



Christ Church Cathedral, Mobile, Alabama

Holy Eucharist, Rite I: The Annunciation

Wednesday, March 25, 2026

5:15 p.m.

We invite you to participate in the worship of God. Our service is The Holy Eucharist: Rite I. For ease of use, this booklet contains the congregational portions of the liturgy and service music. Congregational responses are printed in bold. Hymn numbers refer to The Hymnal 1982. Lesson and Gospel texts are taken from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible. This year, when appropriate, the lessons for this service will commemorate Saints of the Episcopal Church.

Prelude

Welcome

The Word of God

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.

BCP 323

People: **His mercy endureth for ever.**

The Collect for Purity

Celebrant:

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.

Celebrant: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Celebrant: Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Pour your grace into our hearts, O Lord, that we who have known the incarnation of your Son Jesus Christ, announced by an angel to the Virgin Mary, may by his cross and passion be brought to the glory of his resurrection; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

Psalm 40:5-10

Expectans, expectavi

BCP 640



- 5 Great things are they that you have done, O Lord my God!
how great your wonders and your plans for **us!** *
there is none who can be compared with **you.**
- 6 Oh, that I could make them known and tell **them!** *
but they are more than I can **count.**
- 7 In sacrifice and offering you take no **pleasure** *
(you have given me ears to **hear you**);
- 8 Burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not **required,** *
and so I said, “Behold, I **come.**”
- 9 In the roll of the book it is written concerning **me:** *
“I love to do your will, O my God;
your law is deep in my **heart.**”
- 10 I proclaimed righteousness in the great **congregation;** *
behold, I did not restrain my lips;
and that, O Lord, you **know.**

Silence.

Sequence Hymn

The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended vv. 1, 2

The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended, the darkness falls at thy behest;
to thee our morning hymns ascended, thy praise shall sanctify our rest.

We thank thee that thy Church, unsleeping while earth rolls onward into light,
through all the world her watch is keeping, and rests not now by day or night.

St. Clement
Hymnal 24

The Holy Gospel:

Luke 1:26-38

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People: **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. And he came to her and said, “Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.” But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.” Then Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

Meditation

Silence.

The Prayers of the People

The leader and people pray responsively.

BCP 328

Celebrant: Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Lord, in thy mercy, hear our prayer.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers especially Russell, our bishop, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

Lord, in thy mercy, hear our prayer.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

Lord, in thy mercy, hear our prayer.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Lord, in thy mercy, hear our prayer.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

Lord, in thy mercy, hear our prayer.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

Lord, in thy mercy, hear our prayer.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Lord, in thy mercy, hear our prayer.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

BCP 330

Celebrant: Let us humbly confess our sins unto almighty God.

Celebrant and People:

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all men: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ is the righteous; and he is the perfect offering for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world. *1 John 2:1-2*

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And with thy spirit.**

The Holy Communion

The Offertory

Solo

Richard Shepard

(1949-2021)

Drop, Drop Slow Tears

Mollie Adams, *soprano*

Drop, drop, slow tears, and bathe those beauteous feet,
which brought from heaven the news and Prince of Peace.

Cease not, wet eyes, his mercies to entreat;
to cry for vengeance sin doth never cease.

In your deep floods drown all my faults and fears;
nor let his eyes see sin, but through my tears.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer II

BCP 335

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 to the Lord our God.

People: **It is meet and right so to do.**

Celebrant: 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. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was in every way tempted as we are, yet did not sin; by whose grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer unto ourselves, but unto him who died for us and rose again. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying :

Sanctus

Hymnal S-114

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:

Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.

Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant:

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for 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 to thee, 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, he 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 remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, 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; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, and in 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,

The Lord's Prayer

BCP 364

**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.**

Fraction Anthem

BCP 337

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

Prayer of Humble Access

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.

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant:

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People:

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

Celebrant: Look with compassion, O Lord, upon this your people; that, rightly observing this holy season, they may learn to know you more fully, and to serve you with a more perfect will; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Post Communion Hymn

*St. Clement
Hymnal 24*

The day thou gavest vv. 3, 4
As o'er each continent and island
the dawn leads on another day,
the voice of prayer is never silent,
nor dies the strain of praise away.
So be it, Lord; thy throne shall never,
like earth's proud empires, pass away;
thy kingdom stands, and grows for ever,
till all thy creatures own thy sway.

Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

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Hymnal 24: Words: John Ellerton (1826-1893). Music: *St. Clement*, Clement Cottevill Scholefield (1839-1904).

Drop, Drop Slow Tears: Words: Phineas Fletcher (1582-1650). Music: Richard Shepard (1949-2021).

Hymnal S-114: Setting: From *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880-1968). By permission of Oxford University Press.

HOLY WEEK & EASTER AT THE CATHEDRAL

From the earliest times Christian pilgrims have followed the path of Jesus in his last days. From this beginning evolved the rites we observe today. These services provide a liturgical experience of the last days of Jesus' earthly life, as well as the time and events leading up to his resurrection. There are special liturgies for each of these days. The three holy days, or Triduum, of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and The Great Vigil of Easter are at the heart of the Holy Week and Easter observance.



PALM SUNDAY

March 29 at 10:00 a.m. *^o

The Liturgy of the Palms begins in the garden.



WEEKDAY HOLY EUCHARIST IN THE EVENING

Monday, March 30; Tuesday, March 31; Wednesday, April 1 *

Holy Eucharist, Rite II at 5:15 p.m. in the Church



THE EASTER TRIDUUM

MAUNDY THURSDAY EUCHARISTS

Maundy Thursday, April 2 at Noon in the Church *

5:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist with Foot Washing in the Chapel

GOOD FRIDAY LITURGY

Good Friday, April 3 at Noon in the Church *

THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER

Saturday, April 4 at 7:30 p.m. beginning in the Garden



THE SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION:

EASTER SUNDAY

FESTIVAL EUCHARIST April 5 at 10:00 a.m. *^o

FLOWERING OF THE CROSS

Please remember to come a few minutes early on Easter Sunday and to bring flowers for the Easter Cross.

The annual parish photo will be taken at the end of the service.

ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT

Following the service in Mardi Gras Park.

Our Children's Easter Egg hunt for toddlers through grade 2 will take place in Mardi Gras Park.

Please bring a dozen stuffed, plastic eggs (no nuts, chocolate) for each child by Friday, April 18.

** Indicates which services will be live-streamed.*

^o Indicates the nursery will be available.



Ministers For Today

Celebrant The Reverend Thomas K. Heard
Organist.....Josh Coble
Cantor.....Mollie Adams
Altar Guild Barbara Archer, Skip Archer, Linda Grill



CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL CATHEDRAL OF THE DIOCESE OF THE CENTRAL GULF COAST

The Right Reverend J. Russell Kendrick, *Bishop*
The Very Reverend Beverly F. Gibson, Ph.D., *Rector and Dean*
The Reverend Thomas K. Heard, *Priest Associate*
The Reverend Pratt Paterson, *Deacon*
Dr. Joshua H. Coble, *Organist and Choirmaster*
Mollie A. Adams, *Cantor*
Andy R. Palileo, *Audio-Visual Specialist*

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