

St. Monica's Episcopal Church

Where we "Pray, Give, Love"

Welcome to Saint Monica's Episcopal Church. We rejoice that you came to our church today, and we hope that you feel at home here.

As you consider what brought you here, perhaps seeking spiritual growth, looking for community, or responding to a simple invitation, please take a moment to look at the opportunities listed in the announcements included with this bulletin to find ways to grow in your faith and find a place of welcome. If you have any questions about how you can take part in the community of St. Monica's or about the Episcopal Church, please feel free to contact Fr. Jonathan Evans.

Again, we are glad you are here at Saint Monica's Episcopal Church where all are welcome.

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

HOLY EUCHARIST II

Saturday 5:00 pm February 24, 2024

Sunday 10:00 am, February 25, 2024

Bishop

The Rt. Rev. Douglas F. Scharf

Rector

The Rev. Jonathan W. Evans

Director of Music

Dr. David Gomez

Lectors This Week

5 pm Kathy Crevier

10 am Sue Adams

Ushers This Week

5 pm Ann Hoffman and Linda Duffy

10 am Jeff Gault and Ashan Nabbie

Greeters This Week

Ed and Toni Strong

Acolytes This Week

Beau Crevier

Betsy Smith

Members of the Altar Guild

Lorraine Ciano, Linda Duffy, Linda Freund, Mary Gentzle, Sandy Kilmon, Donna Janosec-Luzzi, Stacey McCurdy, Theresa Miller, JoAnn Sarconi, Charles Shaw, Lisa Shaw, Ruthann Turley, Heather Williamson

Camera Operator

Ashan Nabbie

Flower Guild Team

Sharon Lapierre and Debbie Corey

**** Please remember to silence your electronic devices during the service. ****

*Service begins with the Voluntary and the lighting of the candles.
Please use this time for silent prayer and meditation.*

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Please stand as you are able

Hymn in Procession

Morning

Hymn 10

Opening Acclamation

Page 355, BCP

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.
People His mercy endures for ever.

If we say that 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. *1 John 1:8,9*

Confession and Absolution

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be observed.

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.

Celebrant 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.*

All Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal One
Have mercy upon us.

Trisagion

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One

S-100

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

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.*

First Reading

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant

with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.

God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.”

Psalm 5pm Spoken *Deus, Deus meus* Psalm 22:22–30
 10am Chanted



22 Praise the LORD, you that / fear him;*
stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel; all you of Jacob’s line, / give glory.

23 For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;
neither does he hide his / face from them;*
but when they cry to him / he hears them.

24 My praise is of him in the great as/sembly;*
I will perform my vows in the presence of those / who worship him.

25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
and those who seek the LORD shall / praise him:*
“May your heart live / for ever!”

26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the / LORD;*
and all the families of the nations shall bow / before him.

27 For kingship belongs to the / LORD;*
he rules over / the nations.

28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in / worship;*
all who go down to the dust fall / before him.

29 My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall / serve him;*
they shall be known as the LORD’s / for ever.

30 They shall come and make known to a people / yet unborn*
the saving deeds / that he has done.

The Second Lesson

Romans 4:13–25

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. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become “the father of many nations,” according to what was said, “So numerous shall your descendants be.” He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the

barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

Take Up Your Cross

Hymn 675

Gospel

Mark 8:31-38

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Mark.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus began to teach his disciples that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Rev. Jonathan W. Evans

Please stand as you are able

The Nicene Creed

Page 358, BCP

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.*

Please stand or kneel as you are able.

The Prayers of the People

Page 387, BCP

The Leader and People pray responsively

Let us pray for the Church and for the world. Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Concluding Collect

Almighty God, by your Holy Spirit you have made us one with your saints in heaven and on earth: Grant that in our earthly pilgrimage we may always be supported by this fellowship of love and prayer, and know ourselves to be surrounded by their witness to your power and mercy. We ask this for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whom all our intercessions are acceptable through the Spirit, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever.
Amen.

Please stand as you are able.

The Peace

Celebrant	The peace of the Lord be always with you.
<i>People</i>	And also with you.

The Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence

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

Offertory Anthem

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer C, BCP 369

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 him thanks and praise.**

The Celebrant continues:

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.
Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Sanctus and Benedictus

Holy, Holy, Holy

Franz Schubert, S-130

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

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

Hosanna in the highest.

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, 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."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: 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 for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,
We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation.
AMEN.

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

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.

Breaking of the Bread

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

Fraction Anthem

Jesus, Lamb of God

Franz Schubert, S-164

Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us. Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world: give us your peace, give us your peace.

Celebrant The gifts of God for the people of God

You are invited and encouraged to come to God's table. The communion bread is received on an outstretched palm.

If you wish to receive a blessing instead of the sacrament, please cross your arms over your chest.

Communion Hymn

Draw Nigh and Take the Body of the Lord

Hymn 327

Please stand as you are able.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Page 365, BCP

Almighty and everliving God, 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

Response: *Amen.*

Hymn in Procession

Take My Life, and Let It Be

Hymn 707

The Dismissal

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Please stay seated for the postlude before departing.

What is St. Monica's about?

As an Episcopal Church, we believe the mission of the Church is to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ. The Church pursues its mission as it prays and worships, proclaims the Gospel, and promotes justice, peace, and love. The church carries out its mission through the ministry of all its members. (Book of Common Prayer, p. 855)

Within this framework, St. Monica's maintains a culture where ...

- **We warmly welcome all.** We affirm the dignity of all humanity through a warm and friendly welcome.
- **We connect with the community.** We support ministries with our talents, finances, and passions.
- **We cultivate a culture that welcomes children and youth,** affirming them in their baptismal identity and that they are children of God with gifts to offer to the church.
- **Music plays a vital role in our worship and outreach to the community.**
- **Through prayer, friendship, and community, God's Spirit heals us.**
- **Fun is a high value** in our community and is woven throughout our congregational life.
- **We open ourselves to the Spirit.** We have a long history of trying new ventures and ministries. Within the framework of our Episcopal values, we are open to change.

Parish Staff

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Vestry

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