

# THE EPISCOPAL PARISH OF ALTON

Alton, Illinois



**St. Paul's Church**  
**10 E. Third St.**  
10:30 a.m.



**Trinity Chapel**  
**1901 State St.**  
8:15 a.m.

**Third Sunday in Lent**  
**March 8, 2026**

**The Rev. Garron C. Daniels+**  
**Rector XXI**

The Rev. Garron C. Daniels – Email: [fgarron@gmail.com](mailto:fgarron@gmail.com)  
Church Office Telephone – 618-465-9149  
Church Email: [episcopalalton@gmail.com](mailto:episcopalalton@gmail.com)  
Office Hours – Monday through Thursday, 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

*Welcome to the Episcopal Parish of Alton! We are glad to have you worship with us today. All baptized Christians are invited to receive the Bread and Wine of Holy Communion or to simply come forward for a blessing.*

**The Holy Eucharist: Rite I**

*BCP p. 323*

**Prelude**

‘Hursley’

arr. A. Whitworth

**Hymn #690**

*Guide me, O thou great Jehovah*

*The Hymnal 1982*

**A Penitential Order**

*BCP p. 319*

**Kyrie**

*#S91 The Hymnal 1982*

**The Collect of the Day**

Almighty God, who seest that we have no power of 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 liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

**The Lessons** *Please be seated*

*BCP p. 325*

**A reading from Exodus**

*17:1-7*

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, “Give us water to drink.” Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?” But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?” So Moses cried out to the LORD, “What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” The LORD said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the

place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

**Psalm 95**     *Venite, exultemus*

*The people respond with the verses in bold italics*

- 1 Come, let us sing to the LORD; \*  
***let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.***
- 2 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \*  
***and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.***
- 3 For the LORD is a great God, \*  
***and a great King above all gods.***
- 4 In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \*  
***and the heights of the hills are his also.***
- 5 The sea is his, for he made it, \*  
***and his hands have molded the dry land.***
- 6 Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \*  
***and kneel before the LORD our Maker.***
- 7 For he is our God,  
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. \*  
***Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!***
- 8 Harden not your hearts,  
as your forebears did in the wilderness, \*  
***at Meribah, and on that day at Massah,  
when they tempted me.***
- 9 They put me to the test, \*  
***though they had seen my works.***
- 10 Forty years long I detested that generation and said, \*  
***"This people are wayward in their hearts;  
they do not know my ways."***
- 11 So I swore in my wrath, \*  
***"They shall not enter into my rest."***

## **The Epistle**

*Romans 5:1-11*

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person-- though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

**Hymn #343**

*Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless*

*The Hymnal 1982*

## **The Gospel**

*John 4:5-42*

Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you

greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" They left the city and were on their way to him.

Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

**The Sermon**

The Rev. Garron C. Daniels+

**The Nicene Creed**                      *Please stand*                      *BCP p. 327*

**The Prayers of the People**                      *BCP p. 328*

**Intercessor:** Lord in thy mercy. **Response:** Hear our prayer.

**The Peace**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Offertory Sentence**

**Offertory Anthem** (*choir*)    *Depth of Mercy ('Canterbury')*                      *text by S. Wesley*

**Presentation Hymn #380**    *Praise God, from whom (vs 3 only)*                      *The Hymnal 1982*

### **The Great Thanksgiving**

*Eucharistic Prayer I*                      *BCP p. 333*

*Lift up your hearts: Sursum corda*

*Holy, holy, holy Lord: Sanctus*

*#S114 The Hymnal 1982*

**The Lord's Prayer** (*sung*)

*BCP p. 336*

*#S119 The Hymnal 1982*

*Jesus, Lamb of God: Agnus Dei*

*#S158 The Hymnal 1982*

***All baptized Christians are welcome to come forward to receive Communion, and everyone is welcome to come to the rail for a blessing.***

***If you do not wish to receive either the bread or the wine, please cross your arms across your chest as a silent request for a blessing from the priest.***

<b>Prayer of Humble Access</b>		<i>BCP p. 337</i>
<b>Communion Anthem</b>	'Motherless Child' (Spiritual)	arr. A.L. Page
<b>Post-Communion Prayer</b>		<i>BCP p. 339</i>
<b>The Blessing</b>		<i>BCP p. 339</i>

<b>Dismissal</b>		<i>BCP p. 339</i>
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<b>Hymn (see pg 8 of bulletin)</b>	<i>Jesus, keep me near the cross</i>	<i>LEVAS #029</i>
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<b>Postlude</b>	'My Savior's Love'	arr. A. Whitworth
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## SERVING TODAY

### Trinity:

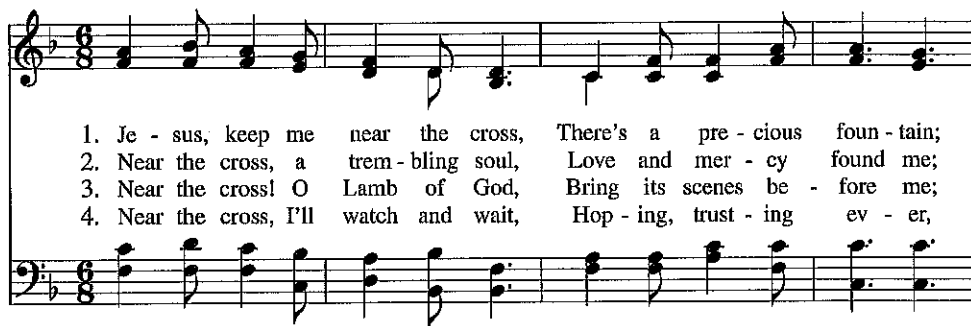
Celebrant:	The Rev. Garron C. Daniels+	The Rev. Garron C. Daniels+
Violinist:		Nick Zankl
Lector:	Laurna Hutchinson	Linda Dunnagan
Intercessor:	Laurna Hutchinson	Linda Dunnagan
CB/Acolyte:	Laurna Hutchinson	Jeff Dunnagan
Altar Guild:	N. Weiss-Hayes	Linda Dunnagan

### St. Paul's:

Celebrant:	The Rev. Garron C. Daniels+	The Rev. Garron C. Daniels+
Organist:	Gay Anderson	Gay Anderson
Crucifer:	Dereck Cook	Chuck Drennan
Altar Acolyte:	Donna Fisher	Robbie Cupp
Verger:	Robbie Cupp	Robbie Cupp
Acolyte:	Robbie Cupp	Linda Britt
Chalice/BB:	Nathalia Baum	Marti LoRusso
Lector:	Marti LoRusso	John Pearson
Intercessor:	Marti LoRusso	John Pearson
Cantor:	Ruth Spencer	Roy Anderson
Altar Guild:	A. Drennan, D. Drennan	N. Weiss-Hayes, M. LoRusso
Greeters:	Bill Moyer	Nancy Elson
Ushers:	John Pearson	Dave Elson

# Near the Cross

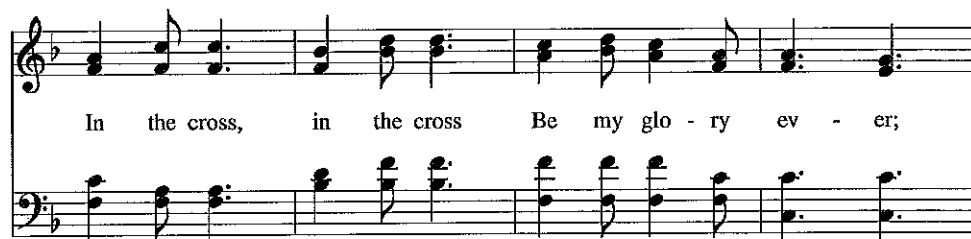
Lift Every Voice and Sing II, #29



1. Je - sus, keep me near the cross, There's a pre - cious foun - tain;  
2. Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, Love and mer - cy found me;  
3. Near the cross! O Lamb of God, Bring its scenes be - fore me;  
4. Near the cross, I'll watch and wait, Hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,



1. Free to all, a heal - ing stream Flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.  
2. There the Bright and Morn - ing Star Sheds its beams a - round me.  
3. Help me walk from day to day With its shad - ows o'er me.  
4. Till I reach the gold - en strand Just be - yond the riv - er.



In the cross, in the cross Be my glo - ry ev - er;



Till my rap - tured soul shall find Rest be - yond the riv - er.

Words: Fanny J. Crosby (1820-1915). Music: William H. Doane (1832-1915).



## Calendar and Announcements for the Week of March 8, 2026

- Sunday, March 8**      *Third Sunday in Lent*  
12:15 p.m. Confirmation Class in St. Paul's conference room  
1:00-6:00 p.m. Vestry Retreat at St. Paul's
- Tuesday, March 10**    9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer – St. Paul's  
No Bible Study held today
- Wednesday, March 11** 5:30 p.m. Lenten service at St. Paul's
- Thursday, March 12** 10:00 a.m. Finance commission mtg at St. Paul's
- Friday, March 13**    6:00 p.m. ECM Fish Fry at St. Paul's
- Saturday, March 14** 10:00 a.m. Second Saturdays Healthy Living at St. Paul's  
3:00 p.m. Performance of Pergolesi's Stabat Mater at St. Paul's
- Sunday, March 15**    *Fourth Sunday in Lent*  
8:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist at Trinity Chapel  
10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist at St. Paul's  
12:15 p.m. Confirmation Class in St. Paul's conference room  
6:00 p.m. Ecumenical Youth Group at Main St. Methodist

**Confirmation classes have begun – Fr. Garron will lead the class on Sunday, March 8th at 12:15 p.m. in the St. Paul's conference room.**

**Our Bible Study group will not meet on Tuesday, March 10th.** We look forward to resuming our study of *The Gospel of Luke* next Tuesday following Morning Prayer in St. Elizabeth's Chapel at 9:00 a.m. Bible study begins at 10:00 a.m. and lasts approximately an hour. Evening Bible Study is held at 5:30 p.m. at St. Paul's.

**Our weekly Lenten Series continues on Wednesday, March 11th.** We will begin each evening with a Prayer service at 5:30 p.m. followed by a soup supper and presentation beginning at 6:10 p.m.

**Come to Second Saturdays: Healthy Living for a Holy Life on Saturday, March 14th at 10:00 a.m.** Nathalia Baum, Occupational Therapist and Certified Exercise Physiologist, will lead a class focused on strength training. Bring light dumbbells (1-5#, or 2 full water bottles). Arrive in comfortable clothing to be able to move freely and supportive footwear.

**On Saturday, March 14th at 3:00 p.m., there will be a musical performance of the Stabat Mater at St. Paul's.**

**Easter flowers that will beautify our altar in thanksgiving or memory of loved ones and friends may be ordered using the form provided in the bulletin.** Please return the completed form to the office with your donation by Monday, March 29th.

**An Easter offering to benefit the Liturgy and Arts Fund** can be made using the insert in your bulletin. Gifts will be acknowledged in the bulletins for Sunday, April 5th and 12th.

**The ECW meeting date changed!** We will not meet Sunday, March 15th, but instead will meet Sunday, March 22nd. We are sorry for the schedule change!

**The Ecumenical Youth Group will meet Sunday, March 15th, at 6:00 p.m. at Main St. Methodist.** We hope to see all middle and high school kids for an Outreach/Mission night, fellowship and food!

**EPA lapel pins are now available! Get your very own lapel pin to show off your EPA pride!** Pins may be purchased from Margie's Book Store for \$3. Cash or checks (made out to St. Paul's Episcopal Church) are accepted. All proceeds will be given to the educational endeavors of the Church.

**Education commission is offering bookplates** to anyone who wishes to purchase these as a memorial or in memory of a loved one. The bookplates will be placed inside the front cover of the new pew Bibles. The cost is \$10 each.

**The Episcopal Parish of Alton now offers Online Giving!** Scan the QR code to make one-time or monthly contributions.



## Please remember in your prayers this week:



Janice, Randy, Brian, Joan, Steve, Audrey, Bill, Marie, Ryan, Kathryn, Bria, Barbara, Brenda, Dane, Greg, Jim, Irene, Charles, Tracy, and those known only to us.

*Please contact the office if you have someone you would like added to the prayer list. Individuals will remain on the list for one month and will be re-added upon request.*

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EPA

## 2026 LENTEN SERIES

### Certified Recovery Congregation

Join us for our 2026 Lenten Series where we put our faith into action by learning about recovery and wellness. Chestnut Health Systems will guide us through several trainings that will certify our congregation as "Recovery Friendly". All are welcome to attend!

**Topics & Dates:**

- 02/25 Mental Wellness 101
- 03/04 Substance Use
- 03/11 QPR: Suicide Prevention
- 03/18 Narcan Training
- 03/25 Sacred Spaces of CARE presentation

**Date & Time:**

Wednesdays  
5:30pm Prayer Service  
6:10pm Meal & Presentation

**Who Should Attend?**

- Parishioners
- Local & Downtown Leaders
- Recovery Ministry Leaders & Supporters
- Anyone who desires to learn more!

**St Paul's Episcopal Church**  
10 E 3<sup>rd</sup> St, Alton, IL 62002

# Holy Week Schedule

## March 29th: Palm Sunday

8:15 a.m.-Trinity Chapel  
10:30 a.m.-St. Paul's

## March 30th: Confessions

8:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m.-St. Elizabeth's Chapel  
4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.-St. Elizabeth's Chapel  
Also may be arranged at other times by Appointment

## April 1st: Stations of the Cross

6:00 p.m.-St. Paul's

## April 2nd: Maundy Thursday

7:00 p.m.-St. Paul's  
8:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m.-Altar of Repose

## April 3rd: Good Friday

Noon-Trinity Chapel  
7:00 p.m.- St. Paul's

## April 4th: Holy Saturday

10:00 a.m.-St. Paul's

## April 4th: Easter Vigil

6:30 p.m.-St. Paul's

## April 5th: Easter Sunday

8:15 a.m.-Trinity Chapel  
10:00 a.m.-Flowering of the Cross  
10:30 a.m.-St. Paul's

