

ASH wednesday

“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

February 18, 2026

Lectionary Year A



THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Anglican Standard Text

Responses of the people shown in italics

Prelude

Organist

Opening Sentence of Scripture

If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. MARK 8:34 (ESV)

PLEASE STAND

The Opening Hymn

Hymn 149, v. 1-2

Unison or harmony

1 E - ter - nal Lord of love, be - hold your Church
2 So dai - ly dy - ing to the way of self,
3 If dead in you, so in you we a - rise,

walk - ing once more the pil - grim way of Lent,
so dai - ly liv - ing to your way of love,
you the first - born of all the faith - ful dead;

led by your cloud by day, by night your fire,
we walk the road, Lord Je - sus, that you trod,
and as through ston - y ground the green shoots break,

moved by your love and toward your pres - ence bent:
know - ing our - selves bap - tized in - to your death:
glo - rious in spring - time dress of leaf and flower,

Words: Thomas H. Cain (b. 1931) Copyright © 1982, Thomas H. Cain. Music: *Old 12th*, melody *Prænnes octame vers de David*, 1551; harm. Charles Winifred Douglas (1867-1944) Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. All rights reserved. Used with permission.



The Opening Acclamation

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

His mercy endures for ever.

An Invitation to the People to Observe a Holy Lent

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. In this manner, 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 that all Christians continually have to renew our 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 alms-giving; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word.

And to make a right beginning, let us now pray for grace, that we may faithfully keep this Lent.

PLEASE KNEEL OR BE SEATED

A Time of Silent Prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing you have made, and you 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 CONGREGATION MAY BE SEATED

The First Reading

A Reading from Joel 2:1-2, 12-17.

¹ Blow a trumpet in Zion; sound an alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the Lord is coming; it is near, ² a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness!

Like blackness there is spread upon the mountains a great and powerful people; their like has never been before, nor will be again after them through the years of all generations.

¹² “Yet even now,” declares the Lord, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; ¹³ and rend your hearts and not your garments.” Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster. ¹⁴ 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? ¹⁵ Blow the trumpet in Zion; consecrate a fast; call a solemn assembly; ¹⁶ gather the people. Consecrate the congregation; assemble the elders; gather the children, even nursing infants. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her chamber. ¹⁷ Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep and say, “Spare your people, O Lord, and make not your heritage a reproach, a byword among the nations. Why should they say among the peoples, ‘Where is their God?’” (ESV)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 103:8-14 (*say together*)

- 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.

The Second Reading

A Reading from 2 Corinthians 5:20b–6:10.

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

6 Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. ² For he says,

“In a favorable time I listened to you,
and in a day of salvation I have helped you.”

Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. ³ We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴ but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵ beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶ by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; ⁷ by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸ through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹ as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰ as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything. (ESV)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PLEASE STAND

The Sequence Hymn

Hymn 674

1 "For - give our sins as we for - give" you
 2 How can your par - don reach and bless the
 3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals the
 4 Lord, cleanse the depths with in our souls, and

taught us, Lord, to pray; but you a - lone can
 un - for - giv - ing heart that broods on wrongs and
 truth we dim - ly knew, how small the debts men
 bid re - sent - ment cease; then, re - con - ciled to

grant us grace to live the words we say.
 will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?
 owe to us, how great our debt to you.
 God and man, our lives will spread your peace.

Words: Rosamond E. Herklots (b. 1905) Copyright © by permission of Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Used with permission.
 Music: Detroit, from *Supplement to Kentucky Harmony*, 1820; harm. Margaret W. Mealy (b. 1922)

The Gospel

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21. **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

¹ "Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven. ² "Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ³ But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴ so that your giving may be in se-

cret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. ⁵“And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ⁶But when 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 when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ¹⁷But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, ¹⁸that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁹“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, ²⁰but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” (ESV)

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

The Sermon

Father DeWayne Adams

Penitential Psalm and Imposition of Ashes

Let us now call to mind our sin and the infinite mercy of God.

Almighty God, you have created us from the dust of the earth: grant that these ashes may be for us a symbol of our mortality and a sign of our penitence, that we may remember that it is by your grace alone that we receive the gift of eternal life in Jesus Christ our Savior. ***Amen.***

THE PEOPLE WILL COME FORWARD AND RECEIVE THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES
Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

PLEASE KNEEL OR BE SEATED

Psalm 51:1-17 (say together)

- ¹ Have mercy upon me, O God, in your great goodness; *
according to the multitude of your mercies wipe away my offences.
- ² Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness *
and cleanse me from my sin.
- ³ For I acknowledge my faults, *
and my sin is ever before me.
- ⁴ Against you only have I sinned, and done this evil in your sight, *
so that you are justified in your sentence,
and blameless in your judgment.
- ⁵ Behold, I was brought forth in wickedness, *
and in sin my mother conceived me.
- ⁶ But behold, you desire truth in the inward parts *
and shall make me understand wisdom secretly.

⁷ You shall purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; *
you shall wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

⁸ You shall make me hear of joy and gladness, *
that the bones which you have broken may rejoice.

⁹ Turn your face from my sins, *
and blot out all my misdeeds.

¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God, *
and renew a right spirit within me.

¹¹ Cast me not away from your presence, *
and take not your holy Spirit from me.

¹² O give me the comfort of your help again, *
and sustain me with your willing Spirit.

¹³ Then shall I teach your ways unto the wicked, *
and sinners shall return unto you.

¹⁴ Deliver me from blood-guilt, O God, the God of my salvation, *
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness.

¹⁵ O Lord, open my lips, *
and my mouth shall show forth your praise.

¹⁶ For you desire no sacrifice, or else I would give it to you; *
but you delight not in burnt-offerings.

¹⁷ The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit; *
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you shall not despise.

Confession and Litany of Penitence

Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

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, through our own fault in thought, word, and deed; by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. 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. 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.

(The Reader continues.)

Lord, have mercy upon us:

For we have sinned against you.

For all our unfaithfulness and disobedience;
for the pride, vanity, and hypocrisy of our lives;

Lord, have mercy upon us:

For we have sinned against you.

For our self-pity and impatience, and our envy of those
we think more fortunate than ourselves;

Lord, have mercy upon us:

For we have sinned against you.

For our unrighteous anger, bitterness and resentment;
for all lies, gossip, and slander against our neighbors.

Lord, have mercy upon us:

For we have sinned against you.

For our sexual impurity, our exploitation of other people,
and our failure to give of ourselves in love;

Lord, have mercy upon us:

For we have sinned against you.

For our self-indulgent appetites and ways,
and our intemperate pursuit of worldly goods and comforts;

Lord, have mercy upon us:

For we have sinned against you.

For our dishonesty in daily life and work,
our ingratitude for your gifts, and our failure to heed your call.

Lord, have mercy upon us:

For we have sinned against you.

For our blindness to human need and suffering,
and our indifference to injustice and cruelty;

Lord, have mercy upon us:

For we have sinned against you.

For our wastefulness and misuse of your creation,
and our lack of concern for those who come after us;

Lord, have mercy upon us:

For we have sinned against you.

For all false judgments, for prejudice and contempt of others,
and for all uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors;

Lord, have mercy upon us:

For we have sinned against you.

For our negligence in prayer and worship;
for our presumption and abuse of your means of grace;

Lord, have mercy upon us:

For we have sinned against you.

For seeking the praise of others rather than the approval of God;
Lord, have mercy upon us:

For we have sinned against you.

For our failure to commend the faith that is in us;
Lord, have mercy upon us:

For we have sinned against you.

*Show favor to your people, O Lord, who turn to you in weeping,
fasting, and prayer. For you are a merciful God, full of compassion,
long-suffering, and abounding in steadfast love. You spare
when we deserve punishment, and in your wrath you remember*

mercy. Spare your people, good Lord, spare us; in the multitude of your mercies, look upon us and forgive us; through the merits and mediation of your blessed Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Absolution

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, desires not the death of sinners, but that they may turn from their wickedness and live. He has empowered and commanded his ministers to pronounce to his people, being penitent, the absolution and remission of their sins. He pardons and absolves all who truly repent and sincerely believe his holy Gospel. For this reason, we beseech him to grant us true repentance and his Holy Spirit, that our present deeds may please him, the rest of our lives may be pure and holy, and that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Comfortable Words

Father DeWayne Adams

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. [Matthew 11:28]

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. [John 3:16]

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. [1 Timothy 1:15]

If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world. [1 John 2:1-2]

PLEASE STAND

The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be always with you. *And with your spirit.*

PLEASE BE SEATED

Announcements

The Offertory Sentence

“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” (Matthew 6:19-21)

The Offertory

Organist

Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for everything in heaven and on earth is yours; yours is the Kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as Head above all. All things come from you, O Lord, *And of your own have we given you.*

[1 Chronicles 29:11, 14]

PLEASE STAND

The Sursum Corda

The Lord be with you. *And with your spirit.* Lift up your hearts. *We lift them up to the Lord.* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *It is right to give him thanks and praise.*

It is right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

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 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:

The Sanctus

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.

PLEASE KNEEL OR BE SEATED

The Prayer of Consecration

All praise and glory is yours, O God our heavenly Father, for in your tender mercy, you gave your only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the Cross for our redemption. He made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and he instituted, and in his Holy Gospel commanded us to continue, a perpetual memory of his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

So now, O merciful Father, in your great goodness, we ask you to bless and sanctify, with your Word and Holy Spirit, these gifts of bread and wine, that we, receiving them according to your Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

For on the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is my Body, which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for 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 in remembrance of me."

Therefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of your dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we your humble servants celebrate and make here before your divine Majesty, with these holy gifts, the memorial your Son commanded us to make; remembering his

blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and his promise to come again.

And we earnestly desire your fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this, our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; asking you to grant that, by the merits and death of your Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his Blood, we and your whole Church may obtain forgiveness of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present to you, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice. We humbly pray that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ, be filled with your grace and heavenly benediction, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, because of our many sins, to offer you any sacrifice, yet we ask you to accept this duty and service we owe, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.**

The Lord's Prayer

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

The Fraction

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

The Prayer of Humble Access

We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table; but you are the same Lord, whose character is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

The 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.**

THE MINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

Receiving Communion and Blessings

We welcome all baptized Christians to receive communion—right hand on top of left, palms up. Those wishing to receive only the bread may cross their arms over their chest as a sign to the Chalice Bearer that you will not be receiving the wine.

If you don't wish to receive communion or if you're not a baptized Christian, you may come up, fold your hands across your chest, and the Rector (Pastor) will say a prayer of blessing for you.

PLEASE KNEEL OR BE SEATED

The Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, we thank you for feeding us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us, through this Sacrament, of your favor and goodness towards us: that we are true members of the mystical body of your Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of your everlasting kingdom. And we humbly ask you, heavenly Father, to assist us with your grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all the good works that you have prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Let us pray.

O Lord our God, grant us grace to desire you with our whole heart: that desiring you, we may seek you; and that seeking you, we may find you; and that finding you, we may love you; and that loving you, we may hate those sins from which you have delivered us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

Father DeWayne Adams

Bow down before the Lord.

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.**

PLEASE STAND

The Closing Hymn

Hymn 142, v. 1-3

1 Lord, who through-out these for - ty days for us didst fast and pray,
2 As thou with Sa - tan didst con-tend, and didst the vic-tory win,
3 As thou didst hun-ger bear and thirst, so teach us, gra-cious Lord,
4 And through these days of pen - i - tence, and through thy Pas-sion - tide,
5 A - bide with us, that so, this life of suf - fering o - ver - past,

1 teach us with thee to mourn our sins, and close by thee to stay.
2 O give us strength in thee to fight, in thee to con-quer sin.
3 to die to self, and chief - ly live by thy most ho - ly word.
4 yea, ev - er - more, in life and death, Je - sus! with us a - bide.
5 an Eas - ter of un - end - ing joy we may at - tain at last!

Music: *St. Florian*, melody from *Day's Psalter*, 1562; adapt. and harm. Richard Rathead (1820-1901)

Words: Charles Francis Henneman (1838-1888)

The Dismissal

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Organist

Please join us every Wednesday in Lent at 6:00 p.m. for
Stations of the Cross and a light supper.

WELCOME

If you're new to St. Anne's Church, here are some things that can help make your worship experience even more enjoyable.

1. The service is outlined in this bulletin. If you get lost, which is normal, just stay where you are in the bulletin and you'll soon find where we are.
2. You may be unfamiliar with some of the service music and hymns we sing. Feel free to just listen to the music and let God speak to you through it.
3. If you'd prefer not to kneel at those times in the service, remaining seated is fine.
4. You won't be singled out as a guest. Please fill out our Guest/Member Communication Card near the pencils in the pew backs and drop it in the offering plate.
5. Our ushers are available to answer any of your questions.

**Relax, focus on God, and worship with your mind and heart.
Enjoy your visit with us, as we will enjoy having you here.**

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

We welcome your children to our worship services! Pick up an activity folder and coloring bag from the bookshelf just outside the Nave for your child to enjoy during worship.

WAYS TO GIVE ONLINE TO ST. ANNE'S

stannesfw.org/giving or text any amount (e.g., 25) to 646-832-4848 (quickcode: *stannes*)

LEADERSHIP

St. Anne's Vestry

Sr. Warden Sherrie Watkins
Jr. Warden George Curl

Bernie Christian
Heather Jackson
Maggie Lopez
Chuy Mota
Mary Helen Vaught

Treasurer Dolores Nelson*
Clerk Martha McKean*

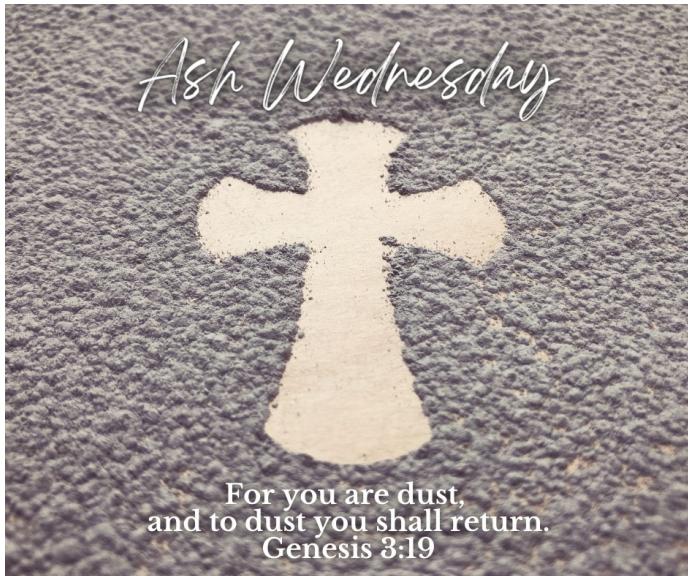
**non voting representative*

Diocesan Delegates

Jesús Mota
Sam Pressler
Mary Helen Vaught

Ministry Coordinators

<i>Choirmaster/Organist</i>	Martha McKean
<i>Acolytes</i>	Rich Mac Kay
<i>Altar Flowers</i>	Melissa Baucum
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Karen Chichester
<i>Children & Youth</i>	Merry Frey
<i>Hearts & Hands</i>	Linda Wright
<i>LEMs</i>	Jesús Mota
<i>Nursery</i>	M.A. Risk/J. Edwards
<i>Readers</i>	D. Shiffer/M.H. Vaught
<i>Ushers</i>	Chuck Parmele
<i>Welcome Center</i>	Shelley Martin
<i>Events/Kitchen</i>	Bill McKean
<i>Weddings/Funerals</i>	Melissa Baucum
<i>Parish Administrator</i>	Karen Chichester
<i>Sexton</i>	Melissa Baucum
	J. Adams/M. McKean
	Elmer Beard



CONCERNING ASH WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent: a time of penitence, fasting, and prayer, in preparation for the great feast of the resurrection.

The season of Lent began in the early days of the Church as a time of preparation for those seeking to be baptized at the Easter Vigil. The forty days refer to our Lord's time of fasting in the wilderness; and since Sundays are never fast days, Ash Wednesday is the beginning of the Lenten Fast.

Throughout the Old Testament, ashes are used as a sign of sorrow and repentance, and Christians have traditionally used ashes to indicate sorrow for our own sin, and as a reminder that the wages of sin is death (Romans 6:23). Like Adam and Eve, we have disobeyed and rebelled against God, and are under the same judgment, "you are dust, and to dust you shall return" (Genesis 3:19).

But as we are marked with ashes in the same manner that we were signed with the Cross in Baptism, we are also reminded of the life we share in Jesus Christ, the second Adam (Romans 5:17, 6:4). It is in this sure hope that we begin the journey of these forty days, that by hearing and answering our Savior's call to repent, we may enter fully into the joyful celebration of his resurrection.

ST. ANNE'S

**The Right Reverend Ryan Reed, Bishop
Father DeWayne Adams, Priest**

stannesfw.org

CCLI License #2681311

Hymn permission: Used by Rite Song.
A one-time use reprint license for congregational use.

The paintings are in the public domain in their country of origin and other countries and areas where the copyright term is the author's life plus 100 years or less. United States: Published anywhere before 1924 and public domain in the U.S.

Scriptures are taken from the English Standard Version. Used by permission.

***St. Anne's: a Bible-based church dedicated to healing,
discipling and serving through Jesus Christ***