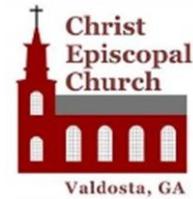


CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Ash Wednesday

18 February 2026

Imposition of Ashes and
The Holy Eucharist

Prelude – <i>A Lenten Suite, I, Solemn Prelude</i>	by Charles Callahan
Entrance Hymn – <i>Lord who throughout these forty days</i> (6p only)	Hymn 142
The Collect of the Day	BCP 264
The Lessons	(See Insert)
Sequence Hymn – <i>Eternal Lord of love</i> (6p only)	Hymn 149
The Sermon	The Rev'd R. Kevin Kelly
The Invitation to the Observance of a Holy Lent	BCP 264
The Imposition of Ashes	BCP 265
Psalm 51	BCP 266
The Litany of Penitence	BCP 267
The Peace	BCP 360
The Offertory – <i>Ashes</i>	by Tom Conry arr. by Kriby Guevara
The Great Thanksgiving (Prayer A)	BCP 361
Communion Hymns – <i>Just as I am, without one plea</i> (6p only)	Hymn 693
<i>Before thy throne, O God, we kneel</i> (6p only)	Hymn 574
<i>Sanctus</i>	Hymnal S-124
The Lord's Prayer	BCP 364
The Breaking of the Bread	BCP 364
Fraction Anthem	Hymnal S-164
The Postcommunion Prayer	BCP 365
The Lenten Blessing	
Exit Hymn – <i>The Glory of these forty days</i> (6p only)	Hymn 143
Dismissal	BCP 366
Postlude – <i>Steal Away</i> (6p only)	arr.by Gilbert Martin

The Collect:

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.

First Lesson:

Joel 2:1-2,12-17

¹ 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— ² 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.

¹² Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; ¹³ 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. 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; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly; ¹⁶ 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. ¹⁷ 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 organist will play through the chant once, then all are invited to chant the Psalm with the choir.



Psalm: 103:8-14

BCP p. 733

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.**

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. A-men.

Second Lesson:

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

²⁰ We entreat 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.

¹ As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain.

² 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! ³ We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴ but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵ beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶ by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, ⁷ truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸ in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors and yet are true; ⁹ as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰ as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Gospel:

Matthew 6:1-6,16-21

¹ "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." ² "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. ³ But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴ so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

⁵ "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. ⁶ 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. ¹⁶ "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. ¹⁷ But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸ 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. ¹⁹ “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; ²⁰ but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Remember in Your Prayers: *Gayle Adams, Bruce Beal, Ron Bezona, Tony Brooks, Tyson Carter, Mark Chamberlain, Ellie Daniels, Gretchen DeLong, Jane Earle, Jackie Elam, Doug Farwell, Mackey Foster, Louise Harden, Cathy Home, the Ingeman/Plews family, Keena, Steve Honeycutt, Marilyn Kemper, Dennis Marks, Kenny Mistick, Pamela Moore, Kamrin Naville, David Parker, Johnny Price, Rocky, Dick Saeger, Fego Seward, Carrean Shapiro, Jane Stanaland, Terry Windell.*



***Mission Statement: As followers of Jesus, empowered by the Holy Spirit,
we share God's love, grace and mercy through worship, prayer and service,
respecting the dignity of all.***

The Rt Rev'd Frank Logue, Bishop of Georgia
All Christ Church Families & Friends are Ministers.

The Rev'd R. Kevin Kelly, Rector

The Rev'd Nancy Sartin, Deacon

Molly Stevenson, Sr. Warden

Mike Tanner, Jr. Warden

Peggy Baer, Administrative Assistant

Amy Creasy, Bookkeeper

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Jeri-Lyn Flowers, Director of College Ministry

Elise Sandbach, Director of Preschool & PMO

Kylee Creasy, Children's Ministries Leader

Ellie Copeland & Katie Wisenbaker, Youth Ministers (EYC)

Issa Young, Choir Director

Sue Ellen Rumstay, Director of Music

Nancy Lutsko, Verger

The 10:00 service is livestreamed on YouTube and Facebook

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www.youtube.com/ChristEpiscopalChurchValdostaGA

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