



MORNING PRAYER, RITE II, 10:00 AM
THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY COMFORTER

2911 Woodley Road, Montgomery, AL 36111 • (334) 281-1337

The Rev. Lee Wilkins, Deacon, The Rev. Rosa Lindahl, Rector,
The Rt. Rev. Glenda Curry, Bishop

HYMNAL

PRAYER BOOK

Processional Hymn # 147

“Now let us all with one accord”

Bourbon

Opening Sentence

BCP 78

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us; but if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *I John 1:8, 9*

Confession of Sin (*sit or kneel as you are comfortable*)

BCP 79

Officiant: Let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor.

All: 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.

Officiant: Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. *Amen.*

The Invitatory and Psalter

BCP 80 – 84

All stand

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

People And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Officiant and People

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Venite (*read in unison*)

Come, let us sing to the Lord; *

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *

and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, *

and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *

and the heights of the hills are his also.
The sea is his, for he made it, *
and his hands have molded the dry land.
Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!
The Lord is full of compassion and mercy: Come let us
adore him.

Psalm 121 (*read in unison*)

- 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; *
from where is my help to come?
- 2 My help comes from the LORD, *
the maker of heaven and earth.
- 3 He will not let your foot be moved *
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.
- 4 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel *
shall neither slumber nor sleep;
- 5 The LORD himself watches over you; *
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,
- 6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day, *
nor the moon by night.
- 7 The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; *
it is he who shall keep you safe.
- 8 The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, *
from this time forth for evermore.

The Lessons

A reading from the Book of Genesis

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. 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. 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.”

So Abram went, as the LORD had told him.

Lector The Word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God

Canticle 14 A Song of Penitence (*read in unison*)

O Lord and Ruler of the hosts of heaven, *
God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob,

and of all their righteous offspring:
You made the heavens and the earth, *
with all their vast array.
All things quake with fear at your presence; *
they tremble because of your power.
But your merciful promise is beyond all measure; *
it surpasses all that our minds can fathom.
O Lord, you are full of compassion, *
long-suffering, and abounding in mercy.
You hold back your hand; *
you do not punish as we deserve.
In your great goodness, Lord,
you have promised forgiveness to sinners, *
that they may repent of their sin and be saved.
And now, O Lord, I bend the knee of my heart, *
and make my appeal, sure of your gracious goodness.
I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned, *
and I know my wickedness only too well.
Therefore I make this prayer to you: *
Forgive me, Lord, forgive me.
Do not let me perish in my sin, *
nor condemn me to the depths of the earth.
For you, O Lord, are the God of those who repent, *
and in me you will show forth your goodness.
Unworthy as I am, you will save me,
in accordance with your great mercy, *
and I will praise you without ceasing all the days of my life.
For all the powers of heaven sing your praises, *
and yours is the glory to ages of ages. Amen.

A reading from Paul's Epistle to the Romans

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. 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. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

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, 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.

Lector *The Word of the Lord*

All Thanks be to God

Canticle 10 The Second Song of Isaiah (*read in unison*)

Seek the Lord while he wills to be found; *
call upon him when he draws near.
Let the wicked forsake their ways *
and the evil ones their thoughts;
And let them turn to the Lord, and he will have compassion, *
and to our God, for he will richly pardon.
For my thoughts are not your thoughts, *
nor your ways my ways, says the Lord.
For as the heavens are higher than the earth, *
so are my ways higher than your ways,
and my thoughts than your thoughts.
For as rain and snow fall from the heavens *
and return not again, but water the earth,
Bringing forth life and giving growth, *
seed for sowing and bread for eating,
So is my word that goes forth from my mouth; *
it will not return to me empty;
But it will accomplish that which I have purposed, *
and prosper in that for which I sent it.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

A reading from the Gospel of John

Gospel: John 3:1-17

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. 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.” Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” 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?” Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ 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.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? “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. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal

life. “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. “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.”

Lector *The Word of the Lord*

All Thanks be to God

Homily

Dr. Paul Hard

The Apostles’ Creed

BCP 96

Officiant and People together, all standing

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. *Amen.*

The people stand or kneel

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray.

The Lord’s Prayer

BCP 97

Officiant and People

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.*

Suffrages A

BCP 98

- V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;
R. And grant us your salvation.
V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
R. Let your people sing with joy.
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
R. For only in you can we live in safety.
V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.
V. Let your way be known upon earth;
R. Your saving health among all nations.
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

Collects

BCP 98-100

The Officiant then says the following Collects

The Collect of the Day

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.*

A Collect for Sundays

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A Collect for Peace

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A Prayer for the Search of a New Rector

Loving and gracious God,

You have called us together as the body of Christ in this place, and you know our needs before we ask. As we seek the rector you have already prepared for us, grant wisdom, patience, and discernment to our search committee. Fill their hearts with openness to your Spirit, that they may listen well to one another and to your guiding voice. Bless our parish with unity of purpose, and keep us steadfast in prayer and hope. Prepare the heart of our next rector to hear your call, and prepare us to receive them with joy and love. All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

Officiant: O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; bring offerings and come into his courts.

Anthem

"Out of the depths I cried to thee"

K. Lee Scott

Out of the depths I cry to thee, Lord, my sins bewailing, my sins bewailing! Bow down thy gracious ear to me, Make thou my prayer availing, my prayer availing. Mark not my misdeeds in Thy book, Gracious Lord, most holy; On my sins in mercy look; Who can stand before thee? Hear my prayer, Hear my cry, Hear my supplication. Thou my hope, Thou my light, Thou my soul's deliverance. With thee there is forgiveness, Lord, Love and grace abounding, and grace abounding. The greatest thought or deed or word were else but empty sounding, but empty sounding. All who in Thy sight appear come in sinful measure; all before thee bow in fear Seeking thy good pleasure. Hear my prayer, hear my cry, hear my supplication. Thou my hope, thou my light, thou my soul's deliverance. Amen.

Doxology Hymn 380 (v.3)

"Praise God, from whom all blessings flow"

Old 100th

Prayers

BCP 101-102

The General Thanksgiving

Officiant and People

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. *Amen.*

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Conclusion

BCP 102

Officiant then concludes:

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely
More than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from
Generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus
for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Hymn #637 “How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord” *Lyons*

*Carrie Alvarenga is the VPOW this week.
Please consider staying to assist with coffee hour cleanup.*

Important Dates 2026

March 15 - Book Study

March 22/23 Vestry Meeting*

March 29 Palm Sunday/Bishop visitation

**Option to have regular schedule on Sunday or Monday via Zoom 7 AM*

March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 - Food Pantry, 9:30 AM

March 4, 11, 18, 25 - Morning Prayer, 9:30 AM

March 5, 12, 19, 26 - Compline, 7:00 PM

April 2 - Maundy Thursday, Eucharist and Stripping of the Altar, 6 PM

April 4 - Good Friday Liturgy, Noon

April 5 - Liturgy for Holy Saturday (Memorial Garden), 10 AM

April 5 - Easter Eucharist, Easter Egg Hunt

April 5, 19 - Book Study

April 7, 14, 21, 28 - Food Pantry, 9:30 AM

April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 - Morning Prayer, 9:30 AM

April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 - Compline, 7:00 PM

*You can now make an offering with your cell phone
text HCGIVE to ph# 73256*

The Episcopal Church of the Holy Comforter
Montgomery, Alabama 36111