

ST. JOHN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Ash Wednesday
Holy Eucharist: Rite II

February 18, 2026
12 noon (without music), 7 p.m. (with music)

Welcome to St. John's!

“Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence
and take not your holy Spirit from me.

Give me the joy of your saving help again
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.”

(Psalm 51:11-13)



THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

*The Congregation joins in the portions printed in **bold italics**.*

The people enter in silence.

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

His mercy endures forever.

Book of Common Prayer (BCP), p. 264

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing 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. Amen.

THE LESSONS

All sit

Joel 2:1-2,12-17

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?’”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 103

In unison

***Bless the Lord, O my soul, *
and all that is within me, bless his holy Name.***

***Bless the Lord, O my soul, *
and forget not all his benefits.***

***He forgives all your sins *
and heals all your infirmities;***

He redeems your life from the grave *

***and crowns you with mercy and
loving-kindness;***

***He satisfies you with good things, *
and your youth is renewed like an eagle’s.***

***The Lord executes righteousness *
and judgment for all who are oppressed.***

He made his ways known to Moses *

and his works to the children of Israel.

*The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.*

*He will not always accuse us, *
nor will he keep his anger for ever.*

*He has not dealt with us according to our
sins, *
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.*

*For as the heavens are high above the earth, *
so is his mercy great upon those who fear
him.*

*As far as the east is from the west, *
so far has he removed our sins from us.*

*As a father cares for his children, *
so does the Lord care for those who fear him.*

*For he himself knows whereof we are made; *
he remembers that we are but dust.*

*Our days are like the grass; *
we flourish like a flower of the field;*

*When the wind goes over it, it is gone, *
and its place shall know it no more.*

*But the merciful goodness of the Lord
endures for ever on those who fear him, *
and his righteousness on children's children;*

*On those who keep his covenant *
and remember his commandments and do
them.*

*The Lord has set his throne in heaven, *
and his kingship has dominion over all.*

*Bless the Lord, you angels of his,
you mighty ones who do his bidding, *
and hearken to the voice of his word.*

*Bless the Lord, all you his hosts, *
you ministers of his who do his will.*

*Bless the Lord, all you works of his, in all
places of his dominion; *
bless the Lord, O my soul.*

2 Corinthians 5:20-6:10

We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, "At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you."

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through

great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute.

We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see – we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing,

and yet possessing everything.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn 152, verses 1-2

“Kind maker of the World, O Hear”

Tune: A LA VENUE DE NOEL
7 p.m. service only

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

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

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.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Hymn 152, verses 3-5

THE SERMON

All sit

The Priest invites the people to the observance of Lent

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.

All kneel as silence is kept for a time.

THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES

The Priest blesses the ashes

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. **Amen.**

The ashes are imposed with the following words

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

DURING THE IMPOSITION *Organ Music*

LITANY OF PENITENCE

BCP, p. 267

The Priest and People together, all kneeling

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.

The Priest continues

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.

Have mercy on us, Lord.

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.

Have mercy on us, Lord.

We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience of our lives,

We confess to you, Lord.

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people,

We confess to you, Lord.

Our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,

We confess to you, Lord.

Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and

work,
We confess to you, Lord.

Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,
We confess to you, Lord.

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,
Accept our repentance, Lord.

For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,
Accept our repentance, Lord.

For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us,
Accept our repentance, Lord.

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

Accomplish in us the work of your salvation,

The Peace

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

Announcements

That we may show forth your glory in the world.

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

The Priest, stands and, facing the people, says 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. ***Amen.***

All stand, as able

All sit

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (*Eucharistic Prayer D*)

BCP, p. 372

AT THE OFFERTORY, ANTHEM *Miserere mei*

Antonio Lotti

Miserere mei, Deus, secundum magnam
misericordiam tuam:
Et secundum multitudinem miserationum
tuarum dele iniquitatem meam.

Grant us mercy, O Lord. Now in thy goodness
and lovingness, pour forth compassion upon us;
and according to the multitude of Thy tender
mercies, forgive us our iniquities, we pray
Thee.

AT THE PRESENTATION, Hymn, “Again we keep this solemn fast” Tune: ERHALT US, HERR

A - gain we keep this so - lemn fast A
gift of faith from a - ges past, This Lent which binds us
lov - ing - ly To faith and hope and char - i - ty.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give

you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise.

Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS, S-144

Setting: Healey Willan

(The "S" numbers are found in the front of the Hymnal)

Please kneel, as able

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation. Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it, and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel

containing wine to be consecrated.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

***We praise you, we bless you,
we give thanks to you,
and we pray to you, Lord our God.***

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of

life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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.

The Breaking of the Bread

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast.

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.

The Holy Eucharist is Christ's eternal banquet, to which all adults and children are invited. If you are a baptized Christian of any tradition (and regardless of your current status in any other church) we welcome you to receive communion with this community of God's people. At the time of communion, the ushers will indicate when your row should come forward. Please come to the altar rail; you may stand or kneel. The bread will be placed in your outstretched hands; the appropriate response is "Amen." When the chalice of wine comes, hold out your bread for the minister to dip it in the wine for you, or decline it by crossing your arms over your chest. If for any reason you prefer not to receive the bread and wine, or if you have not been Baptized, you may either: come forward and cross your arms over your chest for a blessing.

AT THE DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

Voluntary

In Church

P.I. Tchaikovsky

Hymn 701,

"Jesus, All My Gladness"

Tune: JESU, MEINE FREUDE

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER *All kneel, as able* *BCP, p. 366*
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

HYMN 143, “The glory of these forty days”

Tune: ERHALT UNS, HERR

Dismissal

BCP, p. 366

Let us bless the Lord!

Thanks be to God! *(The customary “Alleluia’s” are omitted during Lent.)*



VISITORS AND GUESTS: Welcome to St. John’s! If you have questions about baptisms, weddings, membership, or to be included on our newsletter and mailing lists please email the Church Office at office@stjohnsmlb.org.

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE may be given in memory of a loved one, or to commemorate some occasion. Contact the church office at office@stjohnsmlb.org or 321-254-3365.

LENT AT ST. JOHN’S

Ash Wednesday Worship
February 18, Noon & 7 p.m.

Lenten Lunch Series “Dying Well”
Wednesdays, Beginning February 25
12 Noon, led by Fr. Timothy Rutherford
Soup & Sandwich Lunch

VOLUNTEERS TO MAKE SOUP on the following dates: February 25, March 4, 11, 18, 25. If you are able

to assist please contact Jackie Bond or sign-up in the parish hall.

BIBLE STUDY: “Read the Bible in a Year”, every Wednesday, at 10:00 a.m. in the Rector’s office. Drop-ins are welcome!

ADULT & YOUTH CHRISTIAN FORMATION: 9:00 a.m. Adults in the Parish Hall, Youth in the Chapel.

TGIF: Join the Men’s Bible study, Fridays, 8 a.m. at La Loma Coney Island, 1180 Aurora Rd, Melbourne, 32935. 321-254-8559.

THE FOOD PANTRY: is still in need of your help. There is a basket at the back of the church for non-perishable food.

A PRAYER REQUEST BOX is available from the St. John’s Order of the Daughters of the King, beside the Daughters’ banner in the Sanctuary. Alternatively, you may contact Sarah Kendall, (702) 203-6093, 537sarah@gmail.com, or any Daughter. The Daughters have taken a vow to pray for others and take this vow seriously. All prayer requests are strictly confidential, and as Daughters, honor that confidentiality. Prayers will

be passed on to Fr. Timothy if requested.

DONATE TO ST. JOHN'S ONLINE! You can now make a safe and convenient donation to St. John's via PayPal. Scan the QR code at right or visit stjohnsmblb.org and click on Donate Now!



ST. JOHN'S Focus for the month of February is Vietnam and All Vets. They are a not-for-profit organization incorporated under the laws of the state of Florida. VAVB assists veterans who have

temporarily lost the ability to manage their lives successfully. Located on Fee Avenue, Melbourne VAVB has taken specific action to offer homeless vets with a temporary shelter, and provide for their immediate needs permitting them to search for work, and once employed; to save enough money to acquire living quarters and transportation. More information on the organization may be found at their website, vietnamandallveteransofbrevard.com.

Readings for next Sunday: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7, Romans 5:12-19, Matthew 4:1-11, Psalm 32. To find all the lessons visit the webpage: lectionarypage.net and click on the date.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

- Wed (2/18) Ash Wednesday Worship, Noon, with imposition of ashes. Also Live Streamed.
Ash Wednesday Worship 7:00 p.m., with imposition of ashes and music. In person only.
- Thurs (2/19) Staff Meeting, 9 a.m. Rector's office.
Seaside Stitchers, 9 a.m., Parish Hall.
AA Ladies Group, 6:30 p.m., Parish Hall.
Vestry, 7:00 p.m., Chapel.
- Fri (2/20) TGIF Men's Bible Study, 8 a.m., La Loma Coney Island Restaurant, 1180 Aurora Rd.
- Sun (2/22) Adult Christian Education, 9 a.m., Parish Hall, Youth, 9 a.m., in the Chapel.
Holy Eucharist, Rite II, 10 a.m., also Live Streamed.

All Zoom and Livestream links are available by visiting stjohnsmlb.org > Calendar, then clicking on the event. Or you may email office@stjohnsmlb.org and we will send you the link.

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*... is a worshipping community, obedient to scripture,
growing as servants of Christ, and sharing His love in word and deed.*

610 Young Street ✕ Melbourne, FL 32935 ✕ 321-254-3365 ✕
www.stjohnsmlb.org
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The Vestry of St. John's Church
TBD, Secretary

Serving thru 1/2027
Peter Fischel,
Ben Kendall, Sr. Warden
Keith Salmon, Treasurer

Serving thru 1/2028
Paul Mitz, Jr. Warden

Serving thru 1/2029
Jason Grace, Gary Harrell