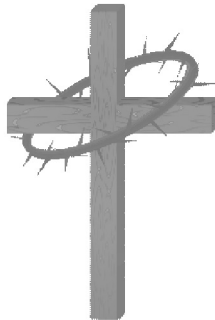


ST. JOHN'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Second Sunday in Lent  
Holy Eucharist: Rite II

March 1, 2026  
10 a.m.

**Welcome to St. John's**



**THE ORDER OF WORSHIP**

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

***There are no organ voluntaries (prelude and postlude) during Lent***

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.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**THE LESSONS**

*All sit*

**Genesis 12:1-4**

**T**he Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you

all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

The Word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God.***

**Psalm 121:**

*Recite in unison*

***I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*  
from where is my help to come?***

***My help comes from the Lord, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.***

***He will not let your foot be moved \*  
and he who watches over you will not fall  
asleep.***

***Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \****

***shall neither slumber nor sleep;***

***The Lord himself watches over you; \*  
the Lord is your shade at your right hand,***

***So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \*  
nor the moon by night.***

***The Lord shall preserve you from all evil; \*  
it is he who shall keep you safe.***

*The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \* from this time forth for evermore.*

### **Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

**W**hat then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to

be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”) – in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

The Word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

**Hymn 657, verse 1** “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

Tune: HYFRYDOL  
*All stand, as able*

### **John 3:1-17**

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

*Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

**T**here was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter

the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?”

“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

*Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

### Hymn 657, verses 2-3

## 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.*

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*All kneel, as able*

*Form IV, BCP, p. 388*

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for St. Francis of Assisi Church, Lake Placid, and

Church of the Good Shepherd, Lake Wales.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for the bishops and clergy of The Anglican Church in Japan. *Silence*

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Heavenly Father, watch over and protect our nation's military members and their families, especially, **Caleb, Chase, Geoffrey, Jack, Johnny, Kyle, Matthew B., Matthew M., Milton, Murray, Ricky, Sarah, and Siena.** *Silence*

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. *Silence*

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. *Silence*

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

We pray for our brothers and sisters who cannot

be here with us today especially **Frank, Sara, and Yvonne.** *Silence*

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. *Silence*

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

God of peace and justice, we pray for all those who live under armed conflict in the Holy Land, Ukraine, Sudan, Iran and other places around the world. We pray for those with power over war or peace and those commanded to fight; for wisdom, compassion and restraint to guide their decisions. We pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear, that you would hold and protect them. In the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. **Amen.**

*The celebrant adds a concluding collect.*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Holy Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*The Priest stands and says*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

## 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 C)*

*BCP, p. 369*

#### At the Offertory, Anthem

God So Loved the World

John Stainer

#### Presentation Hymn 380,

Doxology  
(We will sing stanza #3 only)

Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH

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.*

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

*Glory to you for ever and ever.*

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

*By your will they were created and have their being.*

From the primal elements you brought forth the

human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

*Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.*

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 only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

*By his blood, he reconciled us.*

*By his wounds, we are healed.*

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 and Benedictus, S-114

Setting: Healey Willan

*Please kneel, as able* | And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by

him, 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 Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he 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, he 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 many 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, ***We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.***

Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; 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. 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.

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

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, 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. ***AMEN.***

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

***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

*What Wondrous Love Is This*

American Folk Melody

Hymn 448,

“O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High” Tune: DEUS TUORUM MILITUM

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 636,

“How Firm a Foundation, Ye Saints of the Lord”

Tune: FOUNDATION

## 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

For our entrance hymn, we once again sing the Hebrew melody “Leoni”, this time with the text “The God of Abraham Praise”. Along with today’s Old Testament reading in Genesis 12 and the Epistle reading in Romans 4, the hymn reminds us of the continuing relevance of the Abrahamic covenant. The words are derived from the Yigdal, a Jewish creedal prayer often sung at start or conclusion of liturgical services that affirms both God’s transcendence and concrete actions in history.

Much of the rest of this morning’s music is centered around the divine love described in the Gospel reading. The sequence hymn “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” was written by the prolific and poetically gifted Charles Wesley (1707-1788), whom the Episcopal Church commemorates in the liturgical calendar this Tuesday, March 3. Wesley’s words articulate and accentuate all the themes we find in John 3, illustrating the intrinsic connections between love, faith, and salvation.

The offertory anthem, “God So Loved the World”, is a lush, lyrical setting of John 3:16 excerpted from John Stainer’s Passiontide cantata “The Crucifixion”. John Stainer (1840-1901) was

a renowned English composer, organist, and scholar whose dedication to popularizing folk carols and improving choral instruction has had a lasting impact on the culture and traditions of Anglican sacred music.

The communion hymn, “O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High”, is a translation of an anonymous fifteenth-century Latin hymn that is sometimes attributed to Catholic monk Thomas à Kempis (best known for the devotional book “The Imitation of Christ”). The text of the hymn functions as a miniature catechism, outlining what Christians believe about the birth, baptism, ministry, death, resurrection and deep love of Jesus. While the original text of the hymn had 23 (!) verses, our hymnal includes only 6.

The closing hymn “How Firm a Foundation” eloquently celebrates God’s faithfulness to his people throughout history; each stanza enumerates the ways he equips, encourages, and fortifies those who trust in him. While the hymn has a rich history of performance and was sung at the funeral of multiple U.S. presidents, much less is known about the history of its composition. The text was first published in a collection of hymns in 1787, signed by the mysterious author “K”. Nobody knows for sure who “K” was although there are numerous theories. The same might be said about the composer of the hymn’s tune, which appeared unsigned in the American sacred harp anthology “Southern Harmony”.



**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:** Amy Lacy, Michael Scott.

**ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK:** None known.

**DAUGHTERS OF THE KING** invite you to join them next Saturday, March 7, between 11 a.m.-1 p.m. for refreshments and an opportunity to create an Anglican Rosary necklace, bracelet, or key ring. Invite a neighbor or friend to visit St. John's and meet our 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.

**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.

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

**VOLUNTEERS TO MAKE SOUP** for lunch on the following dates March 4, 11, 18, 25. If you are able to assist please contact Jackie Bond, or sign your name on the sheet in the parish hall.

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## LENT AND EASTER AT ST. JOHN'S

### Lenten Lunch Series "Dying Well"

Wednesdays, 12 Noon,  
led by Fr. Timothy Rutherford  
Soup & Sandwich Lunch

### Palm Sunday Worship

March 29, 10 a.m.  
Starting in the Park, weather permitting  
With Blessing of the Palms

### Maundy Thursday

April 2, 7 p.m.  
With foot washing and Stripping of the Altar.

### Good Friday

April 3, 7 p.m.

### Easter Celebration

Sunday, April 5  
Sunrise in the Park, 7 a.m.  
Easter Festival Worship, 10 a.m.

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**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!



**ST. JOHN'S FOCUS** for the month of March is Life Recaptured, a local program that assists girls to escape the nightmare of sex trafficking. Their residential safe homes provide refuge and freedom for their residents, and they work closely with local law enforcement as well as contacts in other areas. This vile trade operates right under our nose here in Brevard County, and we are delighted that God has opened a way for use to support this rescue. Florida is #3 in the nation for sex trafficking. Their gift shop and beauty boutique are open Monday through Saturday at 5515 N. Courtney Parkway, Merrit Island, and well worth the visit. On Saturday they also hold a farmer's market. Their Connections Café, 3757 N. U.S.1, is open Wednesday through Saturday.



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:** Exodus 17:1-7, Romans 5:1-11, John 4:5-42, Psalm 95. To find all the lessons visit the webpage: [lectionarypage.net](http://lectionarypage.net) and click on the date.

**SUNDAY MINISTRIES SCHEDULE:**

	<b>March 1- 10 a.m.</b>	<b>March 8 - 10 a.m.</b>	<b>March 15 - 10 a.m.</b>	<b>March 22 - 10 a.m.</b>
<b>Greeters</b>	A. Weeks A. Lacy	A. Weeks B. Rincones	A. Weeks J. Miller	A. Weeks
<b>Ushers</b>	Bill Chernault J. Miller	A. & J. Lacy	B. & T. Chernault	J. Bond L. Miller
<b>Reader Chalice Bearer</b>	J. Bond	J. McLughlin Acolyte: TBD	J. Bond	R. Huffman Acolyte: TBD
<b>Acolytes</b>	Asher & Beowulf	Asher & Beowulf	Asher & Beowulf	Asher & Beowulf
<b>Altar Guild</b>	K. Oas	L. Bennett	K. Oas	L. Bennett
<b>Counter</b>	K. Wilson	K. Wilson	K. Wilson	K. Wilson
<b>A/V</b>	B. Kendall V. Mitz	B. Kendall V. Mitz	B. Kendall V. Mitz	B. Kendall V. Mitz

## THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

- Sun (3/1) Christian Formation, 9:00 a.m. Adults, Parish Hall; Youth, Chapel.  
Holy Eucharist, Rite II, 10 a.m., also Livestreamed.  
Daughters of the King, 11:30 a.m.
- Mon (3/2) Seaside Stitchers, 9:00 a.m., Parish Hall.  
AA, 5:30 p.m., Parish Hall.
- Tues (3/3) Scouts, 5:30 p.m., Parish Hall.
- Wed (3/4) Bible in a Year Study Group, 10 a.m, Rector's office.  
Lenten Lunch Series, 12 noon., Parish Hall.  
Choir Rehearsal, 7:00 p.m. Choir Loft
- Thurs (3/5) Staff Meeting, 9 a.m., Rector's office.  
Ladies AA, 6:30 p.m., Parish Hall.
- Fri (3/6) TGIF, Men's Bible Study, 8 a.m. La Loma Coney Island Restaurant, 1180 Aurora.
- Sat (3/7) Daughters of the King, 11:00a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Anglican Rosary, Parish Hall.
- Sun (3/8) Christian Formation, 9:00 a.m., Adults, Parish Hall; Youth, Chapel.  
Holy Eucharist, Rite II, 10:00 a.m., also Livestreamed.

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 worshiping community, guided by scripture,  
growing servants of Christ, and sharing Jesus' love in word and deed.*

610 Young Street ✕ Melbourne, FL 32935 ✕ 321-254-3365 ✕ [www.stjohnsmlb.org](http://www.stjohnsmlb.org)  
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**The Rev. Timothy Rutherford**, Rector  
Pastoral Care: 803-565-6750 (Call or Text)  
[rector@stjohnsmlb.org](mailto:rector@stjohnsmlb.org)

**Sylvia Tammen**, Music Minister  
[sylvia.tammen1@gmail.com](mailto:sylvia.tammen1@gmail.com)

**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