A  
**Sunday, March 1, 2026**



**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca, Rector**  
**Mr. Curtis McKonly, Organist**

**St. Mary's Episcopal Church**  
9425 Third Ave., Stone Harbor, NJ 08247  
[www.stmarysstoneharbor.org](http://www.stmarysstoneharbor.org) 609-368-5922

# The Word of God

## Penitential Order

ENTRANCE HYMN *My faith looks up to thee*

HYMNAL 691

1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,  
3 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,

Sa - vior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my  
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my  
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day; wipe sor - row's

guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine.  
love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire.  
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People* **His mercy endures for ever.**

## DECALOGUE

*The Decalogue is said, the People kneeling.*

Hear the commandments of God to his people:  
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.  
You shall have no other gods but me.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Honor your father and your mother.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit murder.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit adultery.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not steal.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not be a false witness.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

## CONFESSION OF SIN

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister 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 Priest stands and says*

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.**

## **OPENING ANTHEM OR SONG OF PRAISE**

*The following is sung, all standing*

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One.  
**Have mercy upon us.**

## **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.  
*People*          **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant*      Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **The Lessons**

### **FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the book of Genesis.

<sup>1</sup>Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4a</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

## **PSALM: Psalm 121**

*Remain seated.*

<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*  
from where is my help to come?

<sup>2</sup>My help comes from the LORD, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.

<sup>3</sup>He will not let your foot be moved \*  
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup>Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \*  
shall neither slumber nor sleep;

<sup>5</sup>The LORD himself watches over you; \*  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,

<sup>6</sup>So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \*  
nor the moon by night.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; \*  
it is he who shall keep you safe.

<sup>8</sup>The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \*  
from this time forth forevermore.

## **SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

*The people remain seated.*

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

<sup>1</sup>What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh?

<sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>4</sup>Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup>But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup>For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For

the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

<sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN** *Blessed Jesus, at thy word*

**HYMNAL 440**

*All stand.*

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at thy word we are gath - ered all to  
2 All our know - ledge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark - ness  
3 Gra - cious Lord, thy - self im - part! Light of Light, from God pro -

hear thee; let our hearts and souls be stirred  
shroud - ed, till thy Spi - rit breaks our night  
ceed - ing, o - pen thou our ears and heart,

now to seek and love and fear thee; by thy teach - ings  
with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed; thou a - lone to  
help us by thy Spi - rit's plead - ing. Hear the cry thy

pure and ho - ly, drawn from earth to love thee sole - ly.  
 God canst win us; thou must work all good with - in us.  
 Church up - rais - es; hear, and bless our prayers and prais - es.

## GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

*All stand.*

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

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.”

<sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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

**THE SERMON**

**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca**

**THE CREED**

*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.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*All remain standing.*

Behold, children of God, it is the Lord who watches over you. As people sent forth into the world, let us pray, saying, “Lord, bless us, *so that we may bless others.*”

Lord, preserve your Church from all evil. May we, who have been born of water and the Spirit, proclaim the kingdom of God in all the world.

*Invite the congregation to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

O God, may the leaders of the nations ever seek the truth. Open their hearts to true conversion and divine guidance.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

Maker of heaven and earth, you have blessed us with a wondrous and dynamic creation. Protect us from its rage; comfort us by its tranquility. Give us eyes to see your handiwork in the world around us.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

Lord, your eyes never close on your people. We thank you for your mindfulness of us and our community. Be our help and our safety.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

You did not send your Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world may see and experience your salvation. Bring wholeness to those who look to your Son for their help.

*Invite the congregation to add their petitions, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

O God, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist, keep the dying and the dead from this time forth and for evermore. Give eternal life to all those who trust in you.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

## **THE PEACE**

***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

### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

***The Celebrant says***

If you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. *Matthew 5:23, 24*

OFFERTORY HYMN *And now, O Father, mindful of the love* HYMNAL 337

1 And now, O Fa - ther, mind - ful of the love that  
 2 Look Fa - ther, look on his a - noint - ed face, and  
 \*3 And then for those, our dear - est and our best, by  
 \*4 And so we come; O draw us to thy feet, most

bought us, once for all, on Cal - vary's tree, and hav - ing with us  
 on - ly look on us as found in him; look not on our mis -  
 this pre - vail - ing pres - ence we ap - peal; O fold them clos - er  
 pa - tient Sa - vior, who canst love us still! And by this food, so

him that pleads a - bove, we here pre - sent, we here spread  
 us - ings of thy grace, our prayer so lan - guid, and our  
 to thy mer - cy's breast! O do thine ut - most for their  
 awe - some and so sweet, de - liv - er us from ev - ery

forth to thee, that on - ly of - fering per - fect in thine  
 faith so dim: for lo! be - tween our sins and their re -  
 soul's true weal! From taint - ing mis - chief keep them pure and  
 touch of ill: in thine own ser - vice make us glad and

eyes, the one true, pure, im - mor - tal sac - ri - fice.  
ward, we set the pas - sion of thy Son our Lord.  
clear, and crown thy gifts with strength to per - se - vere.  
free, and grant us nev - er - more to part from thee.

## The Great Thanksgiving

### SURSUM CORDA

*The People stand.*

*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.**

### PROPER PREFACE

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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 S 129 *Holy, holy, holy* - Powell

*Celebrant and People*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*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 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:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

## **EPICLESIS**

*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. *AMEN.*

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

# The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM S 161 *Lamb of God* - Hurd

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

## INVITATION

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## DISTRIBUTION

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

*All stand.*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

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.

## BLESSING

*The Priest blesses the people, saying*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you  
and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

## POST-COMMUNION HYMN *How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord* HYMNAL 637

*Descant*

5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,  
2 "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dis - mayed!  
3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,  
4 "When through fier - y tri - als thy path - way shall lie,  
5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

1 is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!  
2 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
3 the riv - ers of woe shall not thee o - ver - flow;  
4 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;  
5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

5 soul, to shake, no,

1 What more can he say than to you he hath said,  
 2 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
 3 for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,  
 4 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign  
 5 that soul, though all hell shall en - deav - or to shake,

5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

## DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

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**Eucharistic Minister and Reader:** Lawrence Schmidt

**Usher:** Hilton Rodriguez

**Greeter:** Serena Smith

Check the calendar on our website [www.marysstoneharbor.org](http://www.marysstoneharbor.org) for weekly happenings.

## **Recovery Meetings at St. Mary's**

### **Narcotics Anonymous**

Monday 7:30 pm OV

Saturday 12:30 pm

### **Alcoholics Anonymous**

Tuesday 8 pm OSD

Thursday 7 pm BB

### **AL-ANON**

Friday 9 am beginner

Friday 10 am OD

**Second Sunday in Lent**  
**The Holy Eucharist Rite Two**  
Penitential Order, Eucharistic Prayer A  
**Sunday, March 1, 2026**



**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca, Rector**  
**Mr. Curtis McKonly, Organist**

**St. Mary's Episcopal Church**  
9425 Third Ave., Stone Harbor, NJ 08247  
[www.stmarysstoneharbor.org](http://www.stmarysstoneharbor.org) 609-368-5922

# The Word of God


## Penitential Order

ENTRANCE HYMN *My faith looks up to thee*

HYMNAL 691



1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,  
3 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,



Sa - vior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my  
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, O may my  
be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day; wipe sor - row's



guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine.  
love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire.  
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People* **His mercy endures for ever.**

## DECALOGUE

*The Decalogue is said, the People kneeling.*

Hear the commandments of God to his people:  
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.  
You shall have no other gods but me.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

Honor your father and your mother.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit murder.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not commit adultery.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not steal.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not be a false witness.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

*Amen. Lord have mercy.*

## CONFESSION OF SIN

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister 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 Priest stands and says*

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.**

## **OPENING ANTHEM OR SONG OF PRAISE**

*The following is sung, all standing*

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One.  
**Have mercy upon us.**

## **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*Celebrant*        The Lord be with you.  
*People*            **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant*        Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **The Lessons**

### **FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the book of Genesis.

<sup>1</sup>Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4a</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

## **PSALM: Psalm 121**

*Remain seated.*

<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*  
from where is my help to come?

<sup>2</sup>My help comes from the LORD, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.

<sup>3</sup>He will not let your foot be moved \*  
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup>Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \*  
shall neither slumber nor sleep;

<sup>5</sup>The LORD himself watches over you; \*  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,

<sup>6</sup>So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \*  
nor the moon by night.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; \*  
it is he who shall keep you safe.

<sup>8</sup>The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \*  
from this time forth forevermore.

## **SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

*The people remain seated.*

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

<sup>1</sup>What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh?

<sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>4</sup>Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup>But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup>For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For

the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

<sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN** *Blessed Jesus, at thy word*

**HYMNAL 440**

*All stand.*

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at thy word we are gath - ered all to  
2 All our know - ledge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark - ness  
3 Gra - cious Lord, thy - self im - part! Light of Light, from God pro -

hear thee; let our hearts and souls be stirred  
shroud - ed, till thy Spi - rit breaks our night  
ceed - ing, o - pen thou our ears and heart,

now to seek and love and fear thee; by thy teach - ings  
with the beams of truth un - cloud - ed; thou a - lone to  
help us by thy Spi - rit's plead - ing. Hear the cry thy

pure and ho - ly, drawn from earth to love thee sole - ly.  
 God canst win us; thou must work all good with - in us.  
 Church up - rais - es; hear, and bless our prayers and prais - es.

## GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

*All stand.*

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

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.”

<sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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

**THE SERMON**

**The Very Reverend Allison Burns-LaGreca**

**THE CREED**

*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.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*All remain standing.*

Behold, children of God, it is the Lord who watches over you. As people sent forth into the world, let us pray, saying, “Lord, bless us, *so that we may bless others.*”

Lord, preserve your Church from all evil. May we, who have been born of water and the Spirit, proclaim the kingdom of God in all the world.

*Invite the congregation to add their thanksgivings, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

O God, may the leaders of the nations ever seek the truth. Open their hearts to true conversion and divine guidance.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

Maker of heaven and earth, you have blessed us with a wondrous and dynamic creation. Protect us from its rage; comfort us by its tranquility. Give us eyes to see your handiwork in the world around us.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

Lord, your eyes never close on your people. We thank you for your mindfulness of us and our community. Be our help and our safety.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,  
*So that we may bless others.*

You did not send your Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world may see and experience your salvation. Bring wholeness to those who look to your Son for their help.

*Invite the congregation to add their petitions, followed by silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

O God, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist, keep the dying and the dead from this time forth and for evermore. Give eternal life to all those who trust in you.

*Silence*

Lord, bless us,

***So that we may bless others.***

## **THE PEACE**

*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

### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

*The Celebrant says*

If you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. *Matthew 5:23, 24*

OFFERTORY HYMN *And now, O Father, mindful of the love* HYMNAL 337

1 And now, O Fa - ther, mind - ful of the love that  
 2 Look Fa - ther, look on his a - noint - ed face, and  
 \*3 And then for those, our dear - est and our best, by  
 \*4 And so we come; O draw us to thy feet, most

bought us, once for all, on Cal - vary's tree, and hav - ing with us  
 on - ly look on us as found in him; look not on our mis -  
 this pre - vail - ing pres - ence we ap - peal; O fold them clos - er  
 pa - tient Sa - vior, who canst love us still! And by this food, so

him that pleads a - bove, we here pre - sent, we here spread  
 us - ings of thy grace, our prayer so lan - guid, and our  
 to thy mer - cy's breast! O do thine ut - most for their  
 awe - some and so sweet, de - liv - er us from ev - ery

forth to thee, that on - ly of - fering per - fect in thine  
 faith so dim: for lo! be - tween our sins and their re -  
 soul's true weal! From taint - ing mis - chief keep them pure and  
 touch of ill: in thine own ser - vice make us glad and

eyes, the one true, pure, im - mor - tal sac - ri - fice.  
 ward, we set the pas - sion of thy Son our Lord.  
 clear, and crown thy gifts with strength to per - se - vere.  
 free, and grant us nev - er - more to part from thee.

## The Great Thanksgiving

### SURSUM CORDA

*The People stand.*

*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.**

### PROPER PREFACE

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

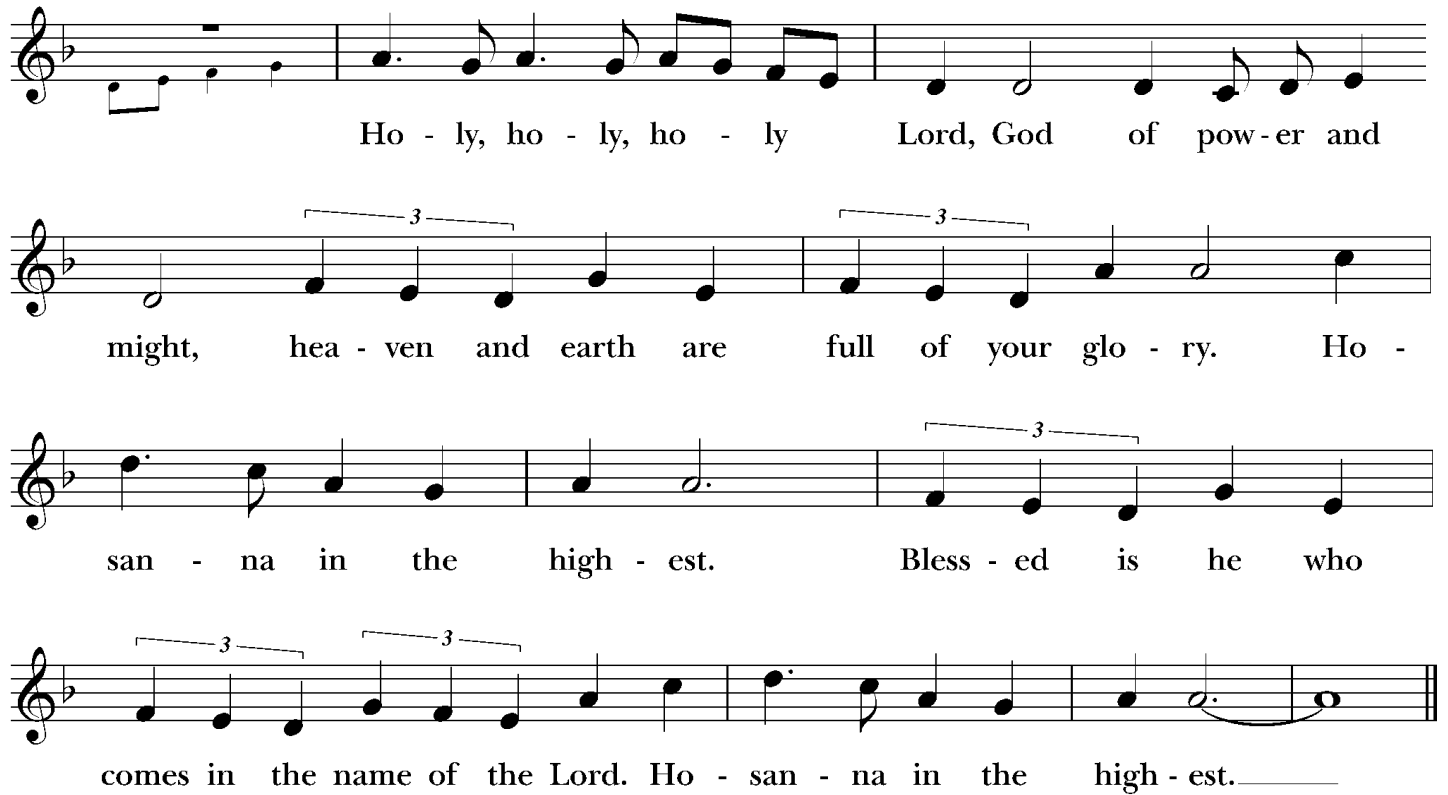
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

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 S 129 *Holy, holy, holy* - Powell

*Celebrant and People*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. \_\_\_\_\_

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*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 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:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

## **EPICLESIS**

*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. *AMEN.*

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

# The Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM S 161 *Lamb of God* - Hurd

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

## INVITATION

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## DISTRIBUTION

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

*All stand.*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

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.

## BLESSING

*The Priest blesses the people, saying*

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you  
and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

## POST-COMMUNION HYMN *How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord* HYMNAL 637

*Descant*

5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,  
2 "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dis - mayed!  
3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,  
4 "When through fier - y tri - als thy path - way shall lie,  
5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,

5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

1 is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!  
2 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
3 the riv - ers of woe shall not thee o - ver - flow;  
4 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;  
5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

5 soul, to shake, no,

1 What more can he say than to you he hath said,  
 2 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
 3 for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,  
 4 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign  
 5 that soul, though all hell shall en - deav - or to shake,

5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

## DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

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**Eucharistic Minister and Reader:** Lawrence Schmidt

**Usher:** Hilton Rodriguez

**Greeter:** Serena Smith

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