

# ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY EPISCOPAL CHURCH



**CELEBRATION SERVICE**  
**THE HOLY EUCHARIST—RITE II**  
**The Third Sunday in Lent**  
**March 3, 2024**  
**10:45 A.M.**

*You are welcomed whether you are a guest or a member,  
and we invite you to join us in our worship of God.*

*If you are worshiping with us for the first time, please introduce yourself to our clergy following the service.  
We also invite you to please take a moment to sign our Guest Book which can be found at the Welcome  
Center. This Service Bulletin contains all that you will need to worship with us this morning.*

*If you have a prayer request, please write it in the book that is located at the prayer desk just outside the back  
of the sanctuary.*

*Please note that this worship service will be recorded and live streamed.  
If you wish, you may remain out of the camera's view by sitting in the Chapel (stained glass window area.)  
We want to honor and respect your privacy.*

*As you enter please pick up a "Confession Stone" located in the Narthex.*

## Blessed Lent and Welcome to St. Augustine of Canterbury Episcopal Church!

We pray that as you worship here during this Lenten season you will join us in praising God.

The word Lent comes from the old English word “lencten” which means lengthening or “Springtime.” Lent is not only a forty-day season that focuses on the story of Jesus’ passion and death, but rather, Lent is a *journey of conversion*, a passage of a people who have been forever marked by the story’s end—Jesus’ passion, death and resurrection. Originally, the forty days of Lent were understood as the final stage of preparation for those called to baptism and also as a time for reconversion for those already baptized. Thus, we undertake the Lenten journey, as did ancient pilgrims before us, in the company of others. We mark the steps of our journey by gathering each week to evangelize and be evangelized, that is, to hear the story of Jesus set next to our life stories.

One will notice the restrained atmosphere during the Lenten season at St. Augustine’s as seen in the liturgy and vestments, and even heard in the music. By “scaling back” our normal celebrative Sunday experience we seek to focus our attention during this penitential season of the year on what is essential to our faith and salvation. Indeed, to emphasize prayer during this season we hearken to an ancient tradition observed by our Jewish brothers and sisters, by creating a sackcloth “Wailing Wall” behind the altar where each week we will place our “Prayer Ropes” which are a visible and tangible expression of the prayers and intercessions of the congregation.

I invite you to participate in worship today as you feel comfortable. You will find St. Augustine’s to be that place where you will receive a radical WELCOME, experience thought-provoking and inspiring WORSHIP, and meet other disciples of Jesus ready and willing to WITNESS to all that God is doing!

If this is your first time in the Episcopal Church, everything you need to follow worship is in this Worship Guide. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask anyone around you for help.

I hope to meet you before or after worship but just in case I do not, please fill out the attendance sheet in your bulletin and place it in the offering plate so we can connect with you.

Again, a Holy Lent to you and your family.

Blessings,

*Fr. Joseph C. Alsay +*

Rector

## + THE GATHERING RITE +

**Voluntary:** “Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring”

*JS Bach*

**Welcome and Announcements**

*See Insert*

### OUR MISSION STATEMENT

*We are an enthusiastically welcoming and inviting Christian community committed to the unity of all people with God through Christ.*

### DECLARACIÓN DE NUESTRA MISIÓN

*Somos una comunidad Cristiana que da la bienvenida con entusiasmo y acogedor, comprometida con la unidad de toda la gente con Dios a través de Cristo.*

### Sacred Silence

*At this time you are invited to reflect, meditate, pray, or engage in other silent activity.*

*At the sounding of the shofar, please stand and face the entrance.*

### Opening Acclamation

*Presider* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People* **His mercy endures forever.**

### Invitation to Confession

*The Sh'ma is chanted in Hebrew, then the Summary of the Law is given.*

*Presider* Jesus said, “The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these.” *Mark 12: 29-31*

*Please kneel.*

### Kyrie Confession

*Gillespie*

*Presider* Lord, your son Jesus emptied himself for us. Forgive us when we are full of ourselves.

*People* **Lord, have mercy.**



*Presider* Lord, your son Jesus proclaimed liberty to captives. Forgive our fear and failure in sharing our faith.  
*People* **Lord, have mercy.**  
*All Sing* **REFRAIN**  
*Presider* Lord, your son Jesus came bringing reconciliation. Forgive us when we cling to our resentments.  
*People* **Lord, have mercy.**  
*All Sing* **REFRAIN**

**Absolution**

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.**

*Please stand.*

*During the singing of the Gathering Song the congregation is invited to follow the Ministers of the Liturgy to the front of the Nave and cast their "Confession Stones" into the dried baptismal font.*

**Gathering Song: "Trisagion"**

*S. Chard*

Ho-ly God Ho-ly and might - y, Ho - ly im - mor - tal One. Ho-ly  
 God Ho - ly and might - y, Ho - ly im - mor - tal One. Have  
 mer - cy, have mer - cy, have mer - cy up - on us. Have  
 mer - cy have mer - cy, have mer - cy up - on us.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

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

*Presider* Let us pray.

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## + THE LITURGY OF THE WORD +

*Please be seated.*

### **Children's Moment**

*After the Children's Moment, the children in the third grade and under are invited to follow the "Lenten cross" and attend Children's Chapel. They will return during the Peace.*

### **Children's Sending Prayer**

**O loving God, we release our children to a time of Children's Chapel as they explore their faith through sharing of Bible stories. Be with them in the sacred time of wonder and prayer. May they sense both your constant presence and your love. In Jesus' holy name we pray. Amen.**

**The Lesson:** Exodus 20:1-17

*Lector* A Reading from the Book of Exodus

Then God spoke all these words: I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments. You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you. You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

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

*Please stand*

**Gospel Acclamation:** "Eternal Love of Lord"

Music: *Charles Winfred Douglas*

Words: *Thomas H Cain*



The musical score consists of five staves of music in a single system, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The lyrics are: E - ter - nal Lord of love, be - hold your church  
So dai - ly dy - ing to the way of self,  
If dead in you, so in you we a - rise,  
walk - ing once more the pil - grim way of Lent,  
so dai - ly liv - ing to your way of love,  
you the first - born of all the faith - ful dead;  
led by your cloud by day, by night your fire,  
we walk the road, Lord Je - sus, that you trod,  
and as through ston - y ground the green shoots break,  
moved by your love nad toward your pres - ence bent:  
know - ing our - selves bap - tized in - to your death:  
glo - rious in spring - time dress of leaf and flower,  
far off yet here, the goal of all de - sire.  
so we are dead and live with you in God.  
so in the Fa - ther's glo - ry shall we wake.

*Please remain standing.*

**Holy Gospel:** John 2:13-22

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

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

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

*Priest* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Please be seated.*

**Sermon**

*Randy Birchall*

**Moment of Silence**

*After the sermon we will observe a moment of "sacred silence" for meditation.*

*Please stand.*

**Creed: The Apostles' Creed**

*arr. Grace Church Hackney*



I be - lieve in God the Fa - ther, ma - ker of all heav'n and earth  
Suf - fered un - der Pon - tious Pi - late, cru - ci - fied for me He died.  
At God's right hand He is seat - ed 'til his com - ing as He said.  
I be - lieve the church of Je - sus u - ni - ver - sal e'er re - mains.



and in Je - sus Christ our Sa - vior, God's own Son of match - less worth.  
Laid with - in the grave so si - lent, gates of hell He o - pened wide.  
Fin - al judge - ment will be me - ted to the liv - ing and the dead.  
We are one through all the a - ges in com - mu - nion of the saints.



By the Spi - rit was con - ceiv - ed, of the Vir - gin Ma - ry born,  
For the stone - sealed tomb was emp - ty, on the third day He a - rose,  
I con - fess the Ho - ly Spi - rit, who was sent through Christ the Son  
I be - lieve sins are for - giv - en, that our bo - dies will be raised



He in whom I have be - liev - ed, God Al - migh - ty, Three in One.  
in - to heav - en made his en - try, migh - ty con - quer'r of his foes.  
to ap - ply sal - va - tion's mer - it: God the Spi - rit, Three in One.  
to e - ter - nal life in glo - ry, ev - er let his name be praised.

## Prayers of the People

*During the season of Lent, we invite you to offer your prayers and petitions by tying knots in the ropes provided at the end of each row. After you have tied your knots, please pass the rope down the row to your neighbor.*

*During communion, we ask that one person in each row place the rope on the altar.*

## Peace

*Presider* The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**

## + THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARISTIC MEAL +

*Please be seated.*

### Offertory Prayer for Lent

**God of our journey, as we walk with you on your path of obedience, sustain us on our way, lead us to your glory and accept all we offer you this day; in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.**

*During the "Offering in Song," please sign the Canterbury Connection Cards in the service bulletin and kindly drop it in the wicker basket with your offering.*

*To submit your offerings electronically, text the amount you would like to give to 405-645-6608 or go to "bit.ly/GiveSAC" in your browser and follow the instructions.  
Thank You.*

### Offering in Song: "Ever Faithful"

*Micheal Roderick*

*Please stand.*

### Presentation Song: "The Glory of These Forty Days"

*Erhalt uns*

The musical notation is written on three staves in G major (one sharp). The lyrics are as follows:

The glo - ry of these for - ty days we  
O Fa - ther, Son, and Spi - rit blest, to  
cel - e - brate with songs of praise; for Christ through whom all  
thee be ev - ery prayer ad - dressed, who art in three - fold  
things were made him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.  
Name a - dored, from age to age the on - ly Lord.



*Please remain standing.*

### **Great Thanksgiving**

*Presider*      The Lord be with you.  
*People*        **And also with you.**

*Presider*      Lift up your hearts.  
*People*        **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Presider*      Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*People*        **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever proclaim the glory of your Name:

### **Sanctus**

**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.**

*Please stand or kneel.*

### **Eucharistic Prayer D**

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, 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; 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 shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the

dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

**We praise you, we bless you,  
we give thanks to you,  
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

Remember all who minister in your church, especially Michael our Presiding Bishop, Poulson our Bishop, and all bishops; Joseph and James our priests, Mary Ann our deacon, and all who minister in your Church.

Remember all your people, and those who seek your truth.

Remember all those on our church prayer lists in their need, supplication, or thanksgivings.

Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ, especially and those whose faith is known to you alone; bring them into the place of eternal joy and light. And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, with Saint Augustine of Canterbury and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

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

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

**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.**

### **Breaking of the Bread**

*Presider* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast.**  
*Presider* The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## Communion Distribution

*All Baptized are invited to receive the Holy Meal at the Lord's Table.*

*For Communion, come forward as the ushers release you from your seat.*

*If you wish to receive the bread dipped in wine, please receive a napkin from an usher.*

*The bread will be dipped in the wine for you by one of the clergy, then placed on the napkin.*

*After consuming the bread, please place the napkin in one of the wicker receptacles.*

*If you wish to drink from the cup, please proceed to one of the two chalice bearers to the far ends.*

*Continue down the outside aisle to return to your seat.*

*Please note that gluten-free bread is available for those who request it.*

*Kindly let the usher know if you need the clergy to bring the bread to you.*

*If you wish to only receive a blessing, cross your arms over your chest.*

**Communion Meditation:** "Meditation on Psalm 19"  
"Lord, Have Mercy"

*Scott Chard  
Steve Merkel*

## + THE SENDING RITE +

*Please stand or kneel.*

### Post-Communion Prayer

**Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### Solemn Prayer over the People

*Presider* Bow down before the Lord.

*Presider* Look mercifully on this your family, Almighty God, that by your great goodness they may be governed and preserved evermore; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### Dismissal

*Presider* Let us bless the Lord.

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

**Voluntary:** "Prelude to the Te Deum"

*Marc Charpentier*

*You are cordially invited to the Commons Area for refreshments following the service, so that we may get to know you.*

*We invite those who are celebrating birthdays or anniversaries, or who have other special needs, to gather in the side chapel after the service.*

### Birthday & Anniversary Blessing

*DOK* Let us pray.

*People* **O God, our days are in your hand: Look with favor we pray, on those who begin another year. Grant that your wisdom, grace, love, and strength may continue to be with them all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## +PRAYER LIST+

**Cycle of Prayer:** *Santa Maria Virgen, Oklahoma City & Santa Maria Mission, Rivera, Uruguay*

**For those with medical issues and other needs or concerns:** *Maxine Grayson, Collin Wilbur, Debra Greene Jolly, Erlinda Layman, John Wehr, Megan Posey, JonEvah Murray, Cornerstone Counseling and Consulting, Breanna Troutman, Shary Weis, Bill Landis, Reggie Ekins, Kris Wade, Mahogany Brown, Lynn England, Jim Davidson, Anita Kirkpatrick, Angela & Ron Cochran, Judy Spencer, Ann Merritt, Sandy and Bill Hodges, Evelyn Wehr, Bill Collins, Richard Stuhr, Jim Emig, Lee Johnson, Edith Kenney, Evelyn Thrower, Bill Kerr, Judy Reeder, Steve Bauer, Robby Housh, Wyatt Didamo, Barbara Traylor-Lane, Valerie Lewis, Camilla Manning, Philip Worrell, Bill Johnson, Scott Mills, Tess Wade, Michael Parks, Allen Weaver, Kermit Jones, Inna Jones, Ricardo Estrada, Tatiana Velasquez Chicas, Brandi Eaton-Wiles, Charlotte Cascio, Baby Jack, Leah Brashear, Martha Leary, Marina Jones, Julissa Estrada, Jaime Mizael Fuentes, Rachel, Sean Acol, Damian Wiles, Melvin Jones, Luz Estrada, Sebastian Weaver, Priscilla, Jack Stephens, Patty, Patrick Hays, Jonathon and Alyse, Faith, Evelyn Wehr, Sharon and Don Bole, Neil Ray, Ricky and Eta Womack, Whitney Mayfield, Dobi, Rusty, Cathy, Lee, Pamela, Steve Gilman, Deyanira Gudino, Melissa Nelson, Lazaro Gudino, Antonia Dueñaz, Susan, John, Edward, William, Matt, London Golson, Nelson Family, Pamela Riley, Jenny Westerhoff, Antonia Dueñaz, Cason Montgomery, Sherry Ziska, Lizardo Gudino, Randy Birchall, Sara Cedillo Guerrero, Nancy Van Horn, Isabel Mora, Daniel & Charlene Spears, Lula Hernandez, Sergio Lopez, Naomi Gudiño, James Quinn, Dawn W. Cash, AimeeAnn Vanek, Josh Eliot, Turner Cash, Jason Eliot, Traci Eliot, Karen West, Iranice Tavares, Anil B., MaryAnn Rule, Courtney McNatty, Mark Ackerman, WB*

**For those in the military:** *Rick Narvaiz, Colby Gibson, J.R. Singleton, Bryce Singleton, Parker Singleton, Joshua Westmoreland, Megan Weimer, Ryan Natale, Rylee Natale, Brody Campbell, Justin Jones, Christopher Rosentreter, Sam Carter, Caleb Mitchell, Aaron Long, Terry Caraway, Reed Hall, Zach Renfroe, Rev. Octavia Lindsey, McKenna McCullough, Noel Puryear, Simon Liszeski, Keaton Latner, Kaleigh Hensch, Kayleigh Henson, Freddie Kegler, Jay Jordan, William VanSant, Nick Coleman, Rebecka Blaire, Stephen Liszeski, Ted Liszeski, Kyle Belt, Andrew Stendl, James Roberts, John Andrews, Thomas Andrews, Chase Biel Weishaupt, Perry Harding, Nate Phillips, Ashley Adkins, Matt Lake, Derek Wolf, Jefferson C, our troops at home and abroad and their families.*

**Birthdays this week:** *Janet Wells, Jillian Hansen, Julio Vega Morua, Reed Cundiff, Tabitha Narvaiz, Isobel Zweifel, Carol Shanahan, Tessa Cajindos, Nicolas Richardson, Sharon Westmoreland, Bob Everson, Jackson Lewis, Rick Roberts*



## + THE LENTEN CROSS +

The Processional Cross used during the Lenten season was created by Bruce Scambler and took some 100 hours to make. The cross has a great deal of symbolism in its design. It is over seven feet tall and incorporates 12 different woods to represent the twelve disciples and the “various ethnicities represented at St. Augustine’s.”

The woods used in the vertical upright include: 110 year old Redwood from the family barn, Ebony, American Oak, Crepe Myrtle, Pine, Beech, Horse-chestnut, Walnut, Pecan, Cedar and Hickory. On one side of the upright are five carved hearts which represent the wounds of Christ. These “hearts” also represent our commitment to be an inclusive faith organization to those of the LGBTQ communities.

The horizontal crossbeam was made from 25-year-old driftwood excavated from the mud at Lake Texhoma. If one looks closely at the crossbeam, you will notice the abstract design of the “Hands of Christ” in agony. Finally, at the top of the cross is a “secret compartment” where the names of congregation members are placed during the season of Lent.

## + THIS IS OUR STORY +

The Easter Vigil is the Church’s oldest liturgical observance, and it is celebrated between sunset on Holy Saturday and sunrise on Easter morning. Since this vigil was without parallel in Jewish worship, it could be called the first uniquely Christian rite. The Church was conscious that it owed its existence to the saving events of the cross and resurrection. Concomitantly, there was a vivid sense of the Lord’s presence with his people during the celebration of these events. The Easter Vigil was not a mere recalling of Christ’s life, death, and resurrection, but it made the power of these events present to the worshippers. The first-century Easter Vigils centered upon the Eucharist, but by the second century, baptism, by which new members were added to the church, became an integral part of the service. Perhaps, because of the Jewish practice of lighting lamps on sabbath’s eve, the third element, light, was subsequently added. In John’s Gospel, Christ is the light of the world, and from these two Jewish and Christian elements, the Church gradually evolved the symbolism of the Paschal candle which, beginning in the fourth century, became the center of the first part of the service.

If you have a liturgical question or an inquiry about anything that transpires during or around our worship service, please forward the question you would like researched to: [gghaas@aol.com](mailto:gghaas@aol.com). Please note whether we can credit you as the source of the question.

**+ MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY +**

**Today, Sunday, March 3, 2024 at 10:45 a.m. – The Third Sunday in Lent**

**Presider:** The Reverend Joseph Alsay

**Assisting Priest:** The Reverend Dr. James Detrich

**Preacher:** Randy Birchall

**Lenten Crucifers:** Members of The Vestry

**Acolytes:** Zipporah Alsay and Zoe Alsay

**Lector:** Jeannie Haas

**Eucharistic Ministers:** David Krause, Tim Andrews and Jason Eliot

**Oblation Bearers:** Judy Moon and Jan Pope

**Staff Musicians:** Scott Chard, Guy Nembhard, and Sarah Hunsucker

**Organist and Pianist:** Patrick Hayes

**Greeters:** Judy Montgomery and Renee Lewis

**Ushers:** Sara and Jay Kyte

**Altar Guild:** Mary Andrews, Judy Montgomery, Jason Seabolt

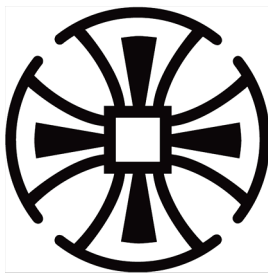
**Camera Crew:** Bri McGhee

**Sound:** Eric Brinley

**Cover Art:** Image by wirestock on Freepik

**Divider Art:** freepik.com

# ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY EPISCOPAL CHURCH



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**Follow us on Facebook!** <http://www.facebook.com/St.AugustineofCanterburyOKC>

## **SERVICE TIMES**

**Sunday** – Holy Eucharist – 8:30 A.M. & 10:45 A.M.

**Wednesday** – Holy Eucharist – 12 Noon

## **STAFF**

**Rector:** The Reverend Joseph Alsay

**Part-Time Assisting Priest for Christian Formation & Families:** The Reverend Dr. James Detrich

**Deacon:** The Reverend Mary Ann Coffman

**Administrative Assistant:** Coleen Christian

**Social Media Coordinator:** Daphne Christian-Muran

**Contribution Registrar:** Kenny Koch

**Staff Musicians:** Scott Chard and Guy Nembhard

## **VESTRY**

**Sr. Warden:** Michael Johnston

**Jr. Warden:** William “Bill” Kenney

**Treasurer:** Marian Moon

**Other Members:** John Fink, Jay Kyte, Valerie Hall, Valerie Lewis, Scott Myers, Jason Seabolt, Jim Ferguson, Reggie Christian, Chris Poole, John Potter

**Clerk:** Renee Lewis

## **OFFICE HOURS**

*To offer our staff a Sabbath, the St. Augustine business offices are closed on Mondays, with staff available remotely for urgent matters. Ministry Leaders are welcome to access the building independently with their key, as needed.*

Father Joseph Alsay, Rector

Tuesday -Thursday 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Father James Detrich, Part-Time Assisting Priest

Wednesday 9:00 AM. - 1:00 PM

Coleen Christian, Admin Assistant

Tuesday -Friday 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

## **AFTER HOURS CONTACT**

Father Joseph

Cell: 405-365-3226

Email: [fatherjoe@sac-okc.org](mailto:fatherjoe@sac-okc.org)

Michael Johnston, Sr. Warden

Cell: 214-629-6422

Email: [seniorwarden@sac-okc.org](mailto:seniorwarden@sac-okc.org)

Bill Kenney, Jr. Warden

Cell: 405-620-2438

Email: [juniorwarden@sac-okc.org](mailto:juniorwarden@sac-okc.org)