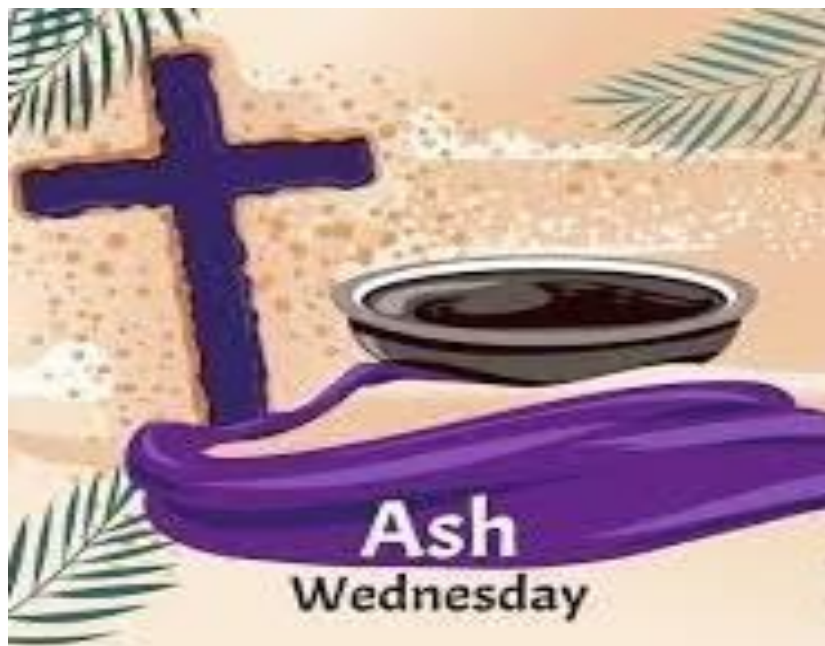


**THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY  
ASH WEDNESDAY LITURGY- YEAR-A  
WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 18, 2026**



**PRESIDENT:** The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise. Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**ALL:** And blessed be God's Kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

**COLLECT FOR PURITY**

**BCP, 208**

**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.**

**The Kyries**

Lord have mercy,  
**Lord have mercy,**

Christ have mercy,  
**Christ have mercy,**

Lord have mercy,  
**Lord have mercy.**

**THE COLLECT:** 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**

Almighty and Holy God, your Son, in obedience to the Spirit fasted forty days in the desert: Give us grace to discipline ourselves that we may press on towards Easter with eager faith and love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

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## **THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD**

### **THE FIRST READING:**

### **Isaiah 58:1-12**

Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God. "Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?" Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. The LORD will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

### **PSALM: 103: 8-14**

### **BCP, 601**

- 8 The LORD is full of compassion and mercy, \* slow to anger and of great kindness.  
9 He will not always accuse us, \* nor will he keep his anger for ever.  
10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins, \* nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.  
11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, \* so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.  
12 As far as the east is from the west, \* so far has he removed our sins from us.  
13 As a father care for his children, \* so does the LORD care for those who fear him.  
14 For he himself knows whereof we are made; \* he remembers that we are but dust.

### **THE EPISTLE:**

### **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, labours, 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 honour and dishonour, 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

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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 SEQUENCE HYMN: CPWI #490 Lord, teach us to prayer aright**

Lord, teach us how to pray aright  
with reverence and with fear;  
though dust and ashes in thy sight,  
we may, we must, draw near.

We perish if we cease from prayer:  
O grant us power to pray;  
and, when to meet thee we prepare,  
Lord, meet us by the way.

God of all grace, we bring to thee  
a broken, contrite heart;  
give what thine eye delights to see,  
truth in the inward part;

faith in the only sacrifice  
that can for sin atone,  
to cast our hopes, to fix our eyes,  
on Christ, on Christ alone;

patience to watch and wait and weep,  
though mercy long delay;  
courage our fainting souls to keep,  
and trust thee though thou slay.  
Give these, and then thy will be done;  
thus, strengthened with all might,  
we, through thy Spirit and thy Son,  
shall pray, and pray aright.

**THE GOSPEL:**

**MATTHEW 6:1-6, 16-21**

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 SERMON**

*After the sermon all stand, and the President or Minister addresses the congregation, saying.*

Dear Friends in Christ, every year at the time of the Christian Passover We celebrate our redemption through the life, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Lent is a time to prepare for this celebration and to renew our life in the pascal mystery. We begin this holy season by remembering our need for repentance, and for mercy, forgiveness and grace proclaimed in the Gospel of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

*If ashes are used, the following may be said.*

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We begin our journey to Easter with the sign of ashes, an ancient sign, speaking of the frailty and uncertainty of human life, and marking the penitence of the community as a whole.

Let us ask God our Father to bless these ashes to become a symbol of our intention. They have been made from the palms with which we greeted Christ our King with joy last Palm Sunday. They are a sign that we intend to prepare ourselves with penitence for Easter.

**Let us pray:**

Lord, bless these ashes to our use and grant that they may remind us of our mortality and of our need of repentance so that we may keep Lent faithfully in preparation for the victory and joy of Easter. We ask this in the name of Christ our Lord. **All: Amen.**

*The President addresses the congregation.*

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

*The President places ashes on those who come forward, saying to each.*

Repent and believe the Gospel.

*And each answers*

**Amen.**

*When all have received the ashes, the President facing the congregation says*

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

*Having washed his/her hands, the President says*

Return to the Lord with all your heart; leave the past in ashes and turn to God with tears and fasting, for He is slow to anger and ready to forgive.

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

***Litany of Penitence BCP 217***

*The Minister 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.**

Leader: We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We have not loved ourselves as we ought. We have not forgiven others, as we desire to be forgiven. We have not forgiven ourselves 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.**

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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 judgements, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbours, and for our prejudice and contempt towards 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; **Favourably 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 bishop if present, or 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.**

*A deacon or lay person leading the service remains kneeling and says the following instead:*

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

## THE PEACE

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**President:** Being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.  
The peace of the Lord be always with you. **R. And also with you.**

*The Eucharist continues with the offertory*

**The Offertory Hymn: CPWI # 494 all to Jesus I Surrender**

All to Jesus I surrender,  
all to him I freely give;  
I will ever love and trust him,  
in his presence daily live.

**Refrain:**  
***I surrender all, I surrender all,  
all to thee, my blessed Saviour,  
I surrender all.***

All to Jesus I surrender,  
humbly at his feet I bow;  
worldly pleasures all forsaken,  
take me, Jesus, take me now. **Refrain**

All to Jesus I surrender,  
make me, Saviour, wholly thine;  
let me feel the Holy Spirit,  
truly know that thou art mine. **Refrain**

All to Jesus I surrender,  
Lord, I give myself to thee;  
fill me with thy love and power,  
let thy blessing fall on me. **Refrain**

All to Jesus I surrender,  
now I feel the sacred flame;  
O the joy of full salvation!  
Glory, glory to his name! **Refrain**

**THE EUCHARIST**

**Proper Preface:**

**Lent**

**BCP, 128**

For 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.

**Eucharistic Prayer:**

**Form A**

**BCP, 131**

PRESIDENT: All Holy and glorious Father, our Creator God, we give you thanks because in your loving wisdom you brought all things into being, and are truly worthy of praise from every creature you have made. Again and again we have turned away from you; yet in every age your steadfast love has called us to return, to live in union with you: for it is your eternal purpose to put new life into all things and make them holy. Through your Son, Jesus Christ who took our human nature upon Him you have redeemed the world from the bondage of sin: and by the power of your Holy Spirit you have gathered a people to yourself, to make known in every place His perfect offering which He made to the glory of your Name. Hear us, therefore, Father, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; And grant that these gifts of bread and wine may be unto us His Body and Blood. For, on the night He was betrayed He took bread, and when He had given thanks to you, He broke it and gave it to His disciples and said: "Take this, and eat it: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." And 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."  
PRESIDENT: Let us proclaim the mystery of our faith.

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**ALL: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

PRESIDENT: And so, Heavenly Father, rejoicing in His Holy Incarnation; His Blessed Passion and His Perfect Sacrifice made once for all upon the Cross; His Mighty Resurrection from the dead; His Glorious Ascension into heaven; and looking for His Coming in glory; we offer to you this Bread and this Cup. We pray that you will accept this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; and grant that all who eat and drink of the Body and Blood, of your Son, our great High Priest, may be renewed by your Holy Spirit, and be one Body, one Spirit, in Him. Let faith and love increase in us. Unite us with all Bishops, all other ministers of your Word and Sacraments, and with the whole people of God, living and departed, whom you have made for yourself. Confirm us in holiness, that we may be found ready to join the company of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Holy Apostles, and all your saints, when our Lord Jesus Christ comes again: Forever giving you thanks and praise through Him from whom all good things do come. With Him and in Him and through Him, by the power of the Holy Spirit, we worship you, Father Almighty, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, in songs of everlasting praise:

**ALL: Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**BCP 144**

PRESIDENT: As our Saviour has taught us, so we pray:

**ALL: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name; your kingdom come; your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen**

## **Communion Hymns: CPWI # 119 Lord Jesus, think on me**

Lord Jesus, think on me,  
and purge away my sin;  
from earthborn passions set me free,  
and make me pure within.

Lord Jesus, think on me,  
nor let me go astray;  
through darkness and perplexity  
point thou the heavenly way.

Lord Jesus, think on me,  
with many a care opprest;  
let me thy loving servant be,  
and taste thy promised rest.

Lord Jesus, think on me,  
that, when the flood is past,  
I may the \_\_\_ eternal brightness see,  
and share thy joy at last.

## **CPWI # 120 My spirit longs for thee**

My spirit longs for thee  
within my troubled breast,

though I unworthy be  
of so divine a guest.

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Of so divine a guest  
unworthy though I be,  
yet has my heart no rest  
unless it come from thee.

Unless it come from thee,  
in vain I look around;

in all that I can see  
no rest is to be found.

No rest is to be found  
but in thy blessed love:  
O let my wish be crowned,  
and send it from above!

**The Post Communion Prayer:**

**BCP, 147ff**

**ALL: Almighty Father, we thank you for feeding us with the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. May we who share His Body live His risen life; we who drink His cup bring life to others; we upon whom your Spirit shines give light to the world. Help us to continue in faithful witness to your Word, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your Name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**The Closing Hymn: *CPWI # 117 Lo! Now is our accepted day***

Lo! Now is our accepted day,  
the time for purging sins away,  
the sins of thought, and deed, and word,  
that we have done against the Lord.

For he the merciful and true  
hath spared his people hitherto;  
not willing that the soul should die,  
though great its past iniquity.

Then let us all with earnest care,  
and contrite fast, and tear, and prayer,  
and works of mercy and of love,  
entreat for pardon from above;

that he may all our sins efface,  
adorn us with the gifts of grace,  
and join us to the angel band,  
for ever in the heavenly land.

Blest Three in One and One in Three,  
almighty God, we pray to thee,  
that thou wouldst now vouchsafe to bless  
our fast with fruits of righteousness.