

# ST. ANDREW'S PARISH CHURCH

established 1706



## THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

The Family Service at 9:00 a.m.

March 29, 2020



# OLD ST. ANDREW'S PARISH CHURCH

## *The Clergy & Staff*

THE REVEREND MARSHALL HUEY, *Rector*  
THE REVEREND DR. DONALD MCDANIEL, *Associate Rector*  
THE REVEREND JOSEPH VELLA, *Assistant to the Rector*  
DAVID ACRES, *Director of Music*  
KIRSTEN HOLLEY, *Organ/Piano*  
BRAD NETTLES, JR., *Director of Youth Ministry*  
ANNE SHAUL, *Director of Children's Education*  
AMY AUSTEN, *Parish Administrator*  
JEANNE GERHARDT, *Parish Bookkeeper*  
GILLIAN BAGLEY, *Administrative Assistant*  
WALTER STANLEY, *Sexton*

PAUL PORWOLL, *Historian*

THE RT. REV. WILLIAM J. SKILTON  
*Bishop Suffragan, South Carolina, Ret.*  
*Assistant Bishop, The Dominican Republic, Ret.*

## *The Vestry*

Kathy Abraham, 2021  
Gene Arner, 2022  
Jim Beall, 2022  
Mandy Beckmann, 2023  
Rich Carns, 2023  
Clay Chandler, 2021  
Tommy Compton, 2022  
Carrie Davis, 2023  
Jenny Fogle, 2023  
Herb Huser, 2021  
James Little, 2021, *Junior Warden*  
Michael Ulmer, 2022, *Senior Warden*  
John Steinmeyer, *Treasurer*  
Sally Hartnett, *Clerk*  
Andy Lacour, *Chancellor*

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THE RT. REV. MARK J. LAWRENCE, *Bishop of The Anglican Diocese of South Carolina*



## ANGLICAN CHURCH IN NORTH AMERICA

The Most Reverend Dr. Foley Beach, Archbishop

# The Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 29, 2020

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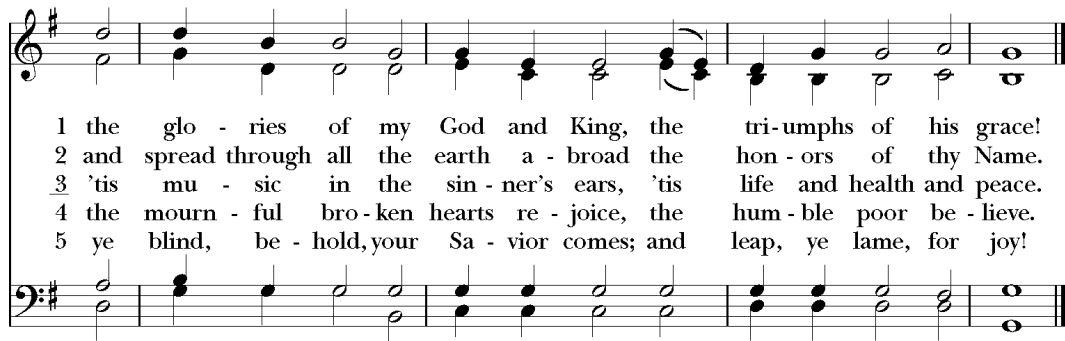
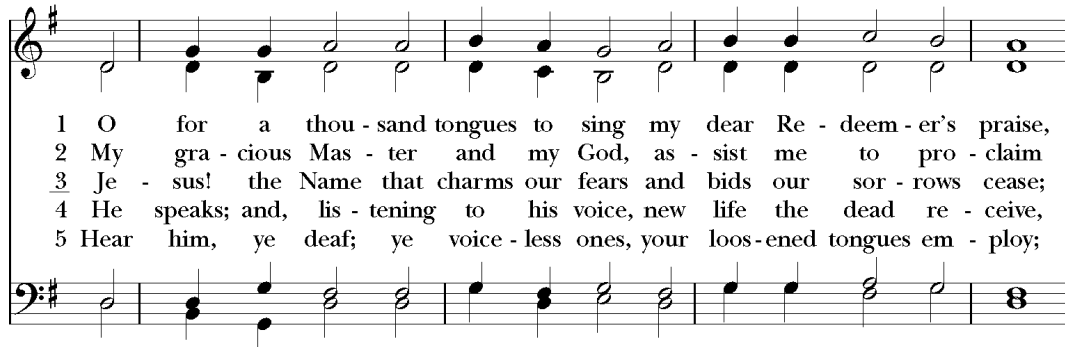
## Welcome!

to our historic, living church  
where the saints have  
gathered to worship  
since 1706!

## We Gather in the Lord's Name

Opening Song, *standing*

O For A thousand Tongues to Sing  
Verses 1-3



6 Glory to God and praise and love  
be now and ever given  
by saints below and saints above,  
the Church in earth and heaven.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt. Music: *Azmon*, Carl Gotthilf Gläser (1784-1829); adapt. and arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872)

Acclamation, *standing*

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

**His mercy endures for ever.**

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

We remember what our Lord Jesus Christ taught us:

**We should love the Lord our God with all our hearts. We should love our neighbors as ourselves.**

These two commandments explain the way God wants us to live.

The liturgy begins with the **Acclamation**, which is an eager expression of praise. In this acclamation we identify who our God is: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The Holy Trinity.

### On the cover:

The Resurrection of Lazarus (1857)  
by Léon Bonnat (1833-1922) color  
on canvas

**The Collect** is a prayer that touches on the theme of the Scripture readings and transitions us from speaking and singing God's praise to listening to his Holy Scriptures.

**The Scriptures** teach that much of our spiritual renewal is by the washing of the Word of God, which cleanses our minds and purifies our hearts. This portion of the service is known as the Liturgy of the Word, and it consists of the readings, the sermon, the creed, and the prayers of the people.

## Kyrie, *standing*

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.  
Lord, have mer - cy.

Chri - ste e - le - i - son.  
Christ, have mer - cy.

Ky - ri - e have e - le - i - son.  
Lord, mer - cy.

Words: Traditional; alt. *International Consultation on English Texts*, 1975  
Music: Brentwood, Eric Wyse, 2004 © 2006 Vine Ridge Music BMI (admin. Music Services [www.musicservices.org](http://www.musicservices.org)).

## Collect of the Day, *standing*

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.  
People: **And with your spirit.**  
Celebrant: Let us pray.

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 this 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.**

## We Hear God's Word

First Reading, *seated*

Ezekiel 37 verses 1-14

The hand of the Lord was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. And he said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord God, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the Lord."

So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four

winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.” So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

Then he said to me, “Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are indeed cut off.’ Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the Lord; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the Lord.”

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

The Second Reading, *seated*

Lazarus

SPARK Bible, pg. 440

Gospel Song, *standing*

*Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song*

1. Like the mur - mur of the dove's song, like the chal-lenge of her flight,  
 2. To the mem - bers of Christ's bo - dy, to the branch-es of the Vine,  
 like the vig - or of the wind's rush, like the new flame's ea - ger  
 to the Church in faith as - sem - bled, to her midst as gift and  
 might: come, Ho - ly Spi - rit, come.  
 sign: come, Ho - ly Spi - rit, come.

Text: Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944)  
 Music: BRIDEGROOM, Peter Cutts (b. 1937)  
 Music © 1969 Hope Publishing Company. Used by permission. CCLI# 1984772.

Gospeller: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

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

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent to him, saying, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it he said, "This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him." After saying these things, he said to them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him." The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover." Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he meant taking rest in sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus has died, and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him." Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world." When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met him. When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there. Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled. And he said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus wept. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?" Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone

lay against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out." The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

Gospeller: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Homily, *seated*

Brad Nettles, Jr.

## We Respond to God

The Nicene Creed, *standing*

Let us stand and affirm our faith in the words of the Creed.

*We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, visible and invisible.*

*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, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified who 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 **Nicene Creed** is a statement of what the Christian community believes to be true about God. It was born of rigorous intellectual debate in the fourth century, culminating in councils of the whole church at Nicaea in 325 and at Constantinople in 381. The word "creed" comes from the Latin word "credo" which means "I believe."

## We Ask for God's Forgiveness

Confession, *kneeling*

We are sinful people. In the catechism section of our Prayer Book (pg. 845), it tells us that "From the beginning, human beings have misused their freedom and made wrong choices" and that "Sin is the seeking of our own will instead of the will of God, thus distorting our relationship with God, with other people, and with all creation." Here, in the Confession, we admit our wrongdoings and lay our sins at the feet of Jesus on the cross.

"If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. " - 1 John 1:8

Let us now kneel and confess our sins, and ask for God's forgiveness.

Lord God, for all the times I have disappointed you;

**I am truly sorry.**

For all the mean or selfish things I have done;

**I am truly sorry.**

For the good and helpful things I have not done;

**I am truly sorry.**

For not loving you or other people as I should;

**I am truly sorry.**

Because Jesus died for my sins, forgive me and help me be more faithful.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

God tells us in the Bible that if we are sorry for our sins and turn from them, he will forgive us.

Absolution, *kneeling*

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.**

Peace, *standing*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And with your spirit.**



# We Give in Thanksgiving for God's Blessings

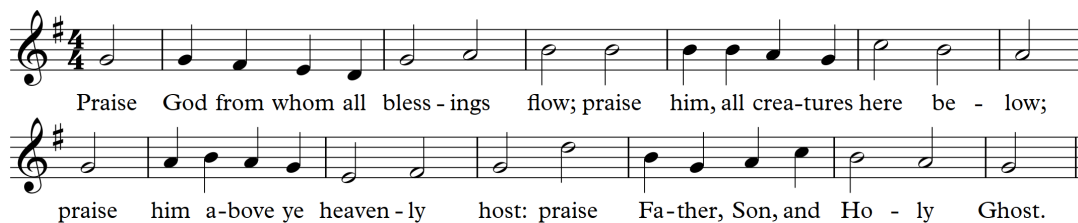
Offertory Song, *seated*

*Lead Me to the Cross*

Sung by The Worship Team

Presentation Song, *standing*

*Doxology*



Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be - low;  
praise him a-bove ye heaven - ly host: praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken (1637-1711)

Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois (1510?-1561?)

*Celebrant:*

Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for everything in heaven and on earth is yours; yours is the Kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as Head above all. All things come from you, O Lord,

*People:* **And of your own have we given you.**

# We Share God's Holy Communion

Our altar is The Lord's Table and all baptized Christians (baptized in the Name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) are welcome to receive Holy Communion here.

In the Anglican tradition, Communion is received in two kinds: in the Bread and in the Wine. The Bread is offered first and is typically placed in one's open palm. After hearing the words "The Body of Christ, the bread of Heaven," the bread is ready to be consumed. A chalice bearer will then offer the Wine. As he or she presents the cup, please gently take hold of the base of the chalice, helping the chalice bearer to guide it toward your lips.

If you or your children are not baptized, you may receive a blessing at the altar rail from the Priest. Simply cross your hands over your chest as you kneel at the rail.

Ladies, please "blot" your lipstick prior to receiving communion, as this will help preserve our beautiful altar linens.

The **Sanctus** is the song of the seraphim contained in the great vision that the prophet Isaiah experienced while worshipping in the Temple in Jerusalem. This vision is recorded in the 6th chapter of Isaiah. It is inspired by Isaiah's vision of the heavenly court "Holy, holy, holy" acknowledging the transcendence of God.

When we gather together, we remember the presence of Jesus. By repeating the words and actions of Jesus' last meal with His disciples, we join the story and make it our own. We don't just watch the drama or listen to it unfold, we enter into the story as we, too, take the bread and wine and eat and drink.

Note to parents: When children who do not yet receive Holy Communion come to the altar rail, please have them cross their arms over their chests so that the priest will know to give them a blessing.

## The Sursum Corda

*The People remain standing.*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with your spirit.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them up to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*The Celebrant continues*

It is right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

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:

## The Sanctus

1. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, Ho  
2. Bless - ed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord. Ho

Heav'n and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
san - na in the high - est, Ho san - na in the high - est.

Text: International Consultation on English Texts  
Music: LAND OF REST American; arr. Emily R. Brink (b. 1940)

## The Prayer of Consecration

*The People kneel. The Celebrant continues*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you have made us for yourself; and when we had sinned against you and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent your only Son Jesus Christ into the world for our salvation. By the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary he became flesh and dwelt among us. In obedience to your will, he stretched out his arms upon the Cross and offered himself once for all, that by his suffering and death we might be saved. By his resurrection he broke the bonds of death, trampling Hell and Satan under his feet. As our great high priest, he ascended to your right hand in glory, that we might come with confidence before the throne of grace.

On the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke 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, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for 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 in remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Word and Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Sanctify us also, that we may worthily receive this holy Sacrament, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us and we in him. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us with all your saints into the joy of your heavenly kingdom, where we shall see our Lord face to face.

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.**

This **AMEN** is often called the "Great Amen" because it is the apex of our liturgy, the powerful ending to the Eucharist Prayer.

The **Lord's Prayer**, so called because Jesus gave this prayer to His disciples as an example of how to pray, has been a part of Eucharistic liturgies since the fourth century. The link between "our daily bread" and the spiritual food we receive in the Eucharist is very ancient. In the Lord's Prayer, we ask for daily bread, meaning the things we need to get through each day. But as a part of that, the sacramental bread is Jesus Christ. When we eat of this bread, we most certainly receive our daily bread.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

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.

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

*Celebrant and People;*

We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table; but you are the same Lord whose character is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen

## The Agnus Dei (Lamb of God)

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in treble clef, with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 2/2 time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like, consisting of quarter and half notes. The lyrics are written below the staff, aligned with the notes. The score is divided into five systems, each with a single line of music. The lyrics are: "Lamb of God, You take a - way the sins of the world:", "have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us.", "Lamb of God, You take a - way the sins of the world:", "have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us.", and "Lamb of God, You take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace."

Lamb of God, You take a - way the sins of the world:

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

Lamb of God, You take a - way the sins of the world:

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

Lamb of God, You take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Setting: Eric Wyse (b. 1959).  
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If you require a gluten-free wafer, please ask the priest at the altar rail when you kneel for Communion.

## Invitation to Communion

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 Christian life is deeply personal yet is essentially corporate by nature, not private. Every act of worship is intended not only to glorify God for His own sake, but to lift up and build up one another in Christ for His sake as well. The word "liturgy" literally means "the work of the people." A central function of liturgy is to send the message that in a worship community there are no bystanders. It is corporate through and through and from one end to the other. Singing is also a form of prayer that can help carry the heart to God not only in the words being sung but beyond the reach of words. At Old St. Andrew's, we encourage you to continue to pray by singing both before and after you come to the Communion rail. In this way all of us are helping each other to lift our hearts continuously in the midst of receiving the greatest gift ever given: the life of Jesus Christ.

1. I am the Bread of life. they who come to me shall not  
 2. The bread that I will give is my Flesh for the life of the  
 3. Un - less you eat of the Flesh of the Son of  
 4. I am the res - ur - rec - tion, I am the  
 5. Yes, Lord, we be - lieve that You are the

hun - ger, they who be - lieve in me shall not thirst.  
 world, and they who eat of this bread,  
 Man and drink of His blood, you  
 life. They who be - lieve in me,  
 Christ, the Son of God,

No one can come to me un - less the Fa - ther draw them.  
 they shall live for - ever, they shall live for - ev - er.  
 shall not have life with - in you, you shall not have life with - in you.  
 e - ven if they die, they shall live for - ev - er.  
 who has come in - to the world.

*Refrain*

And I will raise them up, and I will raise them  
 up, and I will raise them up on the last day.

Text: John 6, adapt. Suzanne Toolan, RSM, (b. 1927)

Music: Suzanne Toolan, RSM ©1966 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission. OneLicense A-716890

*The Post Communion Prayer**After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People:*

Heavenly Father,

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.

## The Blessing

Recessional Song, *standing*

*Take My Life*

Verses 1-2



Take my life, that I may be con-se-crated, Lord,  
to thee; take my moments and my days;  
let them flow in cease-less praise. 1. Take my hands and let  
2. Take my voice and let  
3. Take my silver and  
4. Take my will and make  
them move at the impulse of thy love;  
me sing al-ways, on-ly for my King;  
my gold, not a mite would I with-hold  
it thine, it shall be no long-er mine;  
take my feet and let them be swift and  
take my lips and let them be filled with  
take my in-tel-lect and use ev-'ry  
take my heart, it is thine own, it shall  
beau-ti-ful for thee.  
mes-sag-es from thee.  
pow'r as thou shalt choose.  
be thy roy-al throne.

We have been blessed by being here. Now, at the end of the service, we are reminded that God takes loving delight in blessing us abundantly. We leave in peace, forgiven, fed, and sent out with a purpose in the name of Jesus Christ.

## We Go Out to Serve God

Let us go forth into the world in the Name of Christ!

Thanks be to God!

After hearing his holy Word and eating and drinking of his precious Body & Blood, we are sent out into the world to proclaim the great things Jesus has done for us.

## A Brief History of Saint Andrew's Parish Church

Built in 1706, this simple, elegant church is the oldest surviving structure used for worship south of Virginia. It is South Carolina's only remaining colonial cruciform church.

St. Andrew's Parish Church (commonly known as Old St. Andrew's) was one of ten Anglican churches in South Carolina established in 1706 by the Church Act. It was built to serve the Anglican planters along the Ashley River, a thriving tidal waterway that connected them to the city of Charles Town and to each other.

The ancient building holds a full schedule of worship services every Sunday. Some of its earliest counterparts are still used, but less often. (None is older.) Others have been replaced or augmented by newer buildings, some centuries old themselves, some modern. Still others have vanished, or their ruins stand in eerie silence to ages past. Visitors to this national treasure see a beautifully restored building, but the church hides a past that left it for dead many times.

Rice, indigo, and slaves brought prosperity to the lands along the Ashley, where some of the wealthiest plantations in British North America were located. The church was expanded to the shape of a cross in 1723 to accommodate a growing population. It survived a major fire in the 1760s but was quickly rebuilt inside its existing walls. But the parish declined before the Revolution and into the antebellum era. Ministering to the slaves, at the church and three plantation chapels, became the focus of the clergy. From 1851 to 1891, the Rev. John Grimké Drayton, the renowned horticulturalist at Magnolia-on-the-Ashley just north of St. Andrew's, was rector.

The church was one of the few buildings along the Ashley that Union troops did not burn to the ground during the Civil War. It became a polling place and did not reopen until 1876, eleven years after the war ended. The parish found itself at the epicenter of two of the most important events of late nineteenth century Charleston: the phosphate mining boom along the Ashley and the Great Earthquake of 1886, which caused significant damage to the church. After Rev. Drayton died in 1891, St. Andrew's lay dormant for the next fifty-seven years.

In 1948 Episcopalians moving to the West Ashley suburbs reopened the dilapidated church, even though it was far away from new residential developments. Dogged perseverance brought slow but continual improvements. A parish house was built, and then expanded twice in quick succession. Hurricane Hugo (1989) caused major damage to the graveyard. Into the twenty-first century, the church undertook the most extensive restoration in its history and celebrated its tercentennial.

For more than 300 years, St. Andrew's has survived, indeed has thrived, against all odds.