



ST. JOHN'S CHURCH - SAVANNAH

ASH WEDNESDAY
FEBRUARY 18, 2026
NOON

IMPOSITION OF ASHES AND SUNG EUCHARIST

Please maintain a reverent silence before the service

The Mass setting is the *First Communion Service* by John Merbecke (c.1510-c.1585)

The People stand as the Clergy enter, then are seated for

The Lesson: Isaiah 58 or Jonah 3—4

The People kneel and the service continues with

THE PENITENTIAL OFFICE

BCP, p. 60

The People remain kneeling and Priest then continues with

	The Lord be with you.
<i>People</i>	And with thy spirit.
<i>Priest</i>	Let us pray.

The Priest continues with

Almighty and everlasting God, who forgavest the people of Ninevah when they repented in sackcloth and ashes: Mercifully grant that we, truly repenting of our sins, may obtain of thee perfect pardon and release; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Priest Let us pray.

The Priest then blesses the ashes with the following

O God, who wouldest not the death of a sinner, but rather that he should turn from his wickedness and live; we beseech thee to have compassion upon the frailty of our nature, and of thy goodness to ✠ bless and sanctify these ashes now to be set upon our heads as a token of humility and a recollection of our mortality; that we, acknowledging ourselves to be but dust and ashes, may of thy mercy be found worthy of our redemption, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

All those desiring the imposition of ashes are invited to come forward to the Altar Rail and kneel.

After the imposition of ashes, the People kneeling, the Priests says

Let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, Spare thy people, O Lord, spare them, and turn not away the faces of them that call upon thee, O Lord. Let us change our raiment for sackcloth and ashes: Let us fast and mourn before the Lord; for our God is merciful to forgive us our sins.

People Hear us, O Lord, for thy loving-kindness is comfortable: according to the multitude of thy mercies, turn thee unto us, O Lord.

Priest Save me, O God, for the waters are come in, even unto my soul.

People I stick fast in the deep mire, where no ground is; I am come into deep waters, so that the floods run over me.

Priest Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:

People As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

People Hear us, O Lord, for thy loving-kindness is comfortable: according to the multitude of thy mercies, turn thee unto us, O Lord.

The People remain kneeling and Priest then continues with

People The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

Priest Let us pray.

The Priest continues with

O God, who art justly angry, and dost mercifully pardon, accept the tears of thy afflicted people, and graciously turn away thy wrathful indignation, which they justly deserve; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Priest Let us pray.

Grant to us, O Lord, to put on the armour of our Christian warfare with holy fastings; that we who are about to fight against spiritual wickedness, may be defended by the power of abstinence, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

All stand and join in singing

Hymn 55 “Forty days and forty nights”

HEINLEIN

The Priest then says

People The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

Priest Let us pray.

The People kneel and the Priest continues with

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

The Book of Common Prayer, p. 67

THE SUMMARY OF THE LAW

BCP, p. 69

KYRIE ELEISON (*sung by All*)

The Hymnal 1940, 702

Lord, have mercy upon us
Christ, have mercy upon us
Lord, have mercy upon us

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP, p. 124

The People remain kneeling and the Priest sings

 The Lord be with you.
People And with thy spirit.
Priest Let us pray.

The Priest continues with the Collect, to which the People respond

Amen.

The People sit

THE LESSONS

The Epistle: Joel 2:12-17

BCP p. 124

All stand for the reading of

The Gospel: Matthew 6:16–21

BCP, p. 125

Priest The ✠ Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, in the sixth chapter,
beginning at the sixteenth verse.



At the conclusion of the Gospel, all say



The People sit

THE ADDRESS

THE OFFERTORY

The People stand and the Priest begins the Offertory with a sentence of scripture. After which, the People sit.

THE PRESENTATION

The People stand as the alms and oblations are presented and sing

Hymn 732 “All things are thine”

GARDINER

All things are thine; no gift have we,
Lord of all gifts, to offer thee;
And hence with grateful hearts today
Thine own before thy feet we lay. Amen.

The Priest then says

People All things come of thee, O Lord,
and of thine own have we given thee. Amen.

THE BIDDINGS

Priest Of your charity, I bid your prayers for the repose of the souls of the faithful departed:
Rest ☩ eternal grant unto them, O Lord;
People and let light perpetual shine upon them.
Priest May they rest in peace.
People Amen.

THE PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH

BCP, p. 74

The Priest begins by saying

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church.

The People kneel and the Priest continues with the prayers

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP, p. 75

A Priest bids the Confession, the People kneel, and the following Confession is said by all

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men; We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, Which we, from time to time, most grievously have committed, By thought, word, and deed, Against thy Divine Majesty, Provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, And are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; The remembrance of them is grievous unto us; The burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; For thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, Forgive us all that is past; And grant that we may ever hereafter Serve and please thee In newness of life, To the honour and glory of thy Name; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Priest alone stands and pronounces the Absolution which is followed by

THE COMFORTABLE WORDS

BCP, p. 76

The Priest then says

The Lord be with you
People And with thy spirit.
Priest Lift up your hearts.
People We lift them up unto the Lord.
Priest Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.
People It is meet and right so to do.

The Priest faces the Altar and continues with the common preface, after which is sung

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS (*sung by All*)

Hymnal, 704 & 796

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts:

Heaven and earth are full of thy glory;
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High. Amen.

✠ Blessed is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION, OBLATION, & INVOCATION

BCP, p. 80

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*said by All*)

BCP, p. 82

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 Priest kneels and the People join in saying

THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

BCP, p. 82

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 our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Then is sung

AGNUS DEI (*sung by All*)

Hymnal, 706

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

Those who are baptized, have attained to years of discretion, and have been admitted to communion (which at St. John's, is normally by confirmation, but for visitors may have taken place by other means) are welcome to receive the Sacrament. All others are welcome to receive a blessing at the altar rail by kneeling and crossing your arms over your chest.

To receive the Host, please place your right hand over left, at the level of your chest, and lift the Host to your lips. To receive the chalice, keep your head and neck straight, lightly grasp the bowl or stem of the chalice and guide it to your lips.

Self-intinction (dipping) of the Host is not permitted for hygiene reasons. If you do not wish to receive the chalice, you may depart after receiving the Host, or cross your arms over your chest.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Hymn 190 "Let thy blood in mercy poured" (*sung by All*)

LUISE

After Communion, the Priest says

Let us pray.

The People kneel and join in saying

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee, for that thou dost vouchsafe to feed us who have duly received these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favour and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, which is the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs through hope of thy everlasting kingdom, by the merits of his most precious death and passion. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. Amen.

*The People remain kneeling and Priest (or Bishop, if present) pronounces a blessing to which they respond
Amen.*

The People stand and join in singing

Hymn 56 “Kind maker of the world”

JESU DULCIS MEMORIA

The People remain standing until the procession has departed the Nave.

After which, they depart in silence.

KEEPING LENT

There are three practices commended of Christ in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 6:1-18) and embraced as a corporate spiritual discipline of the Church during the season of Lent as “works worthy of repentance” (Luke 3:8): fasting and abstinence, prayer, and the giving of alms.

Fasting and abstinence teach us that we are not ruled by our wants (especially the impulse of bodily appetite).

Prayer teaches us to want what God wants (the hallowing of his name, the coming of his kingdom, the fulfilment of his will).

Almsgiving teaches us to love as God loves, not only in word but in deed and in truth.

FASTING AND ABSTINENCE

Fasting and abstinence is the reduction in quantity and quality of our food and drink, and also our amusements and indulgences. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days to abstain from all food and drink until the evening, when a light Lenten meal may be taken. The other weekdays of Lent – up to and including Easter Eve – are observed with a reduction in quality of food and drink. It is traditional to give up meat for Lent. Sundays, however are not fast days. The very young, the very old, those whose health or work require it, are exempted from the fast, and may seek other modes of self-denial.

PRAYER

The practice of Christians through history has been to pray at fixed times of day, chiefly morning and evening. The Church’s daily prayer set forth in the Prayer Book provides for immersive reading of Scripture in the context of corporate penitence, praise, and petition. It is said on certain days in St Mary’s chapel, and can be said privately with Prayer Book, Bible, and the list of lessons published each week in the Friday parish email, and in printed form available Sunday in church. It is also said online Monday to Friday at 8:15, on the St John’s Church Facebook page.

ALMSGIVING

If we are cutting back on rich food and drink and other amusements and indulgences, the money we save can be put to the service of charity towards neighbours in need. Each Lent the church sponsors a special collection, and this year it is to support the Living Vine, a Christian maternity home here in Savannah.

Clergy

The Right Reverend Frank Logue, *Bishop*
The Reverend Gavin Dunbar, *Rector*
The Reverend Jonathan Jameson, *Associate Rector*

Honorary Assisting Clergy

The Right Reverend Paul Lambert, *Bishop (retired) DEPO*
The Reverend J. Patrick Hunt, *Assisting Priest*
The Reverend David Thurlow, *Assisting Priest*

Vestry

Mr. Charles B. Compton, Jr.	Mrs. Duncan Pindar (Terry)
Mr. Charles J. Ezelle	Mrs. L. Allan Reynolds, Jr. (Beverley)
Mr. R. Scott Howard	Mr. Graham P. Sadler
Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard, Sr. (Barbara)	Mrs. Jonathan D. Sprague (Mary)
Dr. Janet S. Morris	Mr. Wiley A. Wasden, III
Mr. Patrick Worsham	

Vestry Emeriti

Mr. George Fawcett, Mr. Edwin H. Culver, Mr. J. Earl Gilbreath, Jr.,
M. Tyus Butler, Jr., Esq. (Ty), *Chancellor Emeritus & Vestryman Emeritus*

Officers of the Vestry

Mrs. James F. Holtzclaw (Sherry), <i>Senior Warden</i>	Mr. Douglas P. McManamy, <i>Junior Warden</i>
Mr. Floyd Whittington, Jr., <i>Treasurer</i>	Mrs. Stuart C. Clifford (Susan), <i>Assistant Treasurer</i>
Mrs. Elizabeth H. Schubert, <i>Clerk of Vestry</i>	Dolly Chisholm, <i>Chancellor</i>

Master of Ceremonies

Mr. Carter C. Hubbard

Vergers

Mr. B. Ray Summerell
Mr. James E. Morris

Women of St. John's

Mrs. Clarkson C. Logan (Meta), *President*

Chancel Society

Mrs. Jeanne H. McMillan and Mrs. Linda H. Pounds, *Co-Presidents*

Men of St. John's

Mr. Benjamin W. Baxter, *President*