



# ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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## Greenville, South Carolina

### A Poem with a sacred perspective



Dear people of St. Peter's,

Most of us could not have dreamed of what would prevent us from gathering on Sunday mornings in the place we love—our spiritual home—in order to offer our praise and prayers to God, and receive the grace of Holy Communion. Yet, here we are.

For the safety of the vulnerable, we must refrain from large gatherings. This includes worship inside our Church. This does not mean the Church is closed. The Church is the Body of Christ. It can never be closed. The Church is the *ekklesia*, the 'called out ones' who follow Jesus. We can never be closed off from that journey.

Yet, as with many other occasions throughout history, the Church must adapt and be transformed, sometimes for a little while and sometimes for good (in both senses of that word).

Here is your Sunday bulletin! It includes our prayers and praise for the next two weeks. All you need to do if you have a computer, tablet, or smart phone is go online at 10:30 on March 22 (and again on March 29) and follow along. If you don't have access to internet, then just use these prayers and praises on your own or with one or more other people whom you love. (Remember, where two or more are gathered in his name, Christ is with us.)

Marie and I will lead our prayers via Facebook Livestreaming. To attend the service (either live or afterward) go to St. Peter's Facebook page, [www.facebook.com/StPeters.GreenvilleSC](https://www.facebook.com/StPeters.GreenvilleSC). Click 'videos' in the menu on the left. If you are not on Facebook, you can also go to our parish web site: [www.stpetersgreenville.org](http://www.stpetersgreenville.org). There is a link on our home page where you can still access the Livestream.

Your vestry, clergy, and staff are exploring other ways for us to adapt and be connected, even as we maintain physical distance for a season in order to mitigate the dangers of this pandemic.

God bless you,

### Pandemic

What if you thought of it  
as the Jews consider the Sabbath—  
the most sacred of times?  
Cease from travel.  
Cease from buying and selling.  
Give up, just for now,  
on trying to make the world  
different than it is.  
Sing. Pray. Touch only those  
to whom you commit your life.  
Center down.

And when your body has become still,  
reach out with your heart.  
Know that we are connected  
in ways that are terrifying and beautiful.  
(You could hardly deny it now.)  
Know that our lives  
are in one another's hands.  
(Surely, that has come clear.)  
Do not reach out your hands.  
Reach out your heart.  
Reach out your words.  
Reach out all the tendrils  
of compassion that move, invisibly,  
where we cannot touch.

Promise this world your love—  
for better or for worse,  
in sickness and in health,  
so long as we all shall live.

~Lynn Ungar 3/11/20

# Sunday Morning Lessons & Prayers

## Beginning with the Penitential Order

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

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

*The Celebrant reads the following sentences of Scripture*

*Mark 12:29-31*

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these."

*The priest then says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence is 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 Celebrant 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.**

## The Kyrie is our Song of prayer for Christ's mercy.

*Please join along in singing, or at least in saying this ancient prayer for the mercy Christ has promised us.*

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, -

Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, - have mer - cy. Lord, -

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

From Deutsche Messe; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

## The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

**March 22** Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**March 29** Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

## The Lessons

The appointed Old Testament lesson is read, the Reader first saying

A Reading from \_\_\_\_\_ .

**March 22**—1st Samuel 16:1-13 \* *Look up the passages before the liturgy and follow along or just listen.*

**March 29**—Ezekiel 37:1-14

## The Psalm

### March 22 Psalm 23



The Lord is my shep-herd, I shall not be in want.

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.  
He revives my soul and guides me along right pathways for his name's sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;  
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me;  
you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

### March 29 Psalm 130



With the Lord there is mer-cy and plent-eous re - demp-tion.

Out of the depths have I called to you, O LORD; LORD, hear my voice;  
let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.

If you, LORD, were to note what is done amiss, O Lord, who could stand?  
For there is forgiveness with you; therefore you shall be feared.

I wait for the LORD; my soul waits for him; in his word is my hope.  
My soul waits for the LORD, more than watchmen for the morning,  
more than watchmen for the morning.

O Israel, wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is mercy;  
with him there is plenteous redemption, and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

## The Lessons

The appointed New Testament lesson is read, the Reader first saying

A Reading from \_\_\_\_\_ .

**March 22**—Ephesians 5:8-14      \* Look up the passages before the liturgy and follow along or just listen.

**March 29**—Romans 8:6-11

Sequence Hymn    **March 22**    \*Turn the page for the sequence hymn for March 29th



1 O Christ, the heal - er, we have come to pray for  
2 From ev - 'ry ail - ment flesh en - dures our bod - ies  
3 In con - flicts that de - stroy our health we rec - og -  
4 Grant that we all, made one in faith, in your com -



health, to plead for friends. How can we fail to  
clam - or to be freed; yet in our hearts we  
nize the world's dis - ease; our com - mon life de -  
mu - ni - ty may find the whole - ness that, en -



be re - stored when reached by love that nev - er ends.  
would con - fess that whole - ness is our deep - est need.  
clares our ills. Is there no cure, O Christ, for these?  
rich - ing us, shall reach and pros - per hu - man - kind.

Text: F. Pratt Green, 1903-1988,  
Tune: W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

Prospect  
L M

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The Gospel lesson responses are on the next page.

## The Lessons

### Sequence Hymn March 29



1 E - ter - nal Lord of love, be - hold your Church  
2 So dai - ly dy - ing to the way of self,  
3 If dead in you, so in you we a - rise,



walk - ing once more the pil - grim way of Lent,  
so dai - ly liv - ing to your way of love,  
you the first - born of all the faith - ful dead;



led by your cloud by day, by night your fire,  
we walk the road, Lord Je - sus, that you trod,  
and as through ston - y ground the green shoots break,



moved by your love and toward your pres - ence bent:  
know - ing our - selves bap - tized in - to your death:  
glo - rious in spring - time dress of leaf and flower,



far off yet here— the goal of all de - sire.  
so we are dead and live with you in God.  
so in the Fa - ther's glo - ry shall we wake.

Text: Thomas H. Cain (b. 1931)  
Tune: *Pseaumes octante trois de David*, 1551

Old 124th  
10 10 10 10 10

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## The Gospel

*Then, all standing, the Priest reads the Gospel, first saying*

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

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

**March 22**—John 9:1-41

\* *Look up the passages before the liturgy and follow along or just listen.*

**March 29**—John 11:1-45

After the Gospel, the Reader says The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## The Sermon

### The Nicene Creed

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

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

- ◆ For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples in the face of a common global challenge, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***
- ◆ For all lay persons, bishops, priests, and deacons of the Church, that we may seek and serve Christ in ways which glorify his name and bless all whom he loves, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***
- ◆ For all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world, and in our states and cities, that they may lead with wisdom and courage and serve with humility and compassion, ever mindful of those in need and devoted to the common good, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***
- ◆ For all who minister to the sick, who serve at personal risk to themselves and their families, and others whose work places them in danger, sorrow or any kind of trouble, especially those whom we remember by name at this time \_\_\_\_\_. Let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***
- ◆ For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, especially those whom we remember by name at this time, either silently or aloud \_\_\_\_\_. Let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***
- ◆ For the poor and the oppressed; for the unemployed, furloughed, and the destitute; for prisoners and captives; and for all who remember and care for them, including any whom we name at this time \_\_\_\_\_. Let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***
- ◆ For all students, athletes, and artists who have suddenly lost the comradery of teammates and friends, and who have also lost the chance to perform their best for which they have diligently practiced and studied, including those whom we remember by name at this time, either silently or aloud \_\_\_\_\_. Let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***
- ◆ For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, especially those beloved to us whom we remember at this time \_\_\_\_\_ and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***
- ◆ For deliverance from all danger, fear, and illness; and also from arrogance, sloth, and neglect of others in need, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***
- ◆ Defend us, deliver us, and in thy compassion protect us, O Lord, by thy grace. ***Lord, have mercy.***
- ◆ In the communion of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed \_\_\_\_\_, and all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God. ***To thee, O Lord our God.***

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

## The Lord's Prayer

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.

## Closing Hymn—March 22

\*Turn the page for the closing hymn for March 29th



1 I want to walk as a child of the light.  
2 I want to see the bright-ness of God.  
3 I'm look - ing for the com - ing of Christ.



I want to fol - low Je - - - sus.  
I want to look at Je - - - sus.  
I want to be with Je - - - sus.



God set the stars to give light to the world. The  
Clear sun of right-eous-ness, shine on my path and  
When we have run with pa-tience the race, we



star of my life is Je - - - sus.  
show me the way to the Fa - - - ther.  
shall know the joy of Je - - - sus.

### Refrain



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



ci - ty of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - - - sus.

Text: Kathleen Thomerson (b. 1934)  
Tune: Kathleen Thomerson (b. 1934)

Houston  
Irr. with Refrain

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## The Blessing

The peace of God, which surpasses all our understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you this day, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

## The Dismissal

*Celebrant* Abide in peace. Be of good courage. Love and serve the Lord & your neighbor.

*People* Thanks be to God.

## Closing Hymn—March 29

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.

Words: Ray Palmer (1808-1887) Music: *Olivet*, Lowell Mason (1792-1872)

### The Blessing

The peace of God, which surpasses all our understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you this day, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

### The Dismissal

*Celebrant* Abide in peace. Be of good courage. Love and serve the Lord & your neighbor.

*People* Thanks be to God.

## A Note about Offerings

We have inserted an envelope into this bulletin for those who want to mail an offering.  
*(check only, do not mail cash)*

Better yet, take this opportunity to follow the example of many at St. Peter's who have set up a recurring automatic draft or bill-pay using your online banking app or by calling your bank/credit union. They will regularly mail a check to St. Peter's on your behalf, and debit your account by the amount you specify. We will credit your gift toward your pledge. Questions? Call our office and speak with Danielle Morrison, our parish administrator. 864-268-7280.

Thank you for your generosity. We need everyone's support in these challenging times.

*In times like these, scammers and thieves attempt to prey on people of good will. REMEMBER—the clergy and leaders of St. Peter's will NEVER solicit you by email, text, or phone for a gift card of any sort!*

## Other Notes about St. Peter's Ministry during this time

### Hours for prayer and devotion

*Your gates will always be open; by day or night they will never be shut. from the 3rd Song of Isaiah, chapter 60*

**Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 10:00 a.m. — 1:00 p.m.** The Church will be open for prayer.

**Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 5:00 p.m. — 6:30 p.m.** The Church will be open for prayer.

**Our Labyrinth is always open.**

- During the appointed times we will unlock the 3 red doors.
- Do not come if you have a fever, cough or other symptoms.
- Keep the CDC recommended distance of 6 feet from others.
- First take one of our disinfectant wipes, and use it on pew surfaces & door handles you touch.
- Take one of our leaflets for personal devotions or the Stations of the Cross bulletin from the podium in the narthex. Then take it home with you. Do not recycle your bulletin.

## Service and Outreach

Even though we will not have public worship this Sunday morning, March 22nd the previously scheduled bloodmobile will be in our parking lot from 9 a.m.— Noon. There is a significant need for blood in our local hospitals. The Red Cross takes necessary precautions for the hygiene and health of its donors. **Please consider offering the gift of life this Sunday!**

You may click this link to reserve a specific time or just show up.

[https://donate.thebloodconnection.org/donor/schedules/drive\\_schedule/143973](https://donate.thebloodconnection.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/143973)

## **Helping Hands**

Do you need assistance with grocery shopping or picking up prescriptions? Call the parish office at 268-7280 and we will try to find a volunteer to help you.

## **Helpful Links**

Our Children's ministry leaders are working to develop resources for our younger parishioners. Stay tuned for those on our St. Peter's families Facebook Group! Meanwhile, you can follow this link from our diocesan web site to access a range of helpful online resources to support you with prayer and devotional time at home. We are also supplying St. Peter's Facebook Group pages.

<https://www.edusc.org/prayer>

<https://www.facebook.com/StPeters.GreenvilleSC>

<https://www.facebook.com/StPetersFamilies>

<https://www.facebook.com/SPY.stpetersyouth>

## **A Prayer for use in the morning**

This is another day, O Lord. I know not what it will bring forth, but make me ready, Lord, for whatever it may be. If I am to stand up, help me to stand bravely. If I am to sit still, help me to sit quietly. If I am to lie low, help me to do it patiently. And if I am to do nothing, let me do it gallantly. Make these words more than words, and give me the Spirit of Jesus. Amen.

*The Book of Common Prayer, p. 461.*