

# Ash Wednesday



**February 18, 2026**

**5:30 p.m.**

**The Episcopal Church  
of the Epiphany**

**Crestview, Florida**

# Evening Prayer And The Imposition of Ashes

*The Officiant enters and says*

Let us pray together

*The Celebrant and people*

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

**Joel 2:1-2, 12-17**

**Psalm 103:8-14**

**2 Corinthians 5:20b--6:10**

**Hymn 152** Kind maker of the world O hear

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

## A Homily

The Rev. David M. Clothier

*After the Homily, all stand, and the Celebrant invites the people to the observance of a holy Lent, saying*

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 kneeling as able.*

*The Officiant then says the following prayer.*

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 Imposition of Ashes**

*The congregation may now come forward to receive the ashes.*

*The ashes are imposed with the following words.*

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

*The following Psalm is then said, responsibly by whole verse.*

### **Psalm 51 Miserere mei, Deus**

1. Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; \*  
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
2. Wash me through and through from my wickedness \*  
and cleanse me from my sin.
3. For I know my transgressions, \*  
and my sin is ever before me.
4. Against you only have I sinned \*  
and done what is evil in your sight.

5. And so you are justified when you speak \*  
and upright in your judgment
6. Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, \*  
a sinner from my mother's womb.
7. For behold, you look for truth deep within me, \*  
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.
8. Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; \*  
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.
9. Make me hear of joy and gladness, \*  
that the body you have broken may rejoice.
10. Hide your face from my sins \*  
and blot out all my iniquities.
11. Create in me a clean heart, O God, \*  
and renew a right spirit within me.
12. Cast me not away from your presence \*  
and take not your holy Spirit from me.
13. Give me the joy of your saving help again \*  
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.
14. I shall teach your ways to the wicked, \*  
and sinners shall return to you.
15. Deliver me from death, O God, \*  
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness, O God of my salvation.
16. Open my lips, O Lord, \*  
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.
17. Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice; \*  
but you take no delight in burnt-offerings.
18. The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit; \*  
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

## Litany of Penitence

*The Officiant* Let us pray 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.

*The Officiant continues. The people respond*

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, 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.*

## **The Peace**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*And also with you.*

## **Announcements**

## **Offertory**

*All things come of you O Lord,  
and of thine own we giveth thee.*

*Officiant*      Standing as you are able, let us affirm our faith in the reading of the Apostles Creed.

## **The Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
    creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only son, our Lord.

    He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
        and born of the Virgin Mary.

    He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
        was crucified, died, and was buried.

    He descended to the dead.

    On the third day he rose again.

    He ascended into heaven,  
        and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

    He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
    the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,  
    the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,  
    and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Officiant*      Let us 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.

## **Suffrage A**

*The Officiant continues. The people respond*

Show us your mercy, O Lord;

*And grant us your salvation.*

Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

*Let your people sing with joy.*

Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

*For only in you can we live in safety.*

Lord, keep this nation under your care;

*And guide us in the way of justice and truth.*

Let your way be known upon earth;

*Your saving health among all nations.*

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

*Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.*

Create in us clean hearts, O God;

*And sustain us by your Holy Spirit.*

*The Officiant continues*

### ***A Collect for Peace***

Most holy God, the source of all good desires, all right judgements, and all just works: Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, so that our minds may be fixed on the doing of your will, and that we, being delivered from the fear of all enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through the mercies of Christ Jesus our Savior. *Amen.*

### ***A Collect for Aid against Perils***

Be our light in the darkness, O Lord, and in your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of your only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

### ***A Prayer for Mission***

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. *Amen.*

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

Lord, in your mercy  
*Hear our prayer.*

### ***The Prayer of St. Chrysostom***

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

### **Hymn 142 Lord who throughout these forty days**

Let us bless the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

### **The Dismissal**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. *Amen.*

*Your presence is a blessing to the Church of the Epiphany!  
We hope you will experience the grace and love of God here  
with us, whether you have been a part of our church for years,  
or are walking through our doors for the first time.*

# **Schedule for Lent**

- February 22 First Sunday of Lent  
10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
- February 25 Lenten Supper 5:30 p.m. Parish Hall  
Guest Speaker TBD
- March 1 Second Sunday of Lent  
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist followed by Potluck Lunch
- March 4 Lenten Supper 5:30 p.m. Parish Hall  
Report on the Diocesan Convention
- March 8 Third Sunday of Lent  
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist followed by Vestry
- March 11 Lenten Supper 5:30 p.m. Parish Hall  
Guest speaker TBD
- March 15 Fourth Sunday of Lent  
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist followed by Healing Service
- March 18 Lenten Supper 5:30 p.m. Parish Hall  
Guest speaker TBD
- March 22 Fifth Sunday of Lent  
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
- March 25 Lenten Supper 5:30 p.m.  
Guest speaker TBD
- March 29 Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion  
10:00 a.m. Procession of the Palms and Holy Eucharist
- April 1 Maundy Thursday  
5:30 p.m. Foot washing and Holy Eucharist
- April 2 Good Friday  
12 noon Holy Eucharist from the Reserved Sacrament  
5:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross

***Please remember in your prayers:***

Addice Thomas, Addison Hendrix, Amelia Gorman,  
Amy & Anthony Lehatto, Barbara Procino, Betty Schwartzkopf,  
Bill Jones, Brenda Faulkner, Buni O'Brien, Carol McCartney,  
Charlotte Green, Debbie Evans, Debbie and Jim Larson,  
Dennis Jackson, Donna Andrews, Eddie Stevens, Florie  
Angelini, Herselie Hendrix, Janice Tyler, Jeff Evans, Judy  
Tinsley, Karen Traggorth, Kerrie Schwartzkopf, Lester Taylor,  
Lynn Smith, Mary Meehan, Melanie East, Michele Dennis,  
Mindy Post, Mitzi Purvis, Nancy Delierre, Nick Humeston,  
Nikole Webb, Phyllis Alles, Richard Mazerat, Rocky Robinson,  
Sharon Lundy, Stacy Burleson, Susan Cole, Sybil King, Terry  
Algood, Tom Holmes, Ward Hendrix and Yisrael Goldman

***And for the departed***

Douglas McCartney and the Rev. Jandy Watkins

***Announcements***

- Lenten suppers and sign-up sheet
- No alleluias during Lent
- Bible study on Friday
- Heavenly Healing Sounds
- The Clarion
- Forward Day-by-Day
- Quilting Guild (first and third Tuesdays, 5-8 p.m.)
- Zumba Class on Wednesdays
- Friday morning fellowship each week: Altar Guild at 9:30 a.m., Bible Study at 10 a.m., followed by choir rehearsal.

***Serving this evening***

Officiant and Preacher: The Rev. David M. Clothier

First Reader: Melanie East

Second Reader: Tracy Kueczynski

# **The Episcopal Church of the Epiphany**

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Crestview, Florida 32536

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The Rt. Rev. J. Russell Kendrick

Bishop of the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast

The Rev. David M. Clothier, Vicar

Cell: 251-623-2359

## **Vestry**

Tracy Kueczynski, Senior Warden

Melanie East, Junior Warden

Randy Bauer, Charlotte Boutwell, Missy Jones, James Lundy

Laura Hill, Treasurer

Ginny Bauer, Clerk

David Bryant, Parish Administrator

Pat Shew, Organist/Choir Director

Sheila Duman-Fahie, Sunshine Lady

Janice Tyler, Altar and Flower Guild

## **Our Mission Statement**

The mission of the Episcopal Church of the Epiphany is to offer a home for all those who are seeking God's unconditional love.