



St. Michael's Messenger

March 9, 2025



The Rector's Corner

Dear Brothers and Sisters of St. Michael's,

As The Church, yesterday we began the solemn Season of Lent. Lent is a time of prayer, fasting, and giving. It is a time to put away distractions that pull us from God and (perhaps) take on spiritual disciplines to draw us closer to God. The things we give up might be chocolate or alcohol, or something that we really like. These spiritual disciplines can be extra prayer, attending an extra worship service (such as our Wed Healing or the Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 5 PM), reading Scripture daily, or giving of your time and talents for the aid of others.

The prophet Joel reminded us last night that we are "to rend our hearts" (open them up to God and receive God's forgiveness, blessings, and presence). I pray all of us can use this season of repentance and renewal to get closer to God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

In an effort to foster an atmosphere of repentance and renewal, our worship style will change. We will use the Penitential Order to start our services (Confession and Absolution at the beginning of the service), Form IV of the Prayers of the People, Eucharistic Prayer C, which has the sound of Joel inviting us to return to the Lord our God, and Lenten Solemn Prayer from our Book of Occasional Services. Lent I will have a special beginning as we will say (8:30 AM) and chant (10:30 AM) The Great Litany. Written by Thomas Cranmer, it was first used when England was at war with Scotland and France. The Great Litany is a long prayer, seeking God's protection of His followers, prayers for relief in many situations, and a real desire for His followers to draw near to God. For more information, [click here](#) or turn to BCP page 148.

During Lent, we will have two Wednesday services (11 AM and 5:30 PM). Following both services will be a class on the Gospels we will hear during Lent. The class is estimated to last 45 minutes.

On Fridays, we will have The Stations of the Cross at 5 PM. This walking in the way of Jesus' suffering. It is a quiet and powerful way to prepare for Good Friday. We will use the form from the Book of Occasional Services.

In The Episcopal Church, we have our general confession in our service. During Lent, it will be at the beginning of the service. But, did you know that The Episcopal Church has individual confession? It is known as Reconciliation of a Penitent (BCP 446) and is designed for someone who has the Holy Spirit working on them with a particular sin that needs to be named, confessed, and absolved. With Reconciliation of a Penitent, remember, it is "All may, some should, and none must..." If you feel nudged by the Holy Spirit, I invite folks to look at Form II, pray about it, and then reach out to me.

Finally, it was an honor to bless the new Lent Chasuble and Stole set in loving memory of Joe Lawler's mother, Gail Maxine Lawler.



Faithfully,
Fr. Dan

LENT WORSHIP: As we begin the Season of Lent, our worship style will change. We will use the Penitential Order (BCP 352) and Eucharistic Prayer C (BCP 369). On Lent 1 (March 9), we will use The Great Litany (BCP 148 and Hymn S-67). On Lent 2 (March 16), we will use The Decalogue (BCP 350). Please stay tuned for more updates. The aim of using these offerings is to enhance our Lenten experience and use as much of the Prayer Book as possible within a year.

LENTEN STUDY: We will have a video and discussion of the upcoming Gospel lessons during Lent. As an experiment, we will have our 11 AM Healing Service and class following that service. At 5:30 PM, we will have brief worship and then the same class for those who are unable to make it earlier in the day. Come and try these worship and education opportunities.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: While Stations of the Cross have been done on Good Friday only, this year we will offer them each Friday in Lent in the Church at 5 PM. This is a quiet, though powerful, spiritual discipline. We will have Stations on Good Friday as in previous years.

ECW OUTING: Saturday, March 15, the ECW will be taking a trip to Frosty Farmer Winter Market in Greenville. The market has 107 vendors, so bring lots of money. We will meet at the church at 9:30 am to car pool. If you would like to go, please sign up on today.



MARCH

- 2 Neeraj Sharma
- 6 Rebecca Borowski
- 8 Robbie Lake
- 9 John Cleveland
- 10 Justin Keating
- Betsy Smith
- 12 Cheryl Borowski
- 13 Clarise Colon
- Kerin Colon
- 15 Barbara Marcy
- 20 Elaine Parnell

*May God Bless You
On Your Birthday!!*

CALENDAR

03/08	2:00	Annual Oyster Roast
03/09		Daylight Savings
03/09		1 st Sunday in Lent
03/09	11:30	Finance Meeting
03/12	11:00	Mid-week Healing Service
03/12	4:30	Choir Practice
03/12	5:30	Mid-Week Service & Class
03/14	5:00	Stations of the Cross
03/15	9:30	ECW Outing
03/19	11:00	Mid-week Healing Service
03/19	4:30	Choir Practice
03/19	5:30	Mid-Week Service & Class
03/20	6:00	Vestry Meeting
03/22	10:00	DOK Quiet
03/26	11:00	Mid-week Healing Service & Class
03/26	4:30	Choir Practice
03/26	5:30	Mid-Week Service & Class
03/27	6:00	March Meet 'n' Eat

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Reverend Daniel A. Wagner, Rector

Tia LaMance, Church Administrator

Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 9am-2pm;
Tuesday 9am-12pm

1200 Powdersville Road, Easley, SC 29642 ♦ 864-859-6296

Web: www.stmec.org ♦ Email: office@stmec.org

DOK QUIET DAY: The Daughters of the King will host a Quiet Day on Sat., March 22 from 10:00 AM to Noon. It's a time to reflect and pray or simply sit quietly in the presence of the Lord. All are invited.

SERVING SUNDAY 03/09/25

Celebrant and Preacher: The Rev. Daniel A. Wagner

Organist and Choirmaster: Nancy Owens

Altar Guild: Teri Swann

Eucharistic Ministers:

8:30 Robert Pinkston

10:30 Bob Cook

Lectors: 8:30 Jeri King

10:30 Ron Hicks

Acolytes: 8:30 Robert Pinkston

10:30 Summer Robbins

Torch Bearers: Ethan Carroll & Clarise Colon

Greeters: 8:30 Rick Parnell

10:30 Salvina Cascio-Brewer

Vestry Open-up Church: Wardens & Fr. Dan Wagner

Vestry Lock-up Church: Prissy Golas