

# Ash Wednesday

Holy Eucharist Service  
Year A RCL  
February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026

## St. Augustine of Hippo

A Parish of the Episcopal Diocese of New York



### The St. Augustine's eCho

#### ORDER OF SERVICE

##### THE WORD OF GOD

The Collects	BCP pg. 264
The First Reading	Joel 2:1-2, 12-17
The Response:	Psalm 103:8-14 BCP pg. 733
The Epistle	2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10
The Holy Gospel	Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

##### SERMON:

The Rev. Frank Morales

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21)

The Invitation to Lent	BCP pg. 264
Imposition of Ashes	BCP pg. 265
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##### THE HOLY COMMUNION:

Eucharistic Prayer

The Great Thanksgiving	
Sanctus ET Benedictus	
Memorial Acclamation	BCP pg. 368
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Agnus Dei	

##### THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Administration of the Sacrament

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The Rev. Frank Morales  
(Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21)

**WEEKLY SERVICES AND  
PROGRAMS**  
**SUNDAYS**  
10:00 AM Eucharist

#### Mission Statement

St. Augustine's Church is a Christ-centered ministry in which everyone is invited and welcome. We are a loving Christian body that seeks to enhance spirituality and community.

BCP (Book of Common Prayer)

LEVAS (Lift Every Voice and Sing)

Hymnal 1982

OSOP (One Song of Praise)

EOW (Enriching Our Worship)

# ASH WEDNESDAY

*On this day, the Celebrant begins the liturgy with the Salutation and the Collect of the Day.*

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

Celebrant           **The Lord be with you.**  
All                   **And also with you.**  
Celebrant           **Let us pray**

## THE COLLECT

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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 OLD TESTAMENT

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

*The prophet declares that the day of God's judgment will be a terrifying one. But if the people repent, they will receive God's mercy.*

**A reading (lesson) from the Book of the Prophet Joel:**

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?’”

*Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.*  
All     **Thanks be to God.**

## **THE RESPONSE**

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**Psalm 103:8-14**

*Benedic, anima mea*

**BCP Pg. 733**

- 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.

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.*

## **THE EPISTLE**

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

*Paul tells the faithful that he has overcome many hardships for the sake of Jesus. He rejoices that he, and they, are now being restored to union with God.*

#### **A reading (lesson) from the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians:**

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.

*Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.  
All     Thanks be to God.*

## THE GOSPEL

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

*Jesus denounces piety that is intended to impress others. Acts of charity and self-discipline are only valuable if they deepen our relationship with God.*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew

All      **Glory 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.”

The Gospel of the Lord  
All      **Praise to you, Lord Christ**

## THE SERMON:

by The Rev. Frank Morales

Psalm 51

*Miserere mei, Deus*

BCP p. 656

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

<sup>2</sup> Wash me through and through from my wickedness \*  
and cleanse me from my sin.

<sup>3</sup> For I know my transgressions, \*  
and my sin is ever before me.

<sup>4</sup> Against you only have I sinned \*  
and done what is evil in your sight.

<sup>5</sup> And so you are justified when you speak \*  
and upright in your judgment.

<sup>6</sup> Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, \*  
a sinner from my mother's womb.

<sup>7</sup> For behold, you look for truth deep within me, \*  
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.

<sup>8</sup> Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; \*  
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.

<sup>9</sup> Make me hear of joy and gladness, \*  
that the body you have broken may rejoice.

<sup>10</sup> Hide your face from my sins \*  
and blot out all my iniquities.

<sup>11</sup> Create in me a clean heart, O God, \*  
and renew a right spirit within me.

<sup>12</sup> Cast me not away from your presence \*  
and take not your holy Spirit from me.

<sup>13</sup> Give me the joy of your saving help again \*  
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

<sup>14</sup> I shall teach your ways to the wicked, \*  
and sinners shall return to you.

<sup>15</sup> Deliver me from death, O God, \*  
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness,  
O God of my salvation.

<sup>16</sup> Open my lips, O Lord, \*  
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

<sup>17</sup> Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice; \*  
but you take no delight in burnt-offerings.

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

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## LITANY OF PENITENCE

BCP PAGE 267

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*The Celebrant 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.**

*The Celebrant 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 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 reader leading the service remains kneeling and substitutes the prayer for forgiveness appointed at Morning Prayer.*

*The Peace is then exchanged.*

## THE PEACE

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**BCP P. 360**

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

Celebrant      The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
People            And also with you.

*Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

*The Celebrant may begin the Offertory with one of the sentences on page 376, or with some other sentence of Scripture.*

## OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. Ephesians 5:2

## **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B**

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*The people remain standing. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says*

Celebrant **The Lord be with you.**

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant **Lift up your hearts.**

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant **Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.**

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

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

**It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.**

*Here a Proper Preface is sung or said on all Sundays, and on other occasions as appointed.*

### **PROPER PREFACE**

**BCP P. 378**

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone but for him who died for us and rose again.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

### **SANCTUS ET BENEDICTUS**

*Celebrant and People*

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.

*The people stand or kneel.*

*Then the Celebrant continues*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.*

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

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.”

Therefore according to his command, O Father

*Celebrant and People*

**We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;**

*The Celebrant continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Mary, John, Augustine and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

*People and Celebrant*

**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 BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

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*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept. Then may be said*

### **FRACTION ANTHEM**

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

### **AGNUS DEI**

**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:  
Have mercy on us  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
Grant us Peace**

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation*

**The Gifts of God for the People of God. and may add Take them in remembrance  
that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with  
thanksgiving.**

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.  
The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

**The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [Amen.]  
The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. [Amen.]**

*When necessary, the Celebrant consecrates additional bread and wine, using the form on page 408.  
During the ministration of Communion, hymns, psalms, or anthems may be sung.*



After Communion, the Celebrant says

**Let us pray.**

*Celebrant and People*

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.**

## **FINAL BLESSING**

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The peace of God, which is beyond all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be upon you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

*The Deacon, or the Celebrant, dismisses them with these words*

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

All **Thanks be to God.**

