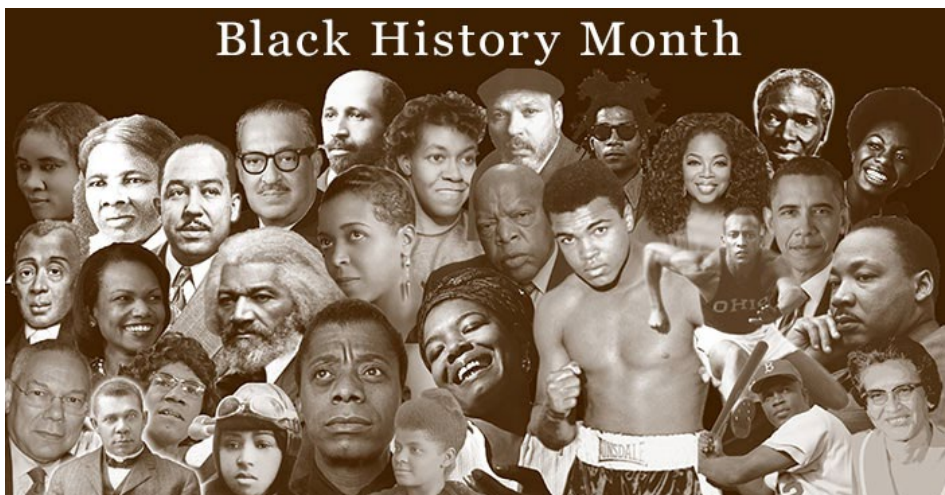


SAINT LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Organized 1871

Celebrating 154 Years of ministry in Columbia, South Carolina

*The Mission of St. Luke's Episcopal Church is to spread the Word
and share the love of God with all people.*



The Last Sunday after the Epiphany &

The Feast of Absalom Jones (obs.)

The Holy Eucharist: Rite II

February 15, 2026

10:00AM

The Rev. Raphiell Ashford, Rector
Mrs. Susan Mloffitt, Supply Organist

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

NATIONAL THEME:

A CENTURY OF BLACK HISTORY COMMEMORATIONS

Vestry Theme for 2026

Reset to the New Normal: The Work Continues

Mission Statement

The mission of St. Luke's Episcopal Church is to spread the Word and share the love of God with all.

Vision Statement

{To become} a vibrant self-sustaining institution that serves and respects the spiritual, social, and physical needs of our community and congregation, while preserving the history of the church.

Quiet Please: Please be mindful of others as you enter the church before the service.

Upon entering the nave, there should be a period of quiet and reverence as many parishioners are in prayer and or meditation.

OFFERINGS can be made online

<https://onrealm.org/StLukesEpiscopa59532/Give>

QR CODE FOR GIVING



*Use your phone to hold over the image

Saint Luke's Episcopal Church



It is the parish custom to observe silence prior to the start of the **Eucharist**. Be thoughtful, be silent, be reverent, for this is the House of God. Before the service, speak to the Lord, during the service, let the Lord speak to you; after the service, speak to one another.

We invite you to join us as an active participant in our worship of God. This bulletin is your guide to our worship. You will find three books in front of you that contain most of the material needed for this service; *The Book of Common Prayer* [BCP], *The Hymnal 1982* [H], and *Lift Every Voice and Sing, II* [L]. [S] denotes service music which is found in the front of the hymnal.

✠ indicates where to make the sign of the cross

******At the ringing of the bell, all stand.

Prelude

“A Little More Faith in Jesus”

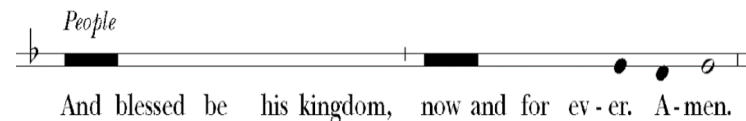
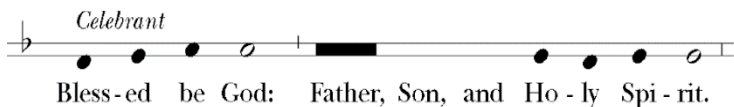
arr. John W. Work

THE WORD OF GOD

Hymn in Procession H • 460 “Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!”

Hyfrydol

The Opening Acclamation✠



The Collect for Purity

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.*

The Salutation

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day

O God, who before the passion of your only begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

**The people sit.*

The Lesson**Exodus 24:12-18**

Lector A reading from the Book of Exodus

The Lord said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. To the elders he had said, “Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.” Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

[Silence]

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 2 *Quare fremuerunt gentes?*

**The antiphon is sung first by the Cantor and then by all; thereafter where indicated.*



A1 Why are the nations in an uproar? *

Why do the peoples mutter empty threats?

A2 Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt,
and the princes plot together, *

against the LORD and against his Anointed?

B3 "Let us break their yoke," they say; *

"let us cast off their bonds from us."

[Antiphon]

4 He whose throne is in heaven is laughing; *
the Lord has them in derision.

5 Then he speaks to them in his wrath, *
and his rage fills them with terror.

[Antiphon]



7 Let me announce the decree of the LORD: *
 he said to me, "You are my Son;
 this day have I begotten you.

8 Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance *
 and the ends of the earth for your possession. [Antiphon]

9 You shall crush them with an iron rod *
 and shatter them like a piece of pottery."

10 And now, you kings, be wise; *
 be warned, you rulers of the earth. [Antiphon]

11 Submit to the LORD with fear, *
 and with trembling bow before him;

12 Lest he be angry and you perish; *
 for his wrath is quickly kindled. [Antiphon]

B13 Happy are they all *
 who take refuge in him! [Antiphon]

The Epistle

2 Peter 1:16-21

Lector: A reading from the Second Letter of Peter

We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, “This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.” We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain. So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

[Silence]

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Sequence Hymn H • 137 “O Wondrous Type! O Vision Fair”

Wareham

The Gospel Acclamation

**Sung first by the Cantor; then by all.*

Howard Hughes, SM, 1973

The musical score is written for a Cantor and an Assembly. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 2/4. The lyrics are "Al - le - lu - ia." repeated three times in each system. The Cantor's part is marked with a 'C' and the Assembly's part with an 'A'. The piano accompaniment includes fingerings (I, II) and pedal markings (Ped., Man.).

System 1:

- Cantor:** C, Am, Em, *f* F, C, Am, Em, Cantor Am, D, G
- Assembly:** *f* Am, D, G, C, Dm, G, C, *f* C, F, G, C
- Piano:** II, I, II, Man., Ped., Man., Ped.

System 2:

- Cantor:** C, Am, Em, *f* F, C, Am, Em, Cantor Am, D, G
- Assembly:** *f* Am, D, G, C, Dm, G, C, *f* C, F, G, C
- Piano:** I, II, I, Man., Ped., Ped.

“I Am the Light of the World, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will have the light of life.” (Jn. 8:12)

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 17:1-9

Priest ✠ The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, “This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!” When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Get up and do not be afraid.” And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, “Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Introduction of the Guest Speaker

The Rev. Raphiell Ashford

Black History Address

The Rev. Canon Mia C. McDowell+
Canon Catechist, Trinity Episcopal Cathedral

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

✠ and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Form V

BCP 389

✠ “For all who have died ...”

The Confession of Sin & Absolution

BCP 360

✠ “pardon and deliver you from all your sins ...”

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Announcements

Fr. Raphiell+

Birthday & Anniversary Blessings

Fr. Raphiell+



THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Anthem

“The Crown”

The Crown

“Ain’a That Good News”

Negro Spiritual

At the Presentation of Alms

“Glory Be to the Father”

Greatorex

**All standing*

(*Gloria Patri*)

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the

Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be - gin - ning, is

now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men, A - men.

**The people remain standing.*

Sursum corda

The musical notation is arranged in four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes, with 'Celebrant' and 'People' labels above the respective parts.

Staff 1: Celebrant: The Lord be with you. People: And al - so with you.

Staff 2: Celebrant: Lift up your hearts. People: We lift them to the Lord.

Staff 3: Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Staff 4: People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

**The Celebrant proceeds*

**A Proper Preface is sung or said on all Sundays; and on other occasions as appointed.*

Sanctus et Benedictus

Setting: from *Deutsche Messe*

Franz Schubert

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and
might. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
God of pow'r and might. Heav - en and earth are
full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

✠ “Blessed is he ...”

**After the Sanctus, the people kneel or stand.*

The Memorial Acclamation

Dean McIntyre

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

The Prayer of Consecration

BCP 362

✠ “Sanctify us ...”

The Great Amen

**The priest intones the first Amen.*

pp *cresc.* *f*
 A - men, A - men, a - men, A - men, a - men, A -
 A - men, A - men, a - men, A - men, a - men, A -
 A - men, a - men, A -
 A - men, a - men.

dim.
 men, a - men, a - men.

pp
 men, a - men, a - men. A - - - - men.

The Lord's Prayer (*Pater Noster*) L · 264

Alfred Hay Malotte

**The priest intones the Pater Noster (Our Father).*

The Breaking of the Bread

**A period of brief silence is kept.*

The Fraction Anthem

Marilyn Haskell



You shall eat and drink at my ta - ble says the Lord. You shall

The first system of musical notation for 'The Fraction Anthem' is written on a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is primarily in the treble clef, with a supporting bass line. The lyrics are written below the staff.



eat and drink at my ta - ble in my king-dom. You shall eat and drink at my

The second system of musical notation continues the melody and bass line from the first system. The lyrics continue below the staff.



ta-ble says the Lord. We are blessed to be called to the supper of the Lamb.

The third system of musical notation concludes the piece. The melody and bass line end with a final cadence. The lyrics conclude below the staff.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the

1.
world: have mer-cy, have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-

way the sins of the world: have mer-cy on us, have

2.
mer - cy on us. world:_ grant_ us peace.

Priest ✠ 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.

Instructions for Receiving Communion

- *All baptized persons are welcome to receive Communion, and those who do not desire to receive Communion may come to the Altar rail to receive God's blessing.*
- *An usher will direct you to approach the Altar for Communion or a blessing. Please kneel, if you are able, at the Altar Rail.*
- *To receive the consecrated bread, extend your hands upward, palms crossed and facing up.*
- *To receive the consecrated wine, please guide the chalice to your lips as it is offered. However, if you prefer, you may leave the consecrated bread in your palm and the Chalice bearer will intinct the host into the wine and place it on your tongue. **Please do not personally intinct the host into the chalice.***
- *If you desire to receive the Sacrament but are not able to come to the Altar rail, please notify an usher and the Priest and Chalice bearer will bring the Sacrament to you.*

The Music at Communion

H • 328

“Draw Nigh and Take the Body of the Lord”

Song 46

L • 58

“The Lord Is my Light”

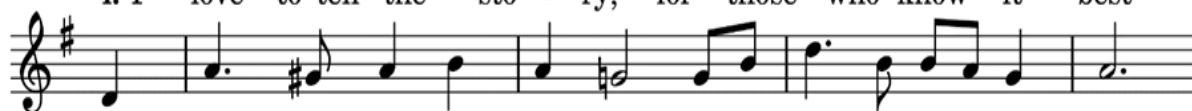
Lillian Bouknight

“I Love to Tell the Story”

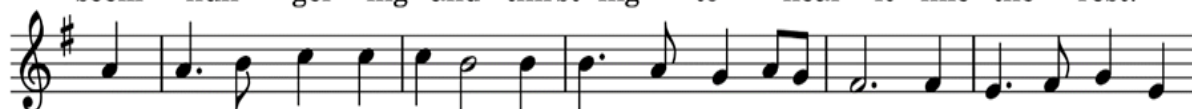
William G. Fischer



1. I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
2. I love to tell the sto - ry; more won - der - ful it seems
3. I love to tell the sto - ry; 'tis pleas - ant to re - peat
4. I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best



of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
than all the gold - en fan - cies of all our gold - en dreams.
what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet.
seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it like the rest.



I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know 'tis true; it sat - is - fies my
I love to tell the sto - ry, it did so much for me; and that is just the
I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard the message of sal -
And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song, 'twill be the old, old

Refrain



long - ings as noth - ing else can do.
rea - son I tell it now to thee. I love to tell the sto - ry, 'twill
va - tion from God's own ho - ly Word.
sto - ry that I have loved so long.



be my theme in glo - ry, to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

The Post Communion Hymn L•226

“Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory” *Battle Hymn of the Republic*

The Post Communion Prayer

BCP 365

**All kneel as able or sit.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Blessing

Go forth into the world in peace. Be of good courage. Hold fast to that which is good. Render to no-one evil for evil. Strengthen the faint-hearted. Support the weak. Help the afflicted. Show love to everyone. Love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; And the blessing of Almighty God, ☩ the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

Hymn in Procession H•618 “Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones” *17ass tuns erfreuen*

The Dismissal

Priest Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude

“Toccata on *Great Day*”

Adolphus Hailstork

*It is the custom of this parish to kneel or remain seated in prayer and reflection during the Organ Postlude. If you need to leave, please do so quietly.

Parish Fellowship is sponsored by the Karen & Chris Castelli.

INTERCESSIONS



- **Parishioners:** Charles W. Blakely, Gary Bowden, John Bowden, Damion Cokley, Jackson Cokley, Patricia Cokley, Byron Eaddy, Gloria Eaddy, Eddie Glenn, Cynthia Goines, Robert Green, Yvonne Hall, Daryl Hammonds, Jr., Desmond Hammonds, Valencia Hammonds, Tarnez Hickman, Justin Hickmon, La'Toya Hickmon, Tia Hicks, Levi Johnson, Sr., James McLemore, Mary McLemore, Marie Martin, Gwendolyn Meadows, Carmen Murray, Jay'ceon Quattlebaum, Malik Quattlebaum, Joseph Ray, Reginald Reed, Cassandra Sims, Peyton Parker-Smith, William Smith, Jr., Ronald Turner, Dorothy Walker
- **Family & Friends:** Ingrid Dowdell, Gerald L. McNair, Elsie Mitchell, Katherine Robinson, Mattie Anderson-Roberson, Theodora Washington
- **Diocesan Cycle of Prayer...** Grace Church of Camden
- **Birthdays...**
- **Anniversaries...** Steven & Deadra Bowden (19th)
- **Births...** Zuri Starr Hickman
(Great-granddaughter of Herman & DeNell Hickman)
- **Deaths...**
- **Traveling Mercies...** Levi Johnson, Jr., Venesia Johnson, Kennedy Johnson, Cynthia Parker Reed
- **Confirmands...** Kennedy Johnson, Nadia Muhammad

SERMON/MESSAGE NOTES/REFLECTIONS/QUESTIONS

SERVANTS FOR THE LORD

The Old Testament Lector

Corliss Wise

The Epistoler

Errol Porter

The Gospel Book Bearer

Cynallyhia Indriago

Server

DeNell Hickman

Intercessor

Gloria Eaddy

Lay Eucharistic Minister

Marie Martin

Crucifers

Jaylen Caldwell

Cory James

Herman Hickman

Oblation Bearers

Audrey Smith

Cynthia Goines

Thurifer

Desmond Goines

Ushers

Loretta Johnson

Venesia Johnson

James Kelley

Boat Bearer

Isabella Bracy

Videographer

Gary Bowden

Cantors

Samuel Oronce

Shekinah Frieson

Madeline Macry

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RECHEDULED...The visit from Dr. Todd Walker, Superintendent of Richland School District One is in the process of being rescheduled. It was canceled due to the inclement weather.

ST. LUKE'S ENDOWMENT FUND...**Please** consider giving a donation on your birthday and/or anniversary of \$1 per year. Donations to the Endowment Fund will help to secure the future of St. Luke's. Your donations are needed and appreciated.

CONGRATULATIONS...to the newest member of the Vestry, Beverly Turner. She is filling an unexpired term for this year. Due to no nominees for Junior Warden at the December meeting of the Vestry (at the time when the election is to be held) and no volunteers at the subsequent meeting in January, the Rector has appointed Beverly to serve in the role of Junior Warden during this unexpired term.

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER...The supper will take place in Griffin Hall between the hours of 3:00pm-7:00pm. Please contact a member of the ECW (Episcopal Church Women) to purchase tickets. Tickets can also be purchased at the door or by contacting a member of the ECW. The price is \$9.00 (adults), and \$7.00 (children). **Do not call the parish office to place orders.**

THE BURNING OF THE PALMS & THE BURIAL OF THE ALLELUIA...
At 7:00pm, the palms from last year will be burned and the ashes will be used at the Ash Wednesday service. If you have your palm(s) from last year, please bring them with you to the Pancake Supper. We will also burn our "Letting Go" cards for Lent. These will be distributed at the supper. The symbolic burying of the Alleluia will take place immediately following.

ASH WEDNESDAY...The Holy Eucharist: Rite II w/the Imposition of Ashes at 6:30pm. This is a good opportunity to invite someone to church when they ask you "What is Ash Wednesday?"

EASTER LILIES... Help us to decorate the church for the Sunday of the Resurrection: Easter Day by purchasing a lily or lilies to adorn the Nave and Narthex. **The price per plant is \$15. Please see Corliss Wise or DeNell Hickman to place your order. Orders will be accepted between 2/15-3/15.** If there is a dedication to go with your purchase please contact the parish office by phone, email, or in person.

155th CHURCH ANNIVERSARY/ST LUKE'S DAY... Our beloved parish will be 155 years old on May 21st. We will observe this anniversary on the Feast of Saint Luke Sunday, October 18th. Each parishioner is asked to give \$155 in celebration for the anniversary. If you think of it monthly, between now and October, it breaks down to roughly \$17.22 per month.

MORNING PRAYER/ANTE COMMUNION SERVICE... If you would like to learn how to lead these services or any of the other Daily Offices, please contact me. The bishop has mandated that persons leading these services must be trained by their priest and licensed by the bishop. I would like to hold the training in Lent.

SERVANTS OF THE LORD... If you have a desire to serve in the Church in a certain capacity, please contact the Rector. If you are not sure what you calling is, contact the Rector for a one on one so that the two of you might discover your gifts and talents.

PASTORAL CARE... The Rector is always available for pastoral care, but you must inform him of your need. This also includes needs for home blessings, anointing and confession.

CONFIRMATION/REAFFIRMATION/RECEPTION... Anyone desiring the Rite of Confirmation, Reaffirmation, or Reception into the Episcopal Church is asked to contact the Rector. Confirmation classes will be held during the Lenten season. Classes will begin on Saturday, February 21st @ 11:00am

SECURITY.... Parishioners, in light of recent events in our nation and city, the importance of security cannot be taken lightly. Please consider giving a donation for Security so that we may be proactive ant not reactive.

ST. LUKE'S CHORAL SCHOLARS & BLAKELY-ROBINSON MUSIC FUND... **Your contributions are always appreciated and needed more than ever.** Contributions to these funds help to secure choristers & instrumentalists for our Sunday services as well as special services: funerals, weddings, etc. It is because of your continued generous contributions that we are able present glorious choral & instrumental music to the glory of God. Please consider contributing towards this fund.

EPISCOPAL NOTES 101

SHROVE TUESDAY

Shrove Tuesday is a day of indulging in the rich, fatty foods that were traditionally abstained from during Lent. Making pancakes was a way to use up batter, milk, sugar and eggs before the 40-day fast.

Celebrated the day before Ash Wednesday, Shrove Tuesday (also called "Pancake Tuesday" or "Pancake Day") is the final day before the 40-day period of Lent begins. Its name comes from the Germanic-Old English word "shrive," meaning absolve, and it is the last day of the liturgical season historically known as Shrovetide. Because it comes directly before Lent, a season of fasting and penitence, this was the day that Christians would go to be "shriven" by their confessor.

Shrove Tuesday also became a day for pre-fasting indulgence. In particular, the need to use up rich ingredients such as butter, milk, sugar and eggs before Lent gave rise to the tradition of eating pancakes on this day. There are even historical references to a "pancake bell" in English towns being rung around 11a.m. on this day to signal that it was time to get frying. Shrove Tuesday means gathering for a pancake supper. Many churches host dinners or luncheons, serving pancakes usually with a range of toppings, fruit and sides like bacon or sausages.

Shrove Tuesday is also called Fat Tuesday (in French, Mardi=Tuesday; gras=fat, as in "pate de foie gras", which is liver paste and very fatty), because on that day a thrifty housewife uses up the fats that she has kept around (the can of bacon drippings, or whatever) for cooking, but that she will not be using during Lent. Anglican tradition has it that we must "Waste not, want not!" and is an old and famous family rule! Since pancakes are a standard way of using up fat, the day is also called Pancake Tuesday. In

England, and perhaps elsewhere, the day is celebrated with pancake races. The contestants run a course while holding a griddle and flipping a pancake. Points are awarded for time, for number and height of flips, and number of times the pancake turns over.

The day (or sometimes a longer period immediately preceding Lent) is also called Carnival, which means "farewell to meat." "Carni" as in carnivorous, and "vale" as in valediction, valedictorian, etc.

Why do we bury the alleluia? The omission of alleluia during Lent goes back at least to the fifth century in the western church. The association of alleluia with Easter led to the custom of intentionally omitting it from the liturgy during the season of Lent, a kind of verbal fast which has the effect of creating a sense of anticipation and even greater joy when the familiar word of praise returns. We do not use it at church. We do not use it at home. We let it rest, as it were, during Lent, so that when it reappears on Easter, we may hear it anew. In fact, once it returns on Easter, we give it no rest at all, repeating it again and again, in celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus. The custom of actually bidding it farewell developed in the Middle Ages in Babylon. Many churches embrace the practice of physically "burying" the alleluia. This ritual practice is especially delightful and meaningful for children.

When do we bury the alleluia? Alleluia is appropriately bid farewell on the Sunday preceding Ash Wednesday (the Transfiguration of Our Lord, also called the last Sunday after the Epiphany). This is the last Sunday when alleluia will be used until the Vigil of Easter, or Easter Sunday for those congregations not holding a Vigil. The burial of the alleluia could be the culminating activity at a Shrove Tuesday celebration just before Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent.

How do we bury the alleluia? An alleluia made from paper, fabric, metal, wood, or some other natural material may be carried in procession or might lead a parade accompanied by instruments and singing. Burial could take place in the ground. If the alleluia is created out of paper or fabric, it can be rolled. A sturdy decorated cardboard mailing tube wrapped in protective plastic makes a fine container for outdoor burial. A Christian education class might be invited to construct an alleluia using a long sheet

of good quality paper. Pairs of students could be responsible for designing and creating each of the word's eight letters.



When and how do we "resurrect" the alleluia? We resurrect the alleluia at the Vigil of Easter or on Easter Day. Hearty congregational singing of multiple alleluias proclaims the resurrection, unleashing pure Easter joy! The Lenten fast has now ended. If the congregation buried the alleluia during a Mardi Gras celebration, the congregation's Easter breakfast (if it holds one) might provide the best parallel venue for resurrecting it. Several youth could be enlisted to carry the resurrected alleluia among the breakfasters. Note: If the alleluia was physically buried in the ground, provision should be made to have the burial container unearthed a day or two in advance so that the alleluia itself can be easily removed when needed.

Source: <https://www.epicenter.org/why-do-we-bury-the-alleluia/>

Ash Wednesday



The first of the forty days of Lent, named for the custom of placing blessed ashes on the foreheads of worshipers at Ash Wednesday services. The ashes are a sign of penitence and a reminder of mortality, and may be imposed with the sign of the cross. Ash Wednesday is observed as a fast in the church year of the Episcopal Church. The Ash Wednesday service is one of the Proper Liturgies for Special Days in the BCP (p. 264). Imposition of ashes at the Ash Wednesday service is optional.

FEBRUARY 2026 CALENDAR OF SERVICES/MEETINGS/EVENTS

FEBRUARY	SERVICE/MEETING/EVENT	TIME & PLACE
15 th (Sunday)	The Last Sunday after the Epiphany (Last Alleluias until Easter Day) & the Observation of the Feast of the Rev. Absalom Jones Guest Speaker: The Reverend Canon Mia C. McDowell, SCP Canon Catechist Trinity Cathedral Parish	10:00am-11:30am Nave
16 th (Monday)	Rector's Day Off Parish Office Closed (President's Day)	
17 th (Tuesday)	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper w/the Burining of the Palms & the Burial of the Alleluia	3:00PM-8:00PM See announcement below. Griffin Hall
18 th (Ash Wednesday)	The Holy Eucharist Rite II w/the Imposition of Ashes	6:30pm-8:00pm Nave
19 th (Thursday)	Fresh Start Ministry	9:00am-12:00noon The O'Neal Center
	Bylaws Committee	5:30pm-6:30pm ZOOM
20 th (Friday)	Rector's Spiritual Day: Sermon Prep, Pastoral Care, Self-Care, etc.	
21 st (Saturday)	Acolyte Instruction/Refresher (Interested Persons are also invited to attend)	10:30am Griffin Hall
	Daughters of the King (DOK)	3:00pm (Griffin Hall)
22 nd (Sunday)	The First Sunday in Lent The Holy Eucharist: Rite I	10:00am-11:30am Nave

	w/the Great Litany Guest Speaker: The Reverend Marie Carmel Chery Dean of Chapel and Spiritual Engagement & Vicar of St. Philip's Episcopal Church at Voorhees University	Black History Food Fest 12:00pm
23 rd (Monday)	Rector's Day Off	
	Lenten Tea Sponsored by the ECW (Episcopal Church Women)	5:30pm-7:00pm Griffin Hall
24 th (Tuesday)	Buildings & Grounds	5:30pm-6:30pm Nave
	Vestry Meeting	6:00pm-7:30pm Griffin Hall
25 th (Wednesday)	Quilters & Crafters	10:30am-1:00pm Griffin Hall
	Choir Rehearsal	6:00pm-7:30pm Chancel
26 th (Thursday)	Fresh Start Ministry	9:00am-12:00noon The O'Neal Center
27 th (Friday)	Rector's Spiritual Day: Sermon Prep, Pastoral Care, Self-Care, etc.	
28 th (Saturday)	4 th Saturday Feeding	12:00noon-1:00pm Griffin Hall, distributed at the door

Music Acknowledgements & Permission for Use

Gospel Acclamation

from *The Cantor's Book of Gospel Acclamations*

Service music

Opening Acclamation, *Gloria, Sursum corda, Sanctus, & The Lord's Prayer*; Permission by RiteSong online music library for one-time use of this material for congregational use.

Memorial Acclamation

Words from the liturgy for Holy Communion Music *We Shall Overcome* Spiritual, setting by Dean B McIntyre

The Great Amen

from The Cochran Mass, courtesy of the Rev. Jemonde Taylor Rector, St. Ambrose Episcopal Church, Raleigh, NC

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St. Luke's Vestry

Class of 2026

Yvonne Hall
Joni James
Errol Porter, *Sr. Warden*
Beverly Turner, *Jr. Warden*

Class of 2027

Angela Blalock
Robert Green
Joseph Ray
Rudolph Wise

Class of 2028

Edwina Fields
Cynthia Goines
Herman Hickman
Cynthia Parker Reed

~

Patricia Ancrum, *Clerk of the Vestry*
Sheryl D. Belcher, *Parish Secretary*

~

Karen Castelli, *Website Administrator*
Shauna Hicks, *Newsletter Editor*
Valerie Riley, *Executive Director—Fresh Start Ministry*

~

Patricia Cokley, *Parish Treasurer*
Darnell Holmes, William Smith, Jr., *Asst. Parish Treasurers*
Sheryl D. Belcher, *Assoc. Parish Treasurer*

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“The Episcopal Church is a secret too well kept. Many are starved for what we experience daily and too easily take for granted. Invite others to come to your parish to experience this joy.”
Louie Crew, author of *101 Reasons to be Episcopalian*