

Parish of the Good Shepherd

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN WABAN, MASSACHUSETTS

Ash Wednesday

February 18, 2026 - 7:00PM

CHORAL EUCHARIST, Rite II

The Book of Common Prayer, page 264

Voluntary *O Mensch, bewein dein Sünde groß*, BWV 622 J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

The People stand as the bell tolls, and the procession enters to the sound of the organ.

THE WORD OF GOD

The Collect for Ash Wednesday *kneeling*

The Book of Common Prayer 166

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who hatest nothing that thou hast made and dost forgive the sins of all those 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 thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The First Lesson

The People sit.

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?'"

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 103:8–14 *Verse 8 sung by the cantor, verses 9–14 sung by all* Plainsong, Tone II



8 The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and of great kindness.
 9 **He will not always ac/cuse 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 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 in him we might become the righteousness of God. As we work together with him, we urge you 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.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn “Almighty Lord Most High, draw near” *St. Petersburg*

1 Al might - y Lord Most High draw near whose awe - some
 2 How mea - sure - less your mer - cies stand, the hope and
 3 From such a heart we bend the knee and all our
 4 So lift on high the Sa - vior's praise with all the

splen - dor none can bear; e - ter - nal God, in mer - cy
 pledge of sins for given; those sins, un - num - bered as the
 sin and shame con - fess. Lord, your un worth - y ser - vants
 hosts of heav'n a - bove, and sing through ev - er - last - ing

hear, re - ceive once more the sin - ner's prayer; u - pon your
 sand, that hide the ver - y stars of heav'n; O God of
 see, and clothe us round with right - eous - ness; that loved and
 days the God of glo - ry, grace, and love. The Lord of

word of grace we call whose word of pow'r has or - dered all.
 grace, to us im - part a pen - i - tent and con - trite hart.
 par - doned, healed and blessed, we taste your mer - cies man - i - fest.
 all let us a - dore, for ev - er and for ev - er - more.

Words: *Prayer of Manasseh*, para. Timothy Dudley-Smith (1926-2024) © 1988 Hope Publishing Co.

The Gospel*The People stand.*

Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew*People* **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

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. 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. 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; your Father who sees in secret will reward you. 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. 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. When you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so 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 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.

People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.****The Sermon***The People sit.***Invitation to the Observance of Lent** *Standing, then kneeling* BCP 264**Imposition of Ashes** *Those who wish to receive ashes may come to the altar rail.***Psalm 51:1–18** *Refrain sung by all after the cantor* Christopher Putnam (1967–2018)

- 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. **Refrain**
- 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. **Refrain**
- 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. **Refrain**

Litany of Penitence*Clergy and people, kneeling**The Book of Common Prayer 267*

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 Intercessor continues

We have not loved you with our whole heart, mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven, 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 Celebrant 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 Book of Common Prayer 332

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

Welcome, Announcements, and Offertory Sentence

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Anthem *Wash me thoroughly*

S.S. Wesley (1807–1884)

The Great Thanksgiving (Prayer II)

The Book of Common Prayer 340

The Celebrant continues with the Proper Preface until saying,

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

“Holy, holy, holy” *Sanctus*

The Hymnal 1982 #S 114

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The people kneel. The Celebrant continues with the Eucharistic Prayer until saying,

By whom and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

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

“Our Father” *The Lord's Prayer*

The Book of Common Prayer 336

The Breaking of the Bread

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

“O Lamb of God” *Agnus Dei*

The Hymnal 1982 S 158

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

The Prayer of Humble Access

The Book of Common Prayer 337

Celebrant and People

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the

flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

The Presentation and Invitation

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

We welcome all baptized persons, regardless of denomination or tradition, to receive Communion. Please come forward as the ushers direct you. The Celebrant communicates every individual with bread. To receive wine, you may either drink from the common cup or by intinction. Those wishing to receive a blessing instead should indicate by crossing their arms.

During the Administration of the Sacrament

Anthem *Call to remembrance*

Richard Farrant (1525-1580)

Hymn *the Hymnal 1982 #141*

So gibst du nun

“Wilt thou forgive that sin”

The Postcommunion Prayer

Book of Common Prayer 339

Celebrant and People, kneeling

Almighty and everlasting God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

The Blessing *kneeling*

A Collect for Lenten Intention

Kneeling together with the people, the Celebrant says

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, we pray thee to set thy passion, cross, and death, between thy judgment and our souls, now and in the hour of our death. Give mercy and grace to the living, pardon and rest to the dead, to thy holy Church peace and concord, and to us sinners everlasting life and glory; who with the Father and the Holy Spirit livest and reignest, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Processional Hymn *the Hymnal 1982 #147*

Bourbon

“Now let us all with one accord”

The Dismissal

People
Let us bless the Lord. _____ Thanks be to God. _____

Voluntary *Erbarm dich mein, O Herre Gott*, BWV 721

J.S. Bach (1685–1750)

Serving in the Liturgy Today:

Gail Murphy – Usher/Lector; James Oldfield – Subdeacon; Loring Conant – Intercessor; Cindy Yan – AV Tech; TBD – Crucifer; TBD – Torch Bearer(s); Vivi Leavy and Louise Conant – Altar Guild

The Reverend Dr. James Weldon, Jr – Celebrant

The Reverend Dr. Paul Kolbet – Preacher

The Reverend Dr. James A. Weldon, Jr., Rector
The Reverend Dr. Paul Kolbet, Priest Associate
Andrew Sheranian, Organist/Choirmaster
Dr. Rachel Teubner, Christian Education Director
Sara Foley, Parish Administrator
1671 Beacon Street Waban, MA 02468-1401
Phone (617)244-4028 www.goodshepherdnewton.org
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