

Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit

1305 Thomas Dr. Bellevue, NE 68005



March 15, 2026

8:00 am

“Laetare Sunday”

The Fourth Sunday of Lent

Rite I

WELCOME EVERYONE

If you are a guest today or are a member who has been away for a while, we are glad you joined us for worship today. Please let us know if you are joining us online by leaving a comment, or by emailing us so that we can say thank you.

God Bless

CHS Office: (402) 291-7732
Office Email: holyspirit@chsepiscopal.org
Website: <http://chsepiscopal.org>

The Holy Eucharist Rite I

Welcome

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: And Blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever Amen.

Celebrant and People:

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant and People

Glory be to God on highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you

We worship you, we give thanks to you, we praise you for your glory,

Lord Jesus Christ only son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,

You take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

You that seated at the right hand of the Father, receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One; you alone are the Lord; you alone are the most high,

Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day

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

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Old Testament – 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

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23

- 1 The LORD is my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.
- 3 He revives my soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; *
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- 5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.
- 6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

The Epistle: 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.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel: John 4:5-42

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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

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."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Message

"Live as children of light"

Mthr Margaret

The Nicene Creed

Celebrant: Please stand as we affirm our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

**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 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 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.

Prayers of the People

Please kneel, stand or be seated]

Reader: Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's church and the world.

Almighty and ever living 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, for Sarah, the Archbishop of Canterbury, especially for Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Scott, our Bishop; Mtr Margaret our rector and her husband Jim, Ted and Terri, our Deacons; that they may inspire and equip us to plan and work and pray for the growth of the Church. Grant that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy Holy Sacraments. In the Anglican cycle of prayer pray for _____, in the Diocese cycle of

prayer pray _____ and in the DR, pray for _____. In the Parish Cycle of Prayer, we pray for our _____, for this gathering, and for all ministers and people.

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: President Donald Trump; the Governor of the State, Jim Pillen; and the elected officials of our individual communities 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 those who are ill, shut-in, hospitalized or recovering, especially _____ are there others?

And those with special concerns; especially _____ are there any [others]? and all those who, in this transitory life are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

We ask that you be with the poor and oppressed, the unemployed and destitute, especially those who are hungry, cold, and in need of our help; those imprisoned or held captive, especially those who struggle to survive; and all those who in this life face danger, violence, oppression, or degradation of any kind.

We ask you to watch over all the members of our armed forces, especially those who are deployed, _____: are there any [others]? and all their families, until they are once again reunited in peace. We also ask that you protect all those who are traveling, especially, _____; are there any [others]?

We give thanks for those who are celebrating birthdays this week, _____ are there others? Those who are celebrating wedding anniversaries this week, especially, _____ are there others [are there any?] And for those occasions that you name at this time.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life [especially,]

We also bless thy Holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, especially, _____ are there any [others]? beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of all thy saints that with them, we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

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

Celebrant: Let us humbly confess our sin unto Almighty God.

Celebrant and People

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all men:

We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.

We do earnestly repent and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable.

Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Celebrant continues:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

Peace

Almighty God, whose will it is to hold heaven and earth in the peace of your kingdom, give peace to your church, peace among nations, peace in our homes, and peace in our hearts. All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Announcements

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Offertory Sentence

Doxology

Spoken

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Eucharistic Prayer I

The people remain standing. The Celebrant, faces them and sings or says

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is meet and right to do so.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Here a Proper Preface is sung or said on all Sundays, and on other occasions as appointed.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

Celebrant and People

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:
Heaven and earth are full of thy Glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.**

Here may be added

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The people kneel or stand.

Then the Celebrant continues

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he break it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen**

And now, as our Savior Christ hath 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, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen

The Breaking of the Bread

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast

Celebrant and People

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.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following invitation:

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

Celebrant and People

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen

The Blessing

Deacon: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: **Thanks be to God.**



The Chapel Presence Candle is given Dave & Kitty Kentsmith in Memory of our son Blake W Kentsmith. The Nave Presence Candle is given by Dave & Kitty Kentsmith in Thanksgiving for family, friends, & good health.

Birthday/Anniversary Prayers

Birthday Prayer: O God, our times are in your hands: Look with favor, we pray, on *this* your servant, as *they* begin another year. Grant that *they* may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen *their* trust in your goodness, all the days of *their* life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Anniversary Prayer: O gracious and ever living God, look mercifully on these who have been joined together. Grant them your blessing, and assist them with your grace, that with fidelity and steadfast love they may honor and keep their promises and vows; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen

Birthdays:

Eric G
Kevin P

Anniversaries:

Alex & Dan W

WEEKLY MINISTRY TEAMS			
		March 15	March 22
VPOD		Kristi S	Vince C
Hospitality		Team 2	Team 3
Altar Guild		Team 3	Team 4
Spirit Hub		Hospitality - Coffee	Hospitality - Greeters
Altar Bread		————	————
LEMs	5:00 pm	Charlotte A	Kristi S
	8:00 am	Cindy P	Doug A
	9:30 am	Vince C Michele H	Grace W Jen W
LEV		Team 1	Team 2
Recycle		Susan H	Karen G
Acolytes 9:30 am	C T T	Vincent C Olivia H Mya H	MacKenzie C Evelynn C Kyper M

This Week's Highlights

Lent Soup Supper and Lessons: There are two Sunday Lenten soup suppers and study left. There are soup and bread signup sheets at the Spirit Hub.

Name Tags are Back.: Please look for your nametags next weekend. We will begin to use them again. It will be a helpful aid for me to be able to put a name with your face and definitely a welcome sign for any visitors we have coming to the church! Please try to wear them at every service and event we have from now on. Also, please return them to the alphabetical sections before you leave the building. Thank you!!

Easter Lillies: If you would like to donate towards Easter Lillies or Flowers for the Altar of Repose, in thanksgiving or memory of a loved one, please pick up a donation form from the Narthex or at the Spirit Hub or email: holyspirit@chsepiscopal.org by Monday, March 23.

DOK Day of Prayer and Meditation: On Saturday, March 21 the DOK will host their Lenten Day of Prayer here at CHS between 10am-2pm. All are invited to walk our indoor labyrinth (or our outdoor, one weather permitting) or spend time in silent reflection in our Chapel or Sanctuary. Members of the DOK will be here to assist those who may have questions about the labyrinth.

Palm Folding: Our Journeys youth invite members of the parish to join them on Wed, March 25 at 7pm as they fold palms for Palm Sunday. Anyone interested in learning how to fold palms is welcome.

Mission DR: Teams are now forming for DioNeb's May and June mission trips to the Dominican Republic. Sign up sheets are at the Spirit Hub so Fr Tom and Fr John will have a head count.

Our 11-18 May trip is for adults only. We will be traveling to the city of San Francisco de Marcos where we will continue the work we have been doing at The Good Samaritan church and school. We would like to firm up the team by mid-April. If you are interested in attending, or would like more information, please contact Fr John Schafer (jschaefer3@gmail.com) or Fr Tom Jones (frtom.chs@gmail.com)

In June we will offer two trips. The first trip (20-26 Jun) is our family trip. On this trip youth 12-15, accompanied by a parent, will work at the camp and adjacent church outside of Jarabacoa in the north-central part of the Dominican Republic. Our second trip (27 Jun – 5 Jul) is for youth 16-22. On this trip we will continue the work we are doing in San Francisco de Marcos. We would like to finalize our teams for both of these trips by the end of May. If you are interested in attending, or would like more information, please contact Fr Tom Jones (frtom.chs@gmail.com) or Fr John Schafer (jschaefer3@gmail.com).