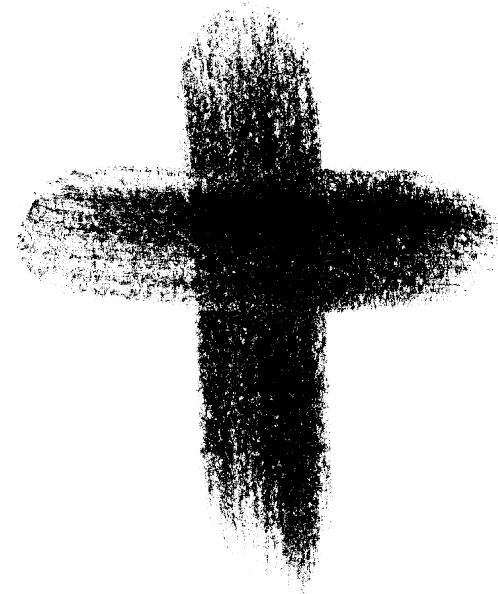




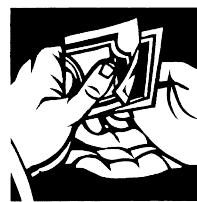
## LITURGY *of the WORD*



PRAYER



FASTING



ALMSGIVING

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**ASH WEDNESDAY**



**February 18, 2026**  
**12:00 NOON**

*Lectionary Readings may be found in Journeysongs at no. 882.  
In preparation for this Liturgy, please silence all cell phones and other devices.*

## INTRODUCTORY RITES



### ENTRANCE SONG

**Again We Keep This Solemn Fast**, 353

### GREETING

### COLLECT

## LITURGY of the WORD



### FIRST READING

*Rend your hearts, not your garments.*

Joel 2:12-18

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps. 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 & 17

Be mer-ci-ful, O Lord, for we have sinned; be  
mer - ci - ful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness,  
in your compassion, blot out my offense.  
O wash me more and more from my  
guilt and my sorrow,  
and cleanse me from all of my sin.

My offenses, truly I know them,  
and my sins are always before me;  
against you alone have I sinned, O Lord,  
what is evil in your sight I have done.

Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
put your steadfast spirit in my soul.  
Cast me not away from your presence,  
O Lord,  
and take not your spirit from me.

Give back to me the joy of your salvation,  
let your willing spirit bear me up  
and I shall teach your way to the ones who  
have wandered,  
and bring them all home to your side.

### SECOND READING

*Be reconciled to God. Behold, now is the acceptable time.*

2 Corinthians 5:20 - 6:2

*cf. Psalm 95:8*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Cantor first time, then all*

Praise to you, Lord Je - sus Christ, King of end-less glo - ry!  
*If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.*

### GOSPEL

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

*Your Father who sees in secret will repay you.*

### HOMILY

### BLESSING of ASHES

### DISTRIBUTION of ASHES

**Come Back to the Lord**

Leo Nestor

*Antiphon*

Come back to the Lord with all your heart;  
leave the past in ash - es.

**Parce Domine**, 344

chant, mode I

**Signed by Ashes**, 340

K. Keil

### UNIVERSAL PRAYER

The Lord's Prayer

**R: Lord, hear our prayer.**

## CONCLUDING RITES



### BLESSING and DISMISSAL

### RECESSATIONAL SONG

**Jesus, Remember Me**

Taizé

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your King - dom.

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your King - dom.