

SAINT ANNE'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
+ + +
Conway, South Carolina



Ash Wednesday
6:00 PM
February 18, 2026

Ash Wednesday

The Ministers enter in silence.

Please stand as you are able.

Priest God be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Priest 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

FIRST READING: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

Please be seated.

A Reading from the book of Joel:

¹Blow 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—

²a 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.

¹²Yet even now, says the LORD,

 return to me with all your heart,

with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;

¹³rend 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.

¹⁴Who 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?

¹⁵Blow the trumpet in Zion;
sanctify a fast;

call a solemn assembly;

¹⁶gather 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.

¹⁷Between 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 Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People

People ***Thanks be to God.***

PSALM: Psalm 103

The cantor will sing the refrain and the congregation repeats it. The cantor will sing the psalm verses, the people joining in the refrain where indicated.

Cantor The Lord is Kind and Merciful, the Lord is Kind and Merciful.

People ***The Lord is Kind and Merciful, the Lord is Kind and Merciful.***

Cantor Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all my being bless God's name; bless the Lord, and forget not God's benefits

People *The Lord is Kind and Merciful, the Lord is Kind and Merciful.*

Cantor God pardons all your iniquities, and comforts your sorrows, redeems your life from destruction and crowns you with kindness.

People *The Lord is Kind and Merciful, the Lord is Kind and Merciful.*

Cantor Merciful, merciful, and gracious is our God; slow to anger abounding in kindness.

People *The Lord is Kind and Merciful, the Lord is Kind and Merciful.*

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10

A Reading from the Second Epistle to the Christian Church in Corinth:

^{20b}We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

^{6:1}As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. ²For 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! ³We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, ⁷truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People

People *Thanks be to God.*

SEQUENCE HYMN

Please stand as you are able.

Kind Maker Of The World, O Hear (A la venue de Noël) (H 152)

1 Kind Ma - ker of the world, O hear the fer - vent
 2 Each heart is man - i - fest to thee; thou know - est
 3 Spare us, O Lord, who now con - fess our sins and
 4 Give us the dis - ci - pline that springs from ab - sti -
 5 Grant, O thou bless - ed Trin - i - ty; grant, O un -

1 prayer, with man - ya tear poured forth by all the
 2 our in - fir - mi - ty; now we re - pent, and
 3 all our wick - ed - ness, and, for the glo - ry
 4 nence in out - ward things with in - ward fast - ing,
 5 chang - ing Un - i - ty; that this our fast of

1 pen - i - tent who keep this ho - ly fast of Lent!
 2 seek thy face; grant un - to us thy par - doning grace.
 3 of thy Name, our weak - ened souls to health re - claim.
 4 so that we in heart and soul may dwell with thee.
 5 for - ty days may work our pro - fit and thy praise!

GOSPEL: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

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

Jesus said, ¹“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.

²“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. ³But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

⁵“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. ⁶But 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.

¹⁶“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. ¹⁷But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸so 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.

¹⁹“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; ²⁰but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

Priest: The Gospel of the Savior.

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

THE SERMON

The Reverend Kevin Holland Sparrow

Please be seated.

A moment of quiet reflection is held after the sermon.

INVITATION TO OBSERVE A HOLY LENT

Please stand as you are able.

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 then kept for a time. All may kneel or sit.

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.

PSALM 51

Miserere mei, Deus

Saying together:

¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; *
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

²Wash me through and through from my wickedness *
and cleanse me from my sin.

³For I know my transgressions, *
and my sin is ever before me.

⁴Against you only have I sinned *
and done what is evil in your sight.

⁵And so you are justified when you speak *
and upright in your judgment.

⁶Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, *
a sinner from my mother's womb.

⁷For behold, you look for truth deep within me, *
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.

⁸Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; *
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.

⁹Make me hear of joy and gladness, *
that the body you have broken may rejoice.

¹⁰Hide your face from my sins *
and blot out all my iniquities.

¹¹Create in me a clean heart, O God, *
and renew a right spirit within me.

¹²Cast me not away from your presence *
and take not your holy Spirit from me.

¹³Give me the joy of your saving help again *
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

¹⁴I shall teach your ways to the wicked, *
and sinners shall return to you.

¹⁵Deliver me from death, O God, *
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness,
O God of my salvation.

¹⁶Open my lips, O Lord, *
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

¹⁷Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice, *
but you take no delight in burnt-offerings.

¹⁸The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit; *
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

LITANY OF PENITENCE

Saying together:

Most holy and merciful God:

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,
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 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.*

THE PEACE

Priest The Peace of Christ be always with you.
People And also with you.

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

The Celebrant says:

If you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. —*Matthew 5:23, 24*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Return to God

Marty Haugen

Saint Anne's Chancel Choir

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Please stand as you are able.

Priest God be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Priest Lift up your hearts.

People *We lift them to the Lord.*

Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People *It is right to give our thanks and praise.*

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

SANCTUS

Holy, Holy, Holy (Folk/Pruner) (American folk melody)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
might, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. * Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

**Optional text:*

Bless - ed is the one

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love.

Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people. Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation.

Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, 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."

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

(piano) Leader Christ has died. Christ has died.

Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

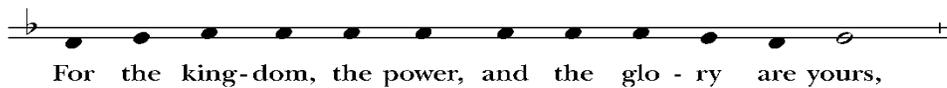
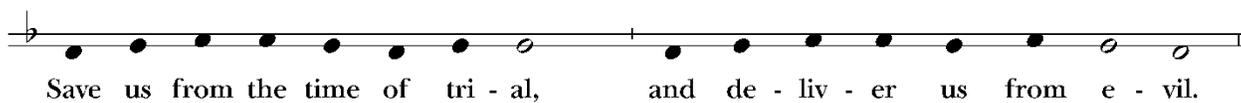
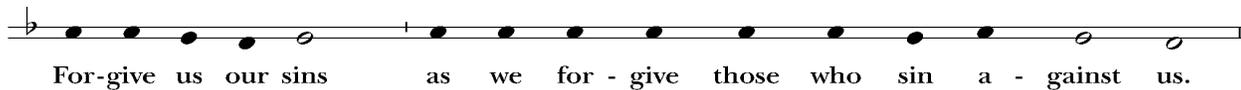
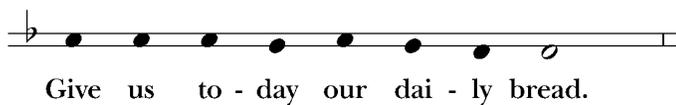
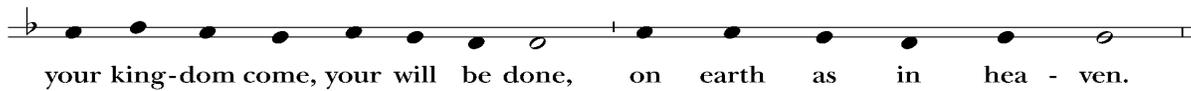
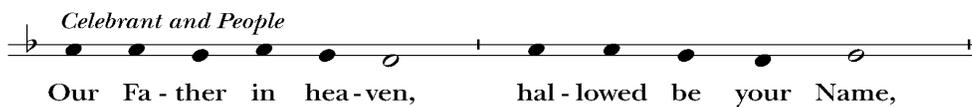
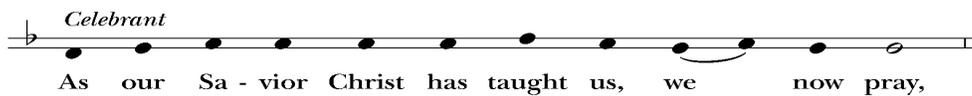
Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with The Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Anne, all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.



THE LORD'S PRAYER *S 148 The Lord's Prayer (Contemporary) (Chant/Martens)*



THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

A period of silence is kept after the breaking of the bread.

FRACTION ANTHEM *Lamb of God Agnus Dei (Proulx) Missa Oecumenica*

Lamb of God, you take away the
sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the
sins of the world, grant us peace.

Setting: *Missa Oecumenica*, from the *Trinitatis Choral Review*, arr. Richard Proulx, after Alexander Archangelsky (1846–1924), © 1999 Oregon Catholic Press. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

INVITATION

Priest 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.

All baptized Christians, from any tradition or denomination, are warmly invited to share in Holy Communion at Saint Anne's.

The ushers will guide you when it is time to come forward. To receive the bread, simply hold out your hands. You may then either:

- Drink from the chalice by gently guiding it to your lips, or
- Dip (intinct) the bread into the chalice yourself.

Please know that receiving only the bread or only the wine is a full participation in Communion. Gluten-free hosts are available—just let the minister know.

If you would prefer a blessing, simply cross your arms over your chest, and the priest will be honored to offer a blessing.

If you are interested in learning more about Baptism, Fr. Kevin would be delighted to talk with you.

Wherever you are on your journey with God—or toward God—you have a place here, and you are most welcome.

DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION HYMN

Just As I Am (LEVAS 137)

1. Just — as I am, — with - out — one plea, But
 2. Just — as I am, — though tossed — a - bout With
 3. Just — as I am, — poor, wretch - ed, blind; Sight
 4. Just — as I am, — thou wilt — re - ceive; Wilt
 5. Just — as I am, — thy love — un - known Has
 6. Just — as I am, — of thy — great love The

1. that — thy blood was shed for me,
 2. ma - ny-a con - flict, ma - ny-a doubt;
 3. rich - es, heal - ing of the mind,
 4. wel - come, par - don, cleanse, re - lieve,
 5. bro - ken ev - ery bar - rier down;
 6. breadth, — length, depth, and height to prove,

1. And that thou bidd'st me come to thee, O
 2. Fightings and fears within, without, O
 3. Yea, all I need in thee to find, O
 4. Be cause thy promise I believe, O
 5. Now to be thine, yea, thine alone, O
 6. Here for a sea-son, then a-bove: O

Lamb of God, I come, I come.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Please stand as you are able.

Let us pray.

Eternal God, you have graciously accepted us as living members of our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Savior. *Amen.*

Priest Bow down before the Lord.

Silence

Priest Grant, most merciful Lord, to your faithful people pardon and peace, that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve you with a quiet mind; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

CLOSING HYMN

Lead Us, Heavenly Father, Lead Us (Dulce carmen) (H 559)

1 Lead us, heaven - ly Fa - ther, lead us o'er the world's tem -
2 Sa - vior, breathe for - give - ness o'er us; all our weak - ness
3 Spi - rit of our God, de - scend - ing, fill our hearts with

pes - tuous sea; guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,
thou dost know; thou didst tread this earth be - fore us;
heaven - ly joy; love with ev - ery pas - sion blend - ing,

for we have no help but thee, yet pos - ses - sing
thou didst feel its keen - est woe; yet un - fear - ing,
plea - sure that can nev - er cloy; thus pro - vid - ed,

ev - ery bless - ing, if our God our Fa - ther be.
per - se - ver - ing, to thy pas - sion thou didst go.
par - doned, guid - ed, noth - ing can our peace des - troy.

DISMISSAL

Priest: Let us bless the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.