



## THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II WITH IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Ash Wednesday  
12 pm and 7 pm • February 18, 2026

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### THE VOLUNTARY:

Praeludium in G Minor

Jens Friedmann

## THE WORD OF GOD

THE COLLECT FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

BCP 264

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 FIRST LESSON

Joel 2:1–2, 12–17

Blow 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— a 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.

Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; rend 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. Who 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?

Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly; gather 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. Between 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* The Word of the Lord.

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

#### THE PSALM: 103

*We will recite the psalm antiphonally by whole verse, beginning with the Narthex side.*

1 Bless the Lord, O my soul, \*  
and all that is within me, bless his holy Name.

2 Bless the Lord, O my soul, \*  
and forget not all his benefits.

3 He forgives all your sins \*  
and heals all your infirmities;

4 He redeems your life from the grave \*  
and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;

5 He satisfies you with good things, \*  
and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

6 The Lord executes righteousness \*  
and judgment for all who are oppressed.

7 He made his ways known to Moses \*  
and his works to the children of Israel.

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 cares 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.
- 15 Our days are like the grass; \*  
we flourish like a flower of the field;
- 16 When the wind goes over it, it is gone, \*  
and its place shall know it no more.
- 17 But the merciful goodness of the Lord endures for ever on those who fear him, \*  
and his righteousness on children's children;
- 18 On those who keep his covenant \*  
and remember his commandments and do them.
- 19 The Lord has set his throne in heaven, \*  
and his kingship has dominion over all.
- 20 Bless the Lord, you angels of his,  
you mighty ones who do his bidding, \*  
and hearken to the voice of his word.
- 21 Bless the Lord, all you his hosts, \*  
you ministers of his who do his will.
- 22 Bless the Lord, all you works of his,  
in all places of his dominion; \*  
bless the Lord, O my soul.

## THE SECOND LESSON

2 Corinthians 5:20b–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, labors, 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 honor and dishonor, 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 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.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

SEQUENCE HYMN:

142. Lord, who throughout these forty days

*St. Flavian*

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 6:1–6,16–21

*Deacon* The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

*People* **Glorify to you, Lord Christ.**

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.”

*Deacon* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

The Rev. Grey Maggiano

THE INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF A HOLY LENT

BCP 264

## THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES

*All are invited to come forward to receive the imposition of ashes. Marking our foreheads with the sign of the cross in ashes has been a part of the tradition of the church since at least the 11th century, a ritualization of the Jewish example to sit in sackcloth and ashes. An even older tradition, dating back to the early days of the Church is the liturgy of penitence. Believers would gather in Jerusalem to offer confession of their sins at the beginning of Lent and to seek forgiveness, culminating in their reintroduction to the Church at the Eucharist at the Easter Vigil.*

## PSALM 51: BCP 266

*(Recited by all in unison)*

## THE LITANY OF PENITENCE

BCP 267

## THE PEACE

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

## THE OFFERTORY

7 pm: Did you think to pray?

Setting by Greg Gilpin

*When you left your room this morning, did you think to pray? Did you ask for loving favor, as a shield today? Oh, how praying rests the weary! Prayer will change the night to day; so in sorrow and in gladness, don't forget to pray. In the name of Christ our Savior, did you think to pray? Did you claim the holy spirit, as your guide and stay? Oh, how praying rests the weary! Prayer will change the night to day; so in sorrow and in gladness, don't forget to pray. Don't forget to pray. Don't forget to pray.*

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP 361

## SANCTUS

12 pm: **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

7 pm: S114

Willan

## THE FRACTION

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
**Therefore let us keep the feast.**

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

12 pm: *Silence will be held.*

7 pm: Hymn 693. Just as I am

*Woodworth*

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 365

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,  
you have graciously accepted us as living members  
of your Son 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 Lord. Amen.**

THE SOLEMN PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

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.**

THE FINAL HYMN:

143. The glory of these forty days

*Erhalt uns, Herr*

THE DISMISSAL

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

THE VOLUNTARY:

Fugue in D Minor

Gustav Merkel



CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY VESTRY 2025

*Wardens* Hannah Harris (Senior), Sam Wesonga (Junior), and  
Jim Ingram (Junior)

*Members* Emily Jividen, Yvette Smith, Robert Joines, Lillis Ward,  
Scott Beaver, Randy R. Smith

*Officers* Bill Sena (Treasurer), Susan Kelley (Registrar)





## QUICK LINKS

Scan this QR code to fill out  
a welcome card, give online,  
and more.

*We thank the following people for their service today:*

CELEBRANT	The Rev. Grey Maggiano
PREACHER	The Rev. Grey Maggiano
Musicians (7 pm)	Christian Schoen and the Nativity Choir
Lectors (12 pm)	Ailsa Tessier, Duff McAdams
(7 pm)	Viola Baldwin, Anne Ramirez
Eucharistic Ministers (12 pm)	Alicia Lester-Bodford
(7 pm)	Helen Armstrong
Crucifer (12 pm)	Alicia Lester-Bodford
(7 pm)	Helen Armstrong
Livestream Technician (7 pm)	Keith Heikkinen
Altar Guild	Susan Jordan, Paula Valeri, Brian Fentress
Altar Flowers	Emilie Sigel
Vestry Representative (12 pm)	Sam Wesonga
(7 pm)	Lillis Ward

## Church of the Nativity

A Parish of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina  
8849 Ray Road, Raleigh, NC 27613 919-846-8338

### CLERGY AND STAFF

The Rev. Grey Maggiano	Rector
The Rev. George Black	Curate
The Rev. Ryan Parker	Priest Associate
Jeremy Clos	Lay Associate for Christian Formation
Christian Schoen	Organist and Choirmaster
Josh Anderson	Lay Associate for Communications and Administration
Monique Holmes	Business Manager
Eva Warren	Nursery Attendant
Robert Krahel	Sexton