



# St. Edward's Episcopal Church

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 15, 2026 + 8 AM

The Holy Eucharist + Rite 1

The Procession into the Church

Silence

## THE WORD OF GOD

### The Collect of the Day

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which giveth life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

### The First Lesson:

#### 1 Samuel 16:1-13

The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the LORD." But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

### Psalm 23

#### BCP 612

### The Second Lesson:

#### Ephesians 5:8-14

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light— for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

### The Gospel:

#### John 9:1-41

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then

how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet." The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him." So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

<b>The Homily</b>	<b>Rev. Mark Lafler</b>
<b>The Nicene Creed</b>	<b>BCP 327</b>
<b>Prayers of the People</b>	<b>BCP 328</b>
<b>Confession of Sin</b>	<b>BCP 330</b>
<b>The Peace</b>	<b>BCP 332</b>
<b>Welcome and Announcements</b>	

## **THE HOLY COMMUNION**

<b>The Offertory</b>	
<b>Eucharistic Prayer 2</b>	<b>BCP 340</b>
<b>The Lord's Prayer</b>	<b>BCP 336</b>
<b>The Communion</b>	

*All Christians who have been baptized and of a clean conscience are welcome to receive communion. All others are invited to come forward to receive a blessing or remain in their seats in prayer. If you are interested in baptism, please contact the office.*

<b>Healing Prayers</b>	
<b>The Post Communion Prayer</b>	<b>BCP 339</b>
<b>The Blessing</b>	
<b>The Procession into the World</b>	<b>Canticle 4      BCP 50</b>



# St. Edward's Episcopal Church

The Fourth Sunday in Lent  
March 15, 2026 + 10:00 am  
The Holy Eucharist + Rite 2

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Procession into the Church

Hymn 616

## THE WORD OF GOD

**The Collect for Purity**

BCP 355

**The Collect of the Day**

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which giveth life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

**The First Lesson:**

**1 Samuel 16:1-13**

The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

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**Psalm 23**

BCP 612

**The Second Lesson:**

**Ephesians 5:8-14**

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**The Sequence**

Hymn 671

**The Gospel:**

John 9:1-41

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<b>The Homily</b>	<b>Rev. Mark Lafler</b>
<b>The Nicene Creed</b>	<b>BCP 358</b>
<b>Prayers of the People (Form V)</b>	<b>BCP 389</b>
<b>Confession of Sin</b>	<b>BCP 359</b>
<b>The Peace</b>	<b>BCP 360</b>
<b>Welcome and Announcements</b>	

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

<b>The Offertory</b>	
<b>The Doxology</b>	<b>Hymn 380, vs. 3</b>
<b>Eucharistic Prayer B</b>	<b>BCP 367</b>
<b>The Sanctus</b>	<b>Hymn S-128</b>
<b>The Lord's Prayer</b>	<b>BCP 364</b>
<b>Fraction Anthem</b>	<b>Hymn S-164</b>
<b>The Communion</b>	

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<b>Communion Hymn</b>	<b>Choir</b>
<b>Healing Prayers</b>	
<b>The Post Communion Prayer</b>	<b>BCP 366</b>
<b>The Blessing</b>	
<b>The Procession into the World</b>	<b>Hymn 371</b>
<b>Dismissal</b>	<b>BCP 366</b>

# St. Edward's Episcopal Church

March 15, 2026

## WELCOME

We are glad you are here this morning. We hope you will sense the presence of the Holy Spirit while you worship God through His Son, Jesus Christ.

If you are seeking a church home, we would love to have you join us. Please sign the Guest Register in the Narthex.

A NURSERY is provided for 10:00 am worship every Sunday for infants through age 4. The nursery is located across from the restrooms in the main hallway.

SUNDAY SCHOOL will not meet.

YOUTH MINISTRY will not meet.

COFFEE HOUR is provided after worship every Sunday. We gather in the Hall for some snacks, drinks, and fellowship. This is a great way to build community.

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### **What is Absolution?**

The formal act by a bishop or priest of pronouncing God's forgiveness of sins through Jesus Christ. The absolution of sins reflects the ministry of reconciliation committed by Christ to the church. Absolution may be pronounced following private confession of sins, as provided for by the two forms for The Reconciliation of a Penitent in the BCP (pp. 447-452). Absolution may also be pronounced following a general confession of sin in the Holy Eucharist, the Daily Offices, the Ash Wednesday service, and the Penitential Order. The BCP provides that a deacon or layperson may make a "Declaration of Forgiveness" by God of the penitent's sins after private confession and that a deacon or layperson may pray for God's forgiveness following the general confession in the Daily Offices.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE MARCH CRAFT SHOW Parking event will be on Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup> and Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>. This is a great event to volunteer your time while you serve our community and support the church through this fundraiser. Contact Doug Betlach if you have any questions or would like to help, 954-850-10973.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! Mulch Madness is back. Please join us on Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 am as we move a large pile of mulch to all the areas of need at the church.

THE EASTER FLOWER MEMORIAL ENVELOPES are available in the pews. Please print your request on the envelope. The deadline for receiving the memorials is Thursday, March 26<sup>th</sup>.

ADULT BIBLE CONVERSATION meets on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm in the Hall. This month we continue a video series by Ray Vander Laan. You are invited to join the conversation.

OUR DAILY BREAD devotional guide is available in the Narthex. This latest booklet includes a daily reading for the months of March, April, and May. You are welcome to pick up your free copy today.

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday	EYC will not meet AA's and Alanon-7:00 pm
Tuesday	Reading with the Rector – 11:30 am
Wednesday	Women's Caring & Sharing-10:00 am Eucharist @ Waterman Village-11:00 am Wednesday Eucharist-12:15 pm Stations of the Cross-6:00 pm

Adult Bible Conversation-6:30 pm  
Kids Bible Club-6:30 pm  
Saturday Spring Festival Car Parking Event

Thursday

Choir-5:00 pm

### ANNIVERSARIES

#### ANNIVERSARY OF BIRTH

Diane Capteola 03/17 03/18  
Mallory Lafler 03/17 Phil Reynolds 03/18 Patricia Crawford

#### ANNIVERSARY OF WEDDING

Randy and Evie Waterhouse 03/18/1989  
Armand De Beer and Laura Pedrahita 03/21/2025

#### ANNIVERSARY OF DEATH

Ruth Dawkins	03/15	Jack Norris	03/16
Torrance Jacobson	03/16	Jessie Wilson	03/16
Fred Sutter	03/17	Eugenia Amann	03/17
Ernest Locke	03/18	Harry Rolfe	03/19
Katherine Chesley	03/19	Penny Woodard	03/20

### PRAYERS

#### INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

Libby S. Lorraine M. Greg S. Barbara C. Luanne W. Ellen D. Karyl L.

#### SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES

T.J. Glennon	Mary Hyland	Laura Cain
Trevor Orr	Steve Husted	Emma Hogan
Andrew Seley	Hunter Penley	

#### CYCLE OF PRAYER

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Lakeland  
Shepherd of the Hills Church, Lecanto  
For our parish members John, Patti,  
Tré and Thomas Conrader

### SERVING TODAY

	<u>8:00 AM</u>	<u>10:00 AM</u>
First Reading	Tom Felcher	Harry Hackney
Second Reading	Janet Martin	Gloria Vest
LEM 1	Tom Felcher	Gloria Vest
LEM 2	Janet Martin	Randall Sluder
Ushers	Steve Nichols	Mike Martin
	Pam Bow	Janet Martin
Deacon	Deacon Mickey	Deacon Dan
Altar Guild	Patti Conrader	Joe Welch
Screens	Jerry Marsh	Madeline Lafler
Video	Madeline Lafler	
Postulant	Dennis Hartenstein	
Music	--	St. Edward's Choir

## PARISH LEADERSHIP

Head of the Church: Jesus Christ  
Bishop: The Rt. Rev. Dr. Justin Holcomb  
Priest: The Rev. Mark A. Lafler  
Deacon: The Rev. Mickey Maxwell  
Deacon: The Rev. Dan King

### VESTRY

Cheryl Hogan, Sr. Warden	Leah Felcher	Margaret Dohnalek
Steve Wilbanks, Jr. Warden	James Cartlidge	Michael Viel
Gaines Campbell	Fred Fitte	Janet Martin

### OFFICERS

Barbara Minkoff, Treasurer  
Amanda Burkhalter, Clerk

### PARISH STAFF

Admin. Asst. to Rector: Betty Welch  
Bookkeeper & Business Asst.: Amanda Burkhalter  
Family Ministries Director: The Rev. Dan King  
Preschool Director: Heather Fortson  
Organist & Choir Director: Libby Sellers  
Shekinah Praise Team Director: Elizabeth Maxwell  
Nursery Director: Cathy Love  
Steward: Walter Burkhalter