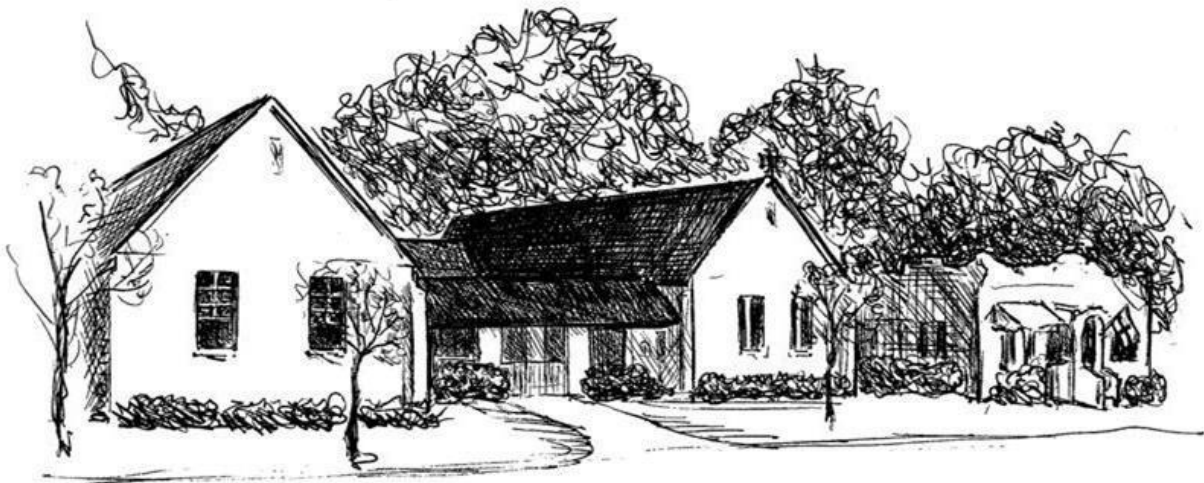


# St. Matthias

## Episcopal Church

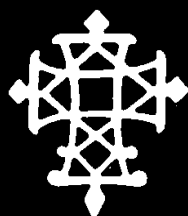


*St. Matthias Church strives to love God with all our hearts, souls, minds, and strength; and strives to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. (Mark 12:29-30)*

**Sunday**  
**March 1, 2026**

**The Second Sunday in Lent**

**Holy Eucharist Rite I**  
**7:45 AM**



**The Rt. Rev. Dr. Justin S. Holcomb, Bishop**

**The Rev. James M. Dorn III, Rector**

352.460.9580 · [jmdorn3@gmail.com](mailto:jmdorn3@gmail.com)

**Mrs. Gina Mobley, M.A., Music Ministries Director**

574 W. Montrose Street · Clermont, FL 34711

Office: 528 W. Montrose Street · Clermont, FL 34711 · 352.394.3855

Visit us at: [www.stmatthiasfl.com](http://www.stmatthiasfl.com) · [facebook.com/stmatthiasfl](https://facebook.com/stmatthiasfl)

*Talk to God before Church. Listen to God during Church. Talk to each other after Church.*

# The Word of God

## Penitential Order

### OPENING ACCLAMATION (BCP p. 351)

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

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

### DECALOGUE (BCP p. 317)

*The Decalogue is said, the People kneeling as they are able.*

God spake these words, and said:

I am the Lord thy God who brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.  
Thou shalt have none other gods but me.

**Lord, have mercy upon us,  
and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Thou shalt not make to thyself any graven image, nor the likeness of any thing that is in  
heaven above, or in the earth beneath, or in the water under the earth; thou shalt not bow  
down to them, nor worship them.

**Lord, have mercy upon us,  
and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in vain.

**Lord, have mercy upon us,  
and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day.

**Lord, have mercy upon us,  
and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Honor thy father and thy mother.

**Lord, have mercy upon us,  
and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Thou shalt do no murder.

**Lord, have mercy upon us,  
and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Thou shalt not commit adultery.

**Lord, have mercy upon us,  
and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Thou shalt not steal.

**Lord, have mercy upon us,  
and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

**Lord, have mercy upon us,  
and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Thou shalt not covet.

**Lord, have mercy upon us,  
and write all these thy laws in our hearts, we beseech thee.**

*The Deacon or Celebrant then says*

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

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister and People*

**Almighty and most merciful Father,  
we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep,  
we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts,  
we have offended against thy holy laws,  
we have left undone those things which we ought to have done,  
and we have done those things which we ought not to have done.  
But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us,  
spare thou those who confess their faults,  
restore thou those who are penitent,  
according to thy promises declared unto mankind  
in Christ Jesus our Lord;  
and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,  
that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life,  
to the glory of thy holy Name. *Amen.***

*The Priest stands and says*

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. ***Amen.***

**OPENING ANTHEM OR SONG OF PRAISE (BCP p. 324)**

*The following is said, all standing*

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One.  
**Have mercy upon us.**

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY (BCP p. 357)

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 thy ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of thy Word, Jesus Christ thy Son; who with thee and the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## The Lessons

**FIRST READING:** Genesis 12:1-4a

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the book of Genesis.

Now 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.

Reader        The Word of the Lord.

**People        Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM (SAID IN UNISON):** Psalm 121

*Remain seated.*

**I lift up my eyes to the hills;**

**from where is my help to come?**

**My help comes from the LORD,**

**the maker of heaven and earth.**

**He will not let your foot be moved**

**and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.**

**Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel**

**shall neither slumber nor sleep;**

**The LORD himself watches over you;**

**the LORD is your shade at your right hand,**

**So that the sun shall not strike you by day,**

**nor the moon by night.**

**The LORD shall preserve you from all evil;**

**it is he who shall keep you safe.**

**The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in,**

**from this time forth forevermore.**

## **SECOND READING:** Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

*Remain seated.*

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

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.

**Reader**            The Word of the Lord.

**People**            **Thanks be to God.**

## **THE GOSPEL:** John 3:1-17

*Remain standing.*

**Priest**            The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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

Now 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.

*(Continues on next page...)*

“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.”

Priest            The Gospel of the Lord.

People           Praise to you, Lord Christ.

## **THE SERMON**

**FATHER JIM DORN**

*To request a copy of the Sermon, please contact Fr. Jim at [jmdorn3@gmail.com](mailto:jmdorn3@gmail.com).*

## **A MOMENT OF SILENCE**

### **THE NICENE CREED (BCP p. 358)**

**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.***

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (BCP p. 328)

*All remain standing.*

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

*After each paragraph of this prayer, the People may make an appropriate response, as directed.*

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.

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

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.

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

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.

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

*Additional petitions and thanksgivings may be included here.*

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

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

**Amen.**

## THE PEACE (BCP p. 360)

*All stand.*

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

**People**             **And also with you.**

*Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## The Holy Communion

### OFFERTORY SENTENCE (BCP p. 376)

*The Celebrant says*

Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

*Options for Giving:*

1. Checks can be made payable to St. Matthias Church. All offerings can be placed in the offertory plate or wooden boxes at the back of the Church and the East Door.
2. Credit or Debit Card via the giving tab on our website [stmatthiasfl.com/online-giving/](http://stmatthiasfl.com/online-giving/).
3. Text-to-Give via your smart phone to 73256 with matthias & amount in body of text.  
*Example: matthias \$25*

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

*Celebrant and People*

**God of all goodness and grace, receive the gifts we offer; and grant that our whole life may give you glory and praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## The Great Thanksgiving

### SURSUM CORDA (BCP p. 367)

*The People remain standing.*

**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.**

### PROPER PREFACE (BCP p. 378)

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

Worship and praise belong to you, maker of light and darkness. Your wisdom draws beauty from chaos, brings a harvest out of sorrow and leads the exiles home. In Christ your Son enemies are reconciled, debts forgiven and strangers made welcome. Your Spirit frees us to live as sons and daughters in our Father's house. We who by Christ's power follow the way of the Cross, sharing the joy of his obedience, now offer you our praise, with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven singing the hymn of your unending glory:

### SANCTUS S-129 *Holy, holy, holy Lord (Powell)*

**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.**

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION (BCP p. 362)

*The Celebrant continues*

Glory and thanksgiving be to you, most loving Father, for Christ in whom the world is reconciled. Lifted on the Cross, his suffering and forgiveness spanned the gulf our sins had made. Through that dark struggle death was swallowed up in victory, that life and light might reign.

Before he was given up to suffering and death, recalling the night of Israel's release, the night in which the sons of Egypt died, your Chosen One, himself the First-Born, freely offered his life.

At supper with his disciples he took bread and offered you thanks. He broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying: "Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you."

After supper, he took the cup, he offered you thanks, and gave it to them saying: "Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new covenant; it is poured out for you, and for all, that sins may be forgiven. Do this in remembrance of me."

We now obey your Son's command. We recall his blessed passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension; and we look for the coming of his Kingdom. Made one with him, we offer you these gifts and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice.

Hear us, most merciful Father, and send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and this wine, that, overshadowed by his life-giving power, they may be the Body and Blood of your Son, and we may be kindled with the fire of your love and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

Help us, who are baptised into the fellowship of Christ's Body to live and work to your praise and glory; may we grow together in unity and love until at last, in your new creation, we enter into our heritage in the company of the Virgin Mary, the apostles, and prophets, and of all our brothers and sisters living and departed.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be to you, Lord of all ages, world without end. **Amen.**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER (BCP p. 363)**

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

*People and Celebrant*

**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,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

## **The Breaking of the Bread**

### **FRACTION ANTHEM**

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,

**have mercy upon us.**

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,

**have mercy upon us.**

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,

**grant us thy peace.**

## **PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS**

*The following prayer may be said. The People may join in saying this prayer*

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.**

## **INVITATION (BCP p. 364)**

*The Celebrant says*

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.

## **DISTRIBUTION (BCP p. 365)**

*In the Episcopal Church, all baptized Christians, regardless of denomination or age, are welcome to receive the real and living presence of Christ in this Holy Communion.*

*When it is your turn, please extend your hands upward, palms crossed to receive the bread (also called a wafer or host). When the cup of wine comes to you, either dip (also called intinction) the bread into the cup of wine and consume the bread or leave the bread in the palm of your hands, and the Eucharistic Minister will dip the bread into the cup of wine for you and place on your tongue. You may also choose to consume the bread without dipping it into the cup of wine.*

*Anyone may come forward for a prayer for God's blessings in lieu of receiving Communion. Please indicate your desire for a blessing by crossing your arms across your chest.*

*The Priest will gladly bring communion or provide a blessing to anyone unable to come forward for Communion, please, let one of the Ushers know if this is desired.*

***Ushers will direct the congregation to receive Communion.***

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. **Amen.**

## **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (BCP p. 365)**

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

**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.****

## **PRAYER FOR EUCHARISTIC VISITORS (said by all when needed)**

*Celebrant and People*

**We send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood. We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup. **Amen.****

**BIRTHDAY BLESSING** (BCP p. 830)

Watch over thy child, O Lord, as *his* days increase; bless and guide *him* wherever *he* may be. Strengthen *him* when *he* stands; comfort *him* when discouraged or sorrowful; raise *him* up if *he* fall; and in *his* heart may thy peace which passeth understanding abide all the days of *his* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

**ANNIVERSARY BLESSING** (BCP p. 431)

O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

**BLESSING OF THE PEOPLE**

Let gratitude be the pillow upon which you kneel to say your nightly prayer. And let faith be the bridge you build to overcome evil and welcome good. And may the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

Maya Angelou, Celebrations: Rituals of Peace and Prayer (2006)

**DISMISSAL** (BCP p. 366)

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**People**        **Thanks be to God.**