



Christ Church Cathedral, Mobile, Alabama
Holy Communion of the Simple Presence
The Feast of Saint Manche Masemola
Wednesday, February 4, 2026

5:15 p.m.

We invite you to participate in the worship of God. Our service is Enriching Our Worship. 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

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who kindled the flame of your love in the heart of your faithful martyr Manche Masemola; Grant to us your servants, a like faith and power of love, that we who rejoice in her triumph may profit by her example; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen. **Amen.**

The Lessons

Psalm 118: 8-14

Confitemini Domino

BCP 761

8 It is better to rely on the **Lord** *
than to put any trust in **flesh**.
9 It is better to rely on the **Lord** *
than to put any trust in **rulers**.
10 All the ungodly encompass **me**; *
in the name of the Lord I will repel **them**.
11 They hem me in, they hem me in on every **side**; *
in the name of the Lord I will repel **them**.
12 They swarm about me like bees;
they blaze like a fire of **thorns**; *
in the name of the Lord I will repel **them**.
13 I was pressed so hard that I almost **fell**, *
but the Lord came to help **me**.
14 The Lord is my strength and my **song**, *
and he has become my **salvation**.

Silence.

Phos hilaron

The Eighth Tune
Hymnal 25

O gracious Light, Lord Jesus Christ, in you the Father's glory shone.

Immortal, holy, blest is he, and blest are you, his holy Son.

Now sunset comes, but light shines forth, the lamps are lit to pierce the night.

Praise Father, Son, and Spirit: God who dwells in the eternal light.

Worthy are you of endless praise, O Son of God, Life-giving Lord;
wherefore you are through all the earth and in the highest heaven adored.

The Holy Gospel:

Matthew 19:13-15

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

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

Then little children were being brought to Jesus in order that he might lay his hands on them and pray. The disciples spoke sternly to those who brought them; but Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs." And he laid his hands on them and went on his way.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Meditation

Silence.

The Prayers of the People: Form II

The leader and people pray responsively.

BCP 385

Celebrant: I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishop, Russell; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.

Pray for the Church.

Silence.

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.

Pray for justice and peace.

Silence.

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.

Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence.

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.

Pray that they may find and be found by him.

Silence.

I ask your prayers for the departed.

Pray for those who have died.

Silence.

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored especially Saint Manche Masemola whom we remember today.

Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence.

Confession of Sin

BCP 359

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins to God.

Celebrant and People:

God of all mercy,

**we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.**

**We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.**

**We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.**

**Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.**

Celebrant:

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

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

The Holy Communion

The Offertory

Solo

Henry Walford Davies

Blessed are the Pure in Heart

Mollie Adams, soprano

(1869-1941)

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see our God:
the secret of the Lord is theirs, their soul is Christ's abode.

Still to the lowly soul he doth himself impart,
and for His cradle and his throne chooseth the pure in heart.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer I

EOW 57

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant: It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life. Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

Sanctus

Hymnal S-125

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant: Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Celebrant: Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with Manche Masemola and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has 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

EOW 69

Celebrant: We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

People: **We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.**

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant:

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People:

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Blessing

EOW 70

Celebrant: God's Blessing be with you, Christ's peace be with you, the Spirit's outpouring be with you, now and always. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Closing Hymn

Simple Gifts
Hymnal 554

'Tis the gift to be simple

'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free,
'tis the gift to come down where we ought to be,
and when we find ourselves in the place just right,
 'twill be in the valley of love and delight.

 When true simplicity is gained
 to bow and to bend we shan't be ashamed,
 to turn, turn, will be our delight
 till by turning, turning we come round right.



MANCHE MASEMOLA

(1913-1928)

MARTYR

Manche Masemola (1913-1928) was born in Marishane, a small village near Jane Furse, in South Africa. She lived with her parents, two older brothers, a sister, and a cousin.

By 1919, an Anglican Community of the Resurrection mission was established by Fr. Augustine Moeka at Marishane. Masemola attended classes in preparation for baptism with her cousin Lucia, against the wishes of her parents. Her parents took her to a *Sangoma* (African traditional healer), claiming that she had been bewitched. Relations worsened, and the mother hid the girl's clothes so she could not attend Christian instructional classes. On February 4, 1928, her parents led the teenager to a lonely place, where they killed her, burying her by a granite rock on a remote hillside. Manche had said that she would be baptized in her own blood. She died without having been baptized.

Manche's mother converted to Christianity and was baptised forty years later in 1969. Manche was declared a martyr by the Church of the Province of Southern Africa in less than ten years.

She is one of the ten 20th-century martyrs from across the world who are depicted in statues above the Great West Door of Westminster Abbey, London.

CATHEDRAL NOTES



JOE CAIN SUNDAY SERVICE WILL BE AT 8:00 A.M.

We are trying something new this year. We will gather for Holy Eucharist, Rite II at 8:00 a.m. on Sunday, February 15. There will be no nursery or hospitality that day so that we can leave safely and quickly at the end of the service. Joe Cain Sunday parking passes are available on the ministry table and in the Cathedral office. Please place a pass on your dashboard when traveling to church that day. Parking will be on the street only.



ASH WEDNESDAY

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Holy Eucharist, Rite II with the Imposition of Ashes
at Noon and 5:30 p.m. in the Cathedral



EPISCOPAL RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT SUNDAY

Sunday, February 22

The first Sunday in Lent is the day officially designated to encourage all Episcopalians to remember and support Episcopal Relief & Development's (ERD) life-saving mission. On the ministry table we have ERD envelopes and boxes available for you or your children to use for a Lenten offering.



CHARITABLE GIFT STATEMENTS

Charitable Gift Statements were emailed on January 20. If you did not receive your statement or prefer to have a hard copy mailed, please contact Brenda Stanton in the office at bstanton@christchurchcathedralmobile.org.

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Hymnal 25: Words: Greek, 3rd cent.; tr. F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984); para. of *O Gracious Light*. Music: *The Eighth Tune*, Thomas Tallis (1505?-1585).
Blessed are the Pure in Heart: Words: John Keble (1792-1866). Music: Henry Walford Davies (1869-1941).

Hymnal S-125: Setting: From *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937).

Hymnal 554: Words: Shaker song, 18th cent. Music: *Simple Gifts*, Shaker melody.



Ministers For Today

Celebrant The Reverend Beverly F. Gibson
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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