

ST. JOHN'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

First Sunday in Lent  
Holy Eucharist: Rite II

February 22, 2026  
10 a.m.

**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 GREAT LITANY**

*Book of Common Prayer (BCP) p. 148*

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

(BCP) p. 355

***His mercy endures for ever.***

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.***

**KYRIE, S-91**

Healey Willan

**COLLECT OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you.

***And also with you.***

Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**THE LESSONS**

*All sit*

**Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7**

**T**he Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall

die.' " But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

The Word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God.***

**Psalm 32:**

*Recite in unison*

***Happy are they whose transgressions are***

***forgiven, \****

*and whose sin is put away!*

*Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, \*  
and in whose spirit there is no guile!*

*While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, \*  
because of my groaning all day long.*

*For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; \*  
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.*

*Then I acknowledged my sin to you, \*  
and did not conceal my guilt.*

*I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." \**

*Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.*

*Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; \**

### **Romans 5:12-19**

**A**s sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned – sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought

*when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.*

*You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; \*  
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.*

*"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; \*  
I will guide you with my eye.*

*Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; \*  
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."*

*Great are the tribulations of the wicked; \*  
but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.*

*Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord; \*  
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.*

condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

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

**Matthew 4:1-11**

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

***Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” But he answered, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, ‘He will command his angels concerning you,’ and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’”

Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’”

Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

***Praise to you, Lord Christ.***

**Hymn 150, verses 3-5****THE SERMON**

**The Nicene Creed**

*All stand, as able*

*BCP, p. 358*

***We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.***

***We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the***

*dead, and his kingdom will have no end.*

*We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.*

*The Prayers of the People are omitted when the Great Litany is used.*

### **The Peace**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*And also with you.*

### **Announcements**

All sit

### **Birthday and Anniversary Prayer**

## **THE HOLY COMMUNION**

### **The Great Thanksgiving**

*(Eucharistic Prayer B)*

*BCP, p. 367*

### **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.

### **Presentation Hymn 380,**

Doxology

Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH

(We will sing stanza #3 only)

All things come of Thee, O Lord.  
*And of Thine own have we given Thee.*

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 right, and a good and joyful thing, always  
and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father  
Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

*Here the Celebrant adds a Proper Preface.*

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with  
Angels and Archangels and with all the company  
of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to  
proclaim the glory of your Name:

*Please kneel, as able*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ 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."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

***We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;***

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy

Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for 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**

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; ***Therefore let us keep the feast, Alleluia!***

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.

*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 come forward and cross your arms over your chest for a blessing.*

### **At the Distribution,**

**Voluntary**

*It Is Well With My Soul*

Philip Bliss (arr. by Jennifer Eklund)

**Hymn 699,**

"Jesus, Lover of My Soul"

Tune: ABERYSTWYTH

### **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 142,**

"Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days"

Tune: ST. FLAVIAN

### **Dismissal**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

*Thanks be to God! (The customary "Alleluias" are omitted during Lent)*



## THIS MORNING'S MUSIC

Today is the first Sunday in Lent, and in accordance with tradition, we open with the Great Litany, an intercessory prayer with a variety of petitions for deliverance, mercy, and guidance. According to the Episcopal Dictionary of the Church, the Litany was the first English-language rite developed by Archbishop Thomas Cranmer, and it has long been included in prayer books and ceremonial services. It is now often used to convey a penitential and reverent mood on the first Sunday in Lent.

Our sequence hymn, “Forty Days and Forty Nights”, is a meditation on Christ’s temptation and forty-day fast in the wilderness that draws directly on today’s Gospel reading in Matthew 4. The text was written by English priest and poet George Hunt Smyttan (1822-1870) and traces both the biblical narrative of Christ’s struggle in the desert and the daily emotion of struggles in the life of the believer, pleading for God to give us the same strength and tranquility that Christ exemplified. For the offertory, we again hear the anthem “Miserere mei”, with words based on Psalm 51 and music written by Antonio Lotti (1667-1740), an Italian organist and composer of the Baroque era who spent his career in Venice. While Lotti’s setting of “Miserere mei” is less well-known than that of Gregorio Allegri, its rich polyphonic texture effectively conveys the plaintive tone of the text.

At communion, the music underscores the idea of relying on Jesus in times of trial. The voluntary is a solo arrangement of “It Is Well With My Soul”, a hymn that affirms that “though Satan should buffet”, Christ looks on with compassion. American lawyer and Presbyterian elder Horatio Spafford wrote the words of the hymn after suffering a series of personal tragedies, including the loss of his daughters in a shipwreck, and composer Philip Bliss named the hymn’s tune after the sunken ship, Ville du Havre. The text of the communion hymn, “Jesus, Lover of My Soul”, was written by John Wesley and is often considered one of his more personal hymns, illustrating the intensity of his devotion and trust in Jesus as a refuge.

Like the sequence hymn, the closing hymn, “Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days” presents the Gospel account of Jesus’s temptation as a model for Christian fortitude. It was written by Claudia Frances Hernaman, who was the daughter of an English minister and committed to the religious education of children. “Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days” first appeared in her 1873 collection “Child’s Book of Praise; A Manual for Devotion in Simple Verse”, but it has since become a classic and is included in many modern hymnals.



**VISITORS AND GUESTS:** Welcome to St. John's! We hope you will stay after the service for an opportunity to chat. Snacks and beverages are provided in our Parish Hall. 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](mailto: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](mailto:office@stjohnsmlb.org) or 321-254-3365.

**BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK:** Katie Codlin-Wilson, Dick Martin, Ben Kendall.

**ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK:** None known.

**DAUGHTERS OF THE KING** invite you to join them on March 7, between 11 a.m.-1 p.m. for refreshments and an opportunity to create an Anglican Rosary necklace, bracelet, or key ring. This is an opportunity for you to invite a neighbor or friend to visit St. John's and meet the parishioners. All beads and supplies are provided.

**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.

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### LENT AT ST. JOHN'S

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

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**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.

**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](mailto:537sarah@gmail.com), or any Daughter. The Daughters have taken a vow to pray for others and take this vow seriously. 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 [stjohnsmlb.org](http://stjohnsmlb.org) and click on Donate Now!



**FOOD PANTRY:** Non-perishable food may be placed in the basket at the back of the church.

**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 once employed; to save enough money to acquire living quarters and transportation. The facility consists of ten apartments housed in two buildings which can accommodate up to nineteen residents. The current cost for maintaining the facility is approximately \$90,000.00 per year. In partnership with the state, the county, city government, and Veterans organizations and other supporters they continue to operate this worthwhile program. More information on the organization may be found at their website: [vietnamandallveteransofbrevard.com](http://vietnamandallveteransofbrevard.com).



You are invited to join a community of women who believe in the power of prayer, service to others, and the sharing of the gospel to expand the Kingdom of God. You can find out more about the DOK by contacting Sallie Razor at 859-585-5836, srazor@bellsouth.net; or Pam Davis, at 321-480-9283, SunHatPam@hotmail.com.

**READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:** Genesis 12:1-4, Romans 4:1-5, 13-17, John 3:1-17, Psalm 121.  
To find all the lessons visit the webpage: [lectionarypage.net](http://lectionarypage.net) and click on the date.

**SUNDAY MINISTRIES SCHEDULE:**

	<b>February 22 10 a.m.</b>
<b>Greeters</b>	A. Weeks J. Miller
<b>Ushers</b>	J. Bond L. Miller
<b>Reader Chalice Bearer</b>	TBD
<b>Acolytes</b>	Asher & Beowulf
<b>Altar Guild</b>	TBD
<b>Counter</b>	K. Wilson
<b>A/V</b>	B. Kendall V. Mitz



## THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Sun (2/22) Christian Formation, 9:00 a.m. Adults, Parish Hall; Youth, Chapel.  
Holy Eucharist, Rite II, 10 a.m., also Livestreamed.  
AA Bus Mtg, 3:00 - 4:30 p.m., Parish Hall

Mon (2/23) AA, 5:30 p.m., Parish Hall.

Tues (2/24) Boy Scouts, 5:30 p.m., Parish Hall.

Wed (2/25) Bible in a Year Study Group, 10 a.m, Rector's office.  
Lenten Lunch Series, 12 noon.  
Choir Rehearsal, 7:00 p.m. Choir Loft

Thurs (2/26) Seaside Stitchers, 9:00 a.m., Parish Hall.  
Staff Meeting, 9 a.m., Rector's office.  
Ladies AA, 6:30 p.m., Parish Hall.

Fri (2/27) TGIF, Men's Bible Study, 8 a.m. La Loma Coney Island Restaurant, 1180 Aurora.

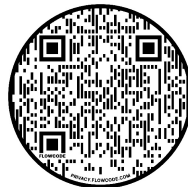
Sun (3/1) Christian Formation, 9:00 a.m., Adults, Parish Hall; Youth, Chapel.  
Holy Eucharist, Rite II, 10:00 a.m., also Livestreamed.  
Daughters of the King, 11:30 a.m.

**All Zoom and Livestream links** are available by visiting [stjohnsmlb.org](http://stjohnsmlb.org) > Calendar, then clicking on the event. Or you may email [office@stjohnsmlb.org](mailto: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](http://www.stjohnsmlb.org)  
Parish Office email: [office@stjohnsmlb.org](mailto:office@stjohnsmlb.org)



**The Rev. Timothy Rutherford**, Rector  
Pastoral Care: 803-565-6750 (Call or Text)  
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**Sylvia Tammen**, Music Minister  
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**Jackie Bond**, Office Assistant  
[office@stjohnsmlb.org](mailto:office@stjohnsmlb.org)

**Carole Taylor**, Bookkeeper  
[ctaylor9797@yahoo.com](mailto:ctaylor9797@yahoo.com)

**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