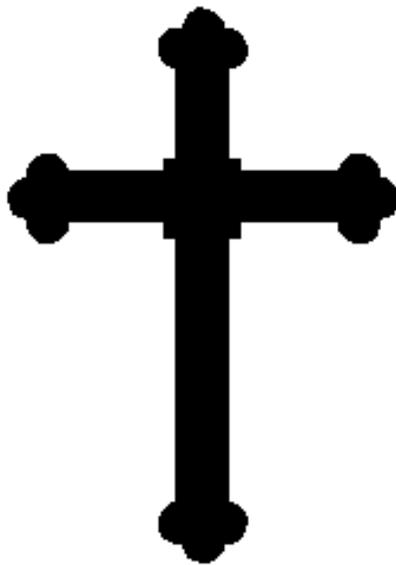


St. Thomas' Episcopal Church

207 Bob O Link Lane
Wharton, Texas 77488
Office phone: (979) 532-1723

Please, Enter in Silence and Meditation



The First Sunday in Lent

February 18, 2018

This service is offered to God and to the community that we may journey together seeking God's Kingdom through sharing Christ's Love one with another and with all people.

New? Confused? Don't worry! We are genuinely pleased to have you worship here today. We suspect you may have some questions.

Everybody you see was a newcomer at one time or another and we've all had questions – probably the very same ones. So, don't hesitate to ask a question!

Books? This bulletin contains our liturgy, and all you need along with this bulletin is the blue Hymnal found in the pew rack for singing the hymns. But there is plenty more if you like! We have included the page numbers of the red Book of Common Prayer (BCP), also found in the pew rack. This is the sourcebook for our liturgy, and is a wonderful resource for prayer and study.

Episcopal worship invites participation by all the people to experience the risen Christ in this place. We want you to be comfortable so you can worship God and enjoy your visit today.

The posture of prayer, whether sitting, standing or kneeling is only a physical manifestation of the inward attitude of prayer. If you adopt the attitude of prayer then you may adapt the posture of prayer to suit your own needs. When you're worshipping God, you can't get it wrong!

Regardless of what anybody else is doing, don't do anything that makes you feel uncomfortable. Remember, if you need help, ask the person next to you. We like people here at St. Thomas'.

We invite all who are baptized to come forward and join us in receiving Holy Communion. Those who wish to come and receive a blessing may come to the rail and simply fold both arms across their chest to signal their desire.

We are delighted you're here, and we want you to come back. May God bless you this day; you have blessed us with your presence.

Holy Eucharist Rite I

Greeting Prayer Book 323

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins;

People His mercy endureth for ever.

The Celebrant says

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith:

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

The Great Litany Prayer Book 148

O God the Father, Creator of heaven and earth,
Have mercy upon us.

O God the Son, Redeemer of the world,
Have mercy upon us.

O God the Holy Spirit, Sanctifier of the faithful,
Have mercy upon us.

O holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, one God,
Have mercy upon us.

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

Spare us, good Lord.

From all evil and wickedness; from sin; from the crafts and assaults of the devil; and from

everlasting damnation,
Good Lord, deliver us.

From all blindness of heart; from pride, vainglory,
and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred, and malice; and
from all want of charity,
Good Lord, deliver us.

From all inordinate and sinful affections; and from
all the deceits of the world, the flesh, and the devil,
Good Lord, deliver us.

From all false doctrine, heresy, and schism; from
hardness of heart, and contempt of thy Word and
commandment,
Good Lord, deliver us.

From lightning and tempest; from earthquake,
fire, and flood; from plague, pestilence, and
famine,
Good Lord, deliver us.

From all oppression, conspiracy, and rebellion;
from violence, battle, and murder; and from dying
suddenly and unprepared,
Good Lord, deliver us.

By the mystery of thy holy Incarnation; by thy holy Nativity and submission to the Law; by thy Baptism, Fasting, and Temptation,
Good Lord, deliver us.

By thine Agony and Bloody Sweat; by thy Cross and Passion; by thy precious Death and Burial; by thy glorious Resurrection and Ascension; and by the Coming of the Holy Ghost,
Good Lord, deliver us.

In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death, and in the day of judgment,
Good Lord, deliver us.

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

That it may please thee to illumine all bishops, priests, and deacons, with true knowledge and understanding of thy

Word; and that both by their preaching and living,
they may set it forth, and show it accordingly,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to bless and keep all thy
people,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to send forth laborers into
thy harvest, and to draw all mankind into thy
kingdom,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give to all people
increase of grace to hear and receive thy Word,
and to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to bring into the way of
truth all such as have erred, and are deceived,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give us a heart to love
and fear thee, and diligently to live after thy
commandments,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee so to rule the hearts of thy servants, the President of the United States (*or of this nation*), and all others in authority, that they may do justice, and love mercy, and walk in the ways of truth,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to make wars to cease in all the world; to give to all nations unity, peace, and concord; and to bestow freedom upon all peoples,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to show thy pity upon all prisoners and captives, the homeless and the hungry, and all who are desolate and oppressed,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give and preserve to our use the bountiful fruits of the earth, so that in due time all may enjoy them,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to inspire us, in our several callings, to do the work which thou givest us to do

with singleness of heart as thy servants, and for
the common good,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

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

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

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

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

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

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

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

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

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

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

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

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

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

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

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

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

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

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to grant that, in the fellowship of [_____ and] all the saints, we may attain to thy heavenly kingdom,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

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

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
Have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
Have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
Grant us thy peace.

O Christ, hear us.
O Christ, hear us.

Kyrie Hymnal S-92

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ,

have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy

up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up -

on us. Lord, have mer - cy

up - on us. Lord,

have mer - cy up - on us.

Collect of the Day.....Prayer Book 216

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

A reading from the book of Genesis 9:8-17

God said to Noah and to his sons with him, “As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” God said, “This is the sign of the

covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 25:1-9

Choir and Congregation



Your paths, O Lord, are love and faithfulness, to those who keep your covenant.



A 1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you. *

- A let me not be humiliated,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.
- B 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame. *
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes. [ANT.]
- 3 Show me your ways, O Lord. *
and teach me your paths.
- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me. *
for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long. [ANT.]
- 5 Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love. *
for they are from everlasting.
- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions: *
remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord. [ANT.]
- A 7 Gracious and upright is the Lord: *
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
- A 8 He guides the humble in doing right *
and teaches his way to the lowly.
- B 9 All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness *
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies. [ANT.]

A reading from 1 Peter 3:18-22

Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you-- not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

We all stand.

Sequence Hymn: *Forty days and forty nights*
.....**Hymnal 150**

Remain standing for the reading of The Gospel.

The Gospel *Mark 1:9-15*

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus
 Christ according to Mark.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon The Rev. Ken Dimmick

The Peace

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with
you.

People And also with you.

Welcome/Announcements

Local Blessings Birthdays and Anniversaries

Offertory

We offer in gratitude what God has given us to spread the Good News and support our common life.

You may use the wooden tokens to represent gifts given online and by other ways. The tokens can be found in a plate at the back of the church.

You are invited to stand as our gifts of bread, wine, and money are brought to the altar.

The Doxology:..... Hymnal 380

The Great Thanksgiving..... Eucharistic Prayer I

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them up unto the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People It is meet and right so to do.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

Celebrant and People

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:
Heaven and earth are full of thy Glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

Here may be added

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The people kneel or stand.

Then the Celebrant continues

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death

upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved

Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and

thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but

pardoning our offences, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. *AMEN.*

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

People and Celebrant

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,

for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Then may be sung or said

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast.

The following or some other suitable anthem may be sung or said here

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

The following prayer may be said. The People may join in saying this prayer

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under

thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us.
Amen.

The Celebrant says the following Invitation

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

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

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven.

[*Communicant Amen.*]

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.

[*Communicant Amen.*]

The Communion of the People

All who seek God's blessing are welcome to come to the altar rail. If you are not yet baptized, or do not wish to

receive for any reason, cross your arms over your chest and you will be given a blessing. All baptized persons are invited to receive Holy Communion. If you wish to enroll as a candidate for Holy Baptism please contact the church office or the Rev. Ken Dimmick.

Communion Anthem during communion

Lead Me, Lord by Samuel Wesley Choir

Post-Communion Hymn: The glory of these forty daysHymnal 143

Post-Communion Prayer: Prayer Book 339
Said by all. Standing or kneeling

Blessing

Celebrant

Let us pray.

People and Celebrant

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy

mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

Blessing

Final Hymn: *Now let us all with one accord.....*

Hymnal 147

Dismissal

Response: Thanks be to God.

Remember: During Lent we omit the word

Alleluia.

Postlude