



## **St. Francis Episcopal Church**

*Holy Saturday  
Sábado Santo*

March 30, 2024

9:00 am

**Welcome to St. Francis.** *Your presence among us deepens and enriches our worship, and for that we are grateful. In this service leaflet, the people's responses are in **bold**. The time prior to the service is set aside for prayerful waiting and reflection. Please be respectful in observing silence at this time. Please silence all electronic devices. If you are a guest this morning and would like to know more about St. Francis, please fill out a visitor card in the pew pocket and place it in the offering plate. The Rev. Toni Belhu would like to sit down with you for a visit. You may reach her at the church office at 828-287-3888 ext. 2 or her cell at 704-215-1882.*

*There is no celebration of the Eucharist on this day.*

*En este día no se celebra la Eucaristía.*

*When there is a Liturgy of the word, the Celebrant begins with the Collect of the Day*

*Cuando haya la Liturgia de la Palabra el Celebrante comienza con la Colecta del Día.*

O God, Creator of heaven and earth: Grant that, as the crucified body of your dear Son was laid in the tomb and rested on this holy Sabbath, so we may await with him the coming of the third day, and rise with him to newness of life; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Oh Dios, Creador de cielo y tierra: Concede que, así como el cuerpo crucificado de tu amado Hijo fue puesto en el sepulcro y descansó en este Sábado santo, de la misma manera aguardemos con él la venida del tercer día, y resucitemos con él a la vida nueva; quien vive ahora y reina contigo y el Espíritu Santo, un solo Dios, por los siglos de los siglos. **Amén.**

### FIRST LESSON

Lamentations 3:1-9, 19-24

I am one who has seen affliction under the rod of God's wrath; he has driven and brought me into darkness without any light; against me alone he turns his hand, again and again, all day long. He has made my flesh and my skin waste away, and broken my bones; he has besieged and enveloped me with bitterness and tribulation; he has made me sit in darkness like the dead of long ago. He has walled me about so that I cannot escape; he has put heavy chains on me; though I call and cry for help, he shuts out my prayer; he has blocked my ways with hewn stones, he has made my paths crooked. The thought of my affliction and my homelessness is wormwood and gall! My soul continually thinks of it and is bowed down within me. But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. "The Lord is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in him."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 31:1-4, 15-16

In you, O Lord, I seek refuge;  
do not let me ever be put to shame;  
in your righteousness deliver me.  
Incline your ear to me;  
rescue me speedily.  
Be a rock of refuge for me,  
a strong fortress to save me.  
You are indeed my rock and my fortress;  
for your name's sake lead me and guide me,  
take me out of the net that is hidden for me,  
for you are my refuge.  
My times are in your hand;  
deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors.  
Let your face shine upon your servant;  
save me in your steadfast love.

SECOND LESSON

1 Peter 4:1-8

Since therefore Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same intention (for whoever has suffered in the flesh has finished with sin), so as to live for the rest of your earthly life no longer by human desires but by the will of God. You have already spent enough time in doing what the Gentiles like to do, living in licentiousness, passions, drunkenness, revels, carousing, and lawless idolatry. They are surprised that you no longer join them in the same excesses of dissipation, and so they blaspheme. But they will have to give an accounting to him who stands ready to judge the living and the dead. For this is the reason the gospel was proclaimed even to the dead, so that, though they had been judged in the flesh as everyone is judged, they might live in the spirit as God does. The end of all things is near; therefore be serious and discipline yourselves for the sake of your prayers. Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 27:57-66

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

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

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who was also a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus; then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. So Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock. He then rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

**The Guard at the Tomb**

The next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate and said, "Sir, we remember what that impostor said while he was still alive, 'After three days I will rise again.' Therefore command the tomb to be made secure until the third day; otherwise his disciples may go and steal him away, and tell the people, 'He has been raised from the dead,' and the last deception would be worse than the first." Pilate said to them, "You have a guard of soldiers; go, make it as secure as you can." So they went with the guard and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*The following Anthem "In the midst of life" is said  
Se dice la Antífona, "En medio de la vida"*

In the midst of life we are in death;  
from whom can we seek help?  
From you alone, O Lord,  
who by our sins are justly angered.

**Holy God, Holy and Mighty,  
Holy and merciful Savior,  
deliver us not into the bitterness of eternal death.**

Lord, you know the secrets of our hearts;  
shut not your ears to our prayers,  
but spare us, O Lord.

**Holy God, Holy and Mighty,  
Holy and merciful Savior,  
deliver us not into the bitterness of eternal death.**

O worthy and eternal Judge,  
do not let the pains of death  
turn us away from you at our last hour.

**Holy God, Holy and Mighty,  
Holy and merciful Savior,  
deliver us not into the bitterness of eternal death.**

En medio de la vida, estamos en muerte;  
¿a quién acudiremos por socorro,  
sino a ti, oh Señor,  
que estás indignado justamente por nuestros pecados?

**Santo Dios, Santo Poderoso,  
Santo y misericordioso Salvador,  
libranos de las amarguras de la muerte eterna.**

Tú conoces, Señor, los secretos de nuestros corazones;  
no cierres tus oídos a nuestro ruego,  
mas libranos, oh Señor.

**Santo Dios, Santo Poderoso,  
Santo y misericordioso Salvador,  
libranos de las amarguras de la muerte eterna.**

Digno y eterno Juez, en nuestra última hora  
no permitas que nos apartemos de ti,  
a causa de las aflicciones de la muerte.

**Santo Dios, Santo Poderoso,  
Santo y misericordioso Salvador,  
líbranos de las amarguras de la muerte eterna.**

As our Savior Christ  
has taught us,  
we now pray,  
Oremos como nuestro Salvador Cristo nos enseñó.

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.

Pueblo y Celebrante:  
Padre nuestro que estás en el cielo,  
santificado sea tu Nombre,  
venga tu reino,  
hágase tu voluntad,  
en la tierra como en el cielo.  
Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día.  
Perdona nuestras ofensas,  
como también nosotros perdonamos  
a los que nos ofenden.  
No nos dejes caer en tentación  
y líbranos del mal.  
Porque tuyo es el reino,  
tuyo es el poder,  
y tuya es la gloria,  
ahora y por siempre. Amén.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all  
evermore. **Amen.**

La gracia de nuestro Señor Jesucristo, el amor de Dios y la comunión del Espíritu Santo sean con todos  
nosotros, ahora y siempre. **Amén.**