

# ASH WEDNESDAY

Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes

Feb. 18, 2026 | 12:00 pm & 7:00 pm



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*In the name of Jesus Christ, welcome! We are delighted to worship with you today.*

*This booklet and The Hymnal 1982 (dark blue) provide the resources needed for participation in the service. Congregational responses appear in **bold**.*

*Whether a long-standing parishioner, a new member, or someone joining us for the first time, we hope you will sense God's work within you and in this community. May our worship strengthen, inspire, and guide us this day and always.*

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*Please stand as the clergy enter*

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

*Celebrant*     Let us pray.  
Almighty and everlasting God, you have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

*People*         **Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## THE LESSON

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

*Reader*       A Reading from the Book of Joel.

Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the LORD is coming, it is near—a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness! Like blackness spread upon the mountains a great and powerful army comes; their like has never been from of old, nor will be again after them in ages to come.

Yet even now, says the LORD, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the LORD, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing. Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him, a grain offering and a drink offering for the LORD, your God? Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly; gather the people. Sanctify the congregation; assemble the aged;

gather the children, even infants at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her canopy. Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep. Let them say, "Spare your people, O LORD, and do not make your heritage a mockery, a byword among the nations. Why should it be said among the peoples, "Where is their God?"

*Reader*     The Word of the Lord.  
*People*     **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 103:8-14

*Benedic, anima mea*

*at 12:00 pm: read responsively by half verse*

*at 7:00 pm: sung by the choir to Plainsong, Tone 8*

- 8 The LORD is full of compassion and mercy, \*  
**slow to anger and of great kindness.**
- 9 He will not always accuse us, \*  
**nor will he keep his anger for ever.**
- 10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins, \*  
**nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.**
- 11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, \*  
**so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.**
- 12 As far as the east is from the west, \*  
**so far has he removed our sins from us.**
- 13 As a father cares for his children, \*  
**so does the LORD care for those who fear him.**
- 14 For he himself knows whereof we are made; \*  
**he remembers that we are but dust.**

*Please stand and sing*

**HYMN AT THE SEQUENCE 699** "Jesus, lover of my soul"

*Aberystwyth*

## THE GOSPEL

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

*Reader*     The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.  
*People*     **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven. "So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

“And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

*Reader*     The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People*     **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

*Please be seated*

**THE SERMON**

The Reverend Andrew Y. Moore, *Senior Associate Rector*

*Please stand*

**AN INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF A HOLY LENT**

*Celebrant*     Dear People of God: The first Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord’s passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the Church to prepare for them by a season of penitence and fasting. This season of Lent provided a time in which converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism. It was also a time when those who, because of notorious sins, had been separated from the body of the faithful were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness, and restored to the fellowship of the Church. Thereby, the whole congregation was put in mind of the message of pardon and absolution set forth in the Gospel of our Savior, and of the need which all Christians continually have to renew their repentance and faith.

I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God’s holy Word. And, to make a right beginning of repentance, and as a mark of our mortal nature, let us now kneel before the Lord, our maker and redeemer.

*Silence is kept for a time, all kneeling.*

**THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES**

*Celebrant*     Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth: Grant that these ashes may be to us a sign of our mortality and penitence, that we may remember that it is only by your gracious gift that we are given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

*People*     **Amen.**

*The ashes are imposed with the following words*

*Celebrant*     Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

at 7:00 pm only

ANTHEM AT THE IMPOSITION *Call to Remembrance*

Richard Farrant (1525-1580)

Call to remembrance, O Lord,  
thy tender mercy and thy loving kindness which have been ever of old.  
O remember not the sins and offences of my youth:  
but according to thy mercy think thou on me, O Lord, for thy goodness.

*-Psalm 25:5-6*

*Please kneel and say*

PSALM 51:1-13

*Miserere mei, Deus*

- 1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; \*  
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
- 2 Wash me through and through from my wickedness \*  
and cleanse me from my sin.
- 3 For I know my transgressions, \*  
and my sin is ever before me.
- 4 Against you only have I sinned \*  
and done what is evil in your sight.
- 5 And so you are justified when you speak \*  
and upright in your judgment.
- 6 Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, \*  
a sinner from my mother's womb.
- 7 For behold, you look for truth deep within me, \*  
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.
- 8 Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; \*  
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.
- 9 Make me hear of joy and gladness, \*  
that the body you have broken may rejoice.
- 10 Hide your face from my sins \*  
and blot out all my iniquities.
- 11 Create in me a clean heart, O God, \*  
and renew a right spirit within me.
- 12 Cast me not away from your presence \*  
and take not your holy Spirit from me.
- 13 Give me the joy of your saving help again \*  
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

## THE LITANY OF PENITENCE

- People*     **Most holy and merciful Father: We confess to you and to one another, and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed; by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.**
- Celebrant*     We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength.  
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.
- People*     **Have mercy on us, Lord.**
- Celebrant*     We have been deaf to your call to serve, as Christ served us.  
We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.
- People*     **Have mercy on us, Lord.**
- Celebrant*     We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness:  
the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience of our lives,
- People*     **We confess to you, Lord.**
- Celebrant*     Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people,
- People*     **We confess to you, Lord.**
- Celebrant*     Our anger at our own frustration,  
and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,
- People*     **We confess to you, Lord.**
- Celebrant*     Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts,  
and our dishonesty in daily life and work,
- People*     **We confess to you, Lord.**
- Celebrant*     Our negligence in prayer and worship,  
and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,
- People*     **We confess to you, Lord.**
- Celebrant*     Accept our repentance, Lord, for the wrongs we have done:  
for our blindness to human need and suffering,  
and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,
- People*     **Accept our repentance, Lord.**
- Celebrant*     For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors,  
and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,
- People*     **Accept our repentance, Lord.**
- Celebrant*     For our waste and pollution of your creation,  
and our lack of concern for those who come after us,
- People*     **Accept our repentance, Lord.**

*Celebrant* Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us;  
*People* Favorably hear us, for your mercy is great.

*Celebrant* Accomplish in us the work of your salvation,  
*People* That we may show forth your glory in the world.

*Celebrant* By the cross and passion of your Son our Lord,  
*People* Bring us with all your saints to the joy of the resurrection.

*Celebrant* Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desires not the death of sinners, but rather that they may turn from their wickedness and live, has given power and commandment to his ministers to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the absolution and remission of their sins. He pardons and absolves all those who truly repent, and with sincere hearts believe his holy Gospel.

Therefore we beseech him to grant us true repentance and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him which we do on this day, and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure and holy, so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*People* Amen.

*Please stand*  
**THE PEACE**

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

*Please be seated*  
**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Are you new to the St. John's community?*  
*Fill out the newcomer card in the pew or scan the QR code*  
*to help us get to know you and help you discover more about life at St. John's.*



## THE HOLY COMMUNION

*at 7:00 pm only*

**ANTHEM AT THE OFFERTORY** *Hide Not Thou Thy Face*

Farrant

Hide not thou thy face from us, O Lord,  
and cast not off thy servants in thy displeasure;  
for we confess our sins unto thee, and hide not our unrighteousness.  
For thy mercy's sake deliver us from all our sins.

*-Psalm 27:10*

*You can make an offering from your smartphone by scanning the QR code.*  
*Use the drop-down menu to select "Donations" for a one-time offering,*  
*or "2026 Pledges" for a pledge contribution.*



*Please stand and sing*

**HYMN AT THE PRESENTATION 143** “The glory of these forty days”

*Erhalt uns, Herr*

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

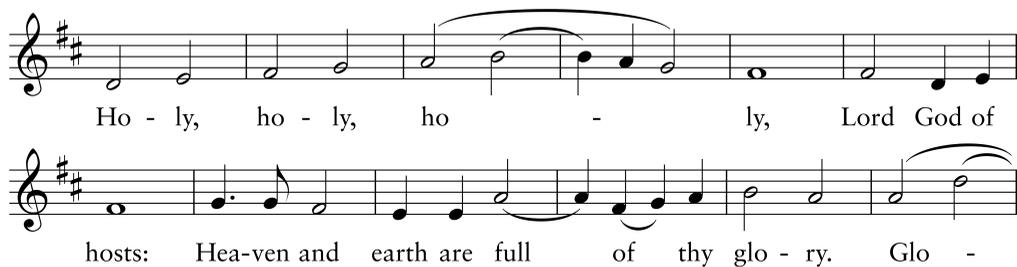
*Eucharistic Prayer C, rev.*

- Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**
- Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.  
*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**
- Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*People* **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**
- Celebrant* God of all power, Source and Sustainer of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.  
*People* **Glory to you for ever and ever.**
- Celebrant* At your command all things came to be: shining light and enfolding dark; the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.  
*People* **By your will they were created and have their being.**
- Celebrant* From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with the capacity for memory, reason, and skill. You made us the stewards of your creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.  
*People* **Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**
- Celebrant* Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your eternal Word, born of your servant Mary, to fulfill your Law, opening for us the way of freedom and peace.  
*People* **By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.**
- Celebrant* And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

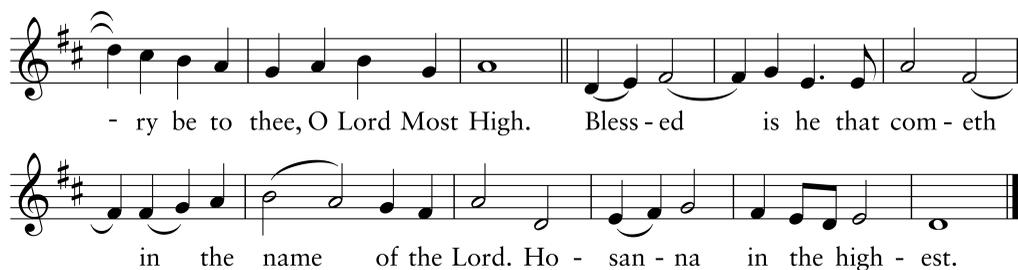
**SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS**

Healey Willan (1880-1968)

*at 12:00 pm: spoken; at 7:00 pm: sung*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of  
hosts: Hea-ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo -



*Please remain standing or kneel*

*Celebrant* Blessed are you, Lord our God, for sending us Jesus, the Christ, who on the night he was handed over to suffering and death, took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

*People* **We celebrate Christ’s death and resurrection as we await the day of his coming.**

*Celebrant* Therefore, O God, we who have been redeemed by Jesus Christ, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Savior.

Sanctify us also, and let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

*People* **Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**

*Celebrant* God of our ancestors; Redeemer and Mother of Israel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only and not for strength; for pardon only and not for renewal.

Accept these prayers and praises, Almighty God, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation.

*People* **Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Celebrant* And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,  
*People* **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.**

## AGNUS DEI

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.*

*at 12:00 pm:*

*Celebrant* Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
*People* **have mercy on us.**  
*Celebrant* Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
*People* **have mercy on us.**  
*Celebrant* Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
*People* **grant us peace.**

*at 7:00 pm:*

Willan

O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a -  
way the sins of the world: have mer - cy up -  
on us. O Lamb of God, that  
ta - kest a - way the sins of the world: have

mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of  
 God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the  
 world, grant us thy peace.

*Celebrant* The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died and rose again for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

## COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

*The bread and the wine of Holy Communion are God's gifts for God's people.*

*Please follow the directions of the ushers to receive communion at the altar rail.*

*If you require assistance or wish to receive communion at your seat, please inform the ushers.*

*It is customary to receive communion while kneeling at the altar rail, but remaining standing is also appropriate. Gluten-free wafers are available. If you wish to receive a blessing instead of communion, please come forward and cross your arms across your chest.*

**HYMN AT THE COMMUNION 693** "Just as I am, without one plea"

*Woodworth*

*Please stand*

## THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*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 AND DISMISSAL

*The Celebrant blesses the people.*

*People*     **Amen.**

*The Celebrant dismisses the people.*

*People*     **Thanks be to God.**

*All depart in silence.*

## SERVING TODAY

**Ushers**                      12:00 pm     Bob Smoot  
   7:00 pm     Stephanie Simmons

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### VESTRY

Kevin Swanson, *Senior Warden*  
Rodney Page, *Chancellor*

Mike Murphy, *Junior Warden*  
Greg Stayin, *Treasurer*

Osmar Abib  
Lauren Chewning  
Margaret Kerfoot  
Molly Nesline

John Brown  
Jeff Cimbalo  
Sarah Lang  
Nancy Simon  
Kathleen Tregoning

Shelli Bushman  
Katherine Haskell  
Mary Martin  
John Stacey

Lauren Chewning, *Registrar*

Susan Arthur, John Barkmeyer, and Maggie Keller, *Diocesan Delegates*

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#### CLERGY AND STAFF

The Reverend Joshua D. Armstrong-Walters, *Rector*  
The Reverend Andrew Y. Moore, *Senior Associate Rector*  
Dr. Karl J. Robson, *Director of Music*  
Sally Benton, *Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries*  
Tim Barwick, *Parish Administrator*  
Elys A. McLean, *Director of Communications*

jwalters@stjohnsmclean.org  
amoore@stjohnsmclean.org  
krobson@stjohnsmclean.org  
sbenton@stjohnsmclean.org  
tbarwick@stjohnsmclean.org  
emclean@stjohnsmclean.org



*A Parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia  
established 1866*

6715 Georgetown Pike | P.O. Box 457 | McLean, VA 22101-0457  
(703) 356-4902 | churchmail@stjohnsmclean.org  
Facebook: stjohnsmclean | www.stjohnsmclean.org