



WELCOME TO

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

WHERE ALL SOULS ARE WELCOME. INTENTIONALLY INCLUSIVE. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Mailing address: P.O. Box 1630, Ridgecrest, CA 93556~ (760) 446-5816

www.stmichaelsridgecrest.org



*Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right spirit within me.*

HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

ASH WEDNESDAY + FEBRUARY 26, 2020, 6 PM



To allow individuals to prepare their hearts and minds for worship, we kindly ask that the sanctuary be a place of quiet prayer and reflection before the service begins. Out of respect for the liturgy we are about to celebrate, please turn off all cell phones and audible devices.

Thank you!

ABOUT THIS SERVICE

Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent and occurs forty-six days before Easter. It falls on a different date each year, since it is dependent on the date of Easter. It can occur as early as February 4 or as late as March 10. There are 46 days between Ash Wednesday and Easter Day because Lent is 40 days long and specifically does not include Sundays. The Sundays in (and not of) Lent are, like every Sunday, a thanksgiving for and celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Ash Wednesday is named for the practice of placing ashes on the foreheads of the faithful as a sign of repentance. The ashes are imposed with the words, "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return" (BCP, p. 265). Ashes are typically imposed by inscribing a cross on the forehead. The imposition of ashes has been practiced on Ash Wednesday since the ninth century.

THE OPENING RITE

The service begins in silence. Please stand as the procession enters.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

ASH WEDNESDAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant 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.**

Please be seated.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE FIRST READING

JOEL 2:1-2, 12-17

DAVE WALLER

A READING 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?'"

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE RESPONSE

PSALM 103:8-14

CASSIDI REESE

Remaining seated, the Leader and the People say the Psalm responsively by whole verse.

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 2 CORINTHIANS 5:20B-6:10

ROD DITZLER

A READING FROM THE SECOND LETTER OF PAUL TO THE CHURCH IN CORINTH:

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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Please stand as able.

GRADUAL HYMN

JESUS, ALL MY GLADNESS

Blue Hymnal #701

THE HOLY GOSPEL

MATTHEW 6:1-6,16-21

THE REV. PAUL CLARK

*Gospeller
People*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
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."

*Gospeller
People*

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

HOMILY

THE REV. PAUL CLARK

A period of silence and personal reflection follows the sermon.

Please stand as able.

INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF A HOLY LENT

(BCP pp. 264-265)

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. Thereby, 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 which all Christians continually have to renew their 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 self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word. And, to make a right beginning of repentance, and as a mark of our mortal nature, let us now kneel before the Lord, our maker and redeemer.



THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES

(BCP p. 265)

Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth: Grant that these ashes may be to us a sign of our mortality and penitence, that we may remember that it is only by your gracious gift that we are given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

If you wish to have ashes imposed on your forehead, please come forward to the altar.

*The ashes are imposed with the following words:
Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.*



The following Psalm is then said responsively by whole verse.

PSALM 51

CASSIDI REESE

- 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.**
- 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.**
- 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.**

LITANY OF PENITENCE

(BCP p. 267-269)

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.

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 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.

THE PEACE

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

All may greet one another in the name of the Lord. Please be seated afterwards.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY INVITATION

(BCP p. 376)

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

[Ephesians 5:2]

Please stand as able for the Offertory Hymn

OFFERTORY HYMN

NEARER, MY GOD, TO THEE

Red & Black Hymnal #609

DOXOLOGY

Blue Hymnal #380 Verse 3

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING EUCHARISTIC PRAYER C

(BCP p. 369 adapted)

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 God thanks and praise.**

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.
Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.
By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.
Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.
By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY LORD

Blue Hymnal #S130

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

The people stand or kneel. The Celebrant continues

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."



Remembering now his work of redemption,
and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,
**We celebrate his death and resurrection,
as we await the day of his coming.**

Lord God of our Fathers and Mothers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God of Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, Bathsheba, and the Virgin Mary; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(BCP p. 364)

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

**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

(BCP p. 364)

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

The Celebrant says

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.

Wherever you are in your spiritual journey, you are welcome at God's table.

THOSE RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION: It is the custom to come forward and place the palm of one hand in the other to receive the bread. The unleavened bread is given first, followed by the wine. You may receive the wine either by guiding the chalice to your mouth, or by carefully dipping the bread into the wine. If you wish to receive only bread, consume the bread and then cross your arms over your chest when the chalice bearer approaches you.

FOR THOSE RECEIVING A BLESSING in lieu of Communion: It is the custom to come forward and to fold your arms across your chest in an X-fashion, which indicates that you are not receiving the sacrament. The Priest will offer a prayer of blessing for you.

GLUTEN FREE COMMUNION IS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST, PLEASE ASK THE MINISTER DURING COMMUNION.

PLEASE INFORM THE USHER IF YOU WOULD LIKE COMMUNION BROUGHT TO YOU WHERE YOU ARE SEATED.



COMMUNION HYMN

ONE BREAD, ONE BODY

Red and Black Hymnal #151

Chorus: One bread, one body, one Lord of all, one cup of blessing which we bless.

And we, though many, throughout the earth, we are one body in this one Lord.

Verse 1: Gentile or Jew, servant or free, woman or man, no more.

Verse 2: Many the gifts, many the works, one in the Lord of all.

Verse 3: Grain for the fields, scattered and grown, gathered to one for all.

CONCLUDING RITE

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

(BCP p. 365)

The people may stand or kneel.

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.

SOLEMN PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

(BOS p. 11)

Bow down before the Lord.

The people may kneel.

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.

CLOSING HYMN

COME, YE, DISCONSOLATE

Red & Black Hymnal #147

DISMISSAL

Celebrant: Let us bless the Lord.

People's response: **Thanks be to God.**

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

CELEBRANT:	The Rev. Paul Clark
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER:	Cassidi Reese
ALTAR GUILD:	Renée Westa-Lusk
READERS:	Dave Waller Rod Ditzler
USHER:	Richard Hendricks
COUNTERS:	Richard Hendricks Cassidi Reese



UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEETINGS

Sun., Mar. 1	Sunday Morning Prayer Service <i>We will collect a special offering for Episcopal Relief and Development</i>	10:00 AM
Sun., Mar. 8	Holy Eucharist <i>The Rev. Paul Clark Presiding</i>	10:00 AM
Mon., Mar. 9	Kern County Senior Box Day <i>St Michael's Parish Hall, must be 60 years old or over, bring picture ID</i>	Noon-1 PM
Sun., Mar. 15	Sunday Morning Service Monthly Bishop's Committee Meeting <i>Parish Hall Library</i>	10:00 AM ~11:30 AM
Tue., Mar. 17	Food Pantry Open <i>St Michael's Parish Hall</i>	9-11 AM
Sun., Mar. 22	Holy Eucharist <i>The Rev. Paul Clark Presiding</i>	10:00 AM
Sun., Mar. 29	Sunday Morning Prayer Service Alms Sunday <i>The loose cash offerings will be designated for the Parish Discretionary Fund.</i>	10:00 AM

If you are visiting with us for the first time, please sign our guest book and we'll be in touch.

For assistance in obtaining pastoral care please contact our Senior Warden, Richard Hendricks (phone: 760-608-0396, email: richard.w.hendricks@gmail.com).

To receive the weekly e-mail newsletter, please contact Richard Hendricks (phone: 760-608-0396, email: richard.w.hendricks@gmail.com).



OUR MISSION

The people of St. Michael's welcome all those who seek a deeper understanding of God's love for ALL His children. Our congregation is "intentionally inclusive," welcoming all persons without regard to age, race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, or physical or developmental disability.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Sunday Morning Worship Service: 10 AM
Girl Scouts: Mondays and Thursdays in the Parish Hall

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

Senior Box Day, Second Monday of the Month, 12 Noon
Food Pantry Open, Third Tuesday of the Month, 9-11 AM
IWW Amateur Radio Emergency Service, 3rd Wed. of the Month, Parish Hall Library, 5:30 PM

OFFICE HOURS

Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.
9-11 AM	10 AM – Noon	9-11 AM	10 AM – Noon

LONG TERM SUPPLY PRIEST

The Rev. Paul Clark

BISHOP'S COMMITTEE

Sr. Warden: Richard Hendricks

Class of 2020	Class of 2021	Class of 2022
Philip Randolph, Clerk	Cathy Kline	David Waller, Jr. Warden
David Segovia	Cassidi Reese	Sandy Davis
Treasurer: Lisa Kidder		

2020 DIOCESAN CONVENTION DELEGATES

Philip Randolph and Cassidi Reese

1st Alternate: Richard Hendricks 2nd Alternate: Alana Spurling



EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF SAN JOAQUIN

THE RT. REV'D DAVID C. RICE, EPISCOPAL BISHOP OF SAN JOAQUIN

This service is based on the proper liturgy for Ash Wednesday, which begins on page 264 of the 1979 Book of Common Prayer (BCP), followed by Holy Eucharist according to Rite II, beginning on BCP p. 355. Scripture readings are from the Revised Common Lectionary (Episcopal) and are excerpted from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible, copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Church of Christ in the USA.. Psalm texts are taken from the BCP. Other liturgical elements may include materials from Enriching Our Worship (EOW), and the 2018 Book of Occasional Services (BOS).