

THE KALENDAR

S. Stephen's Church
in Providence

ASH WEDNESDAY

2 MARCH 2022

SOLEMN MASS

10 AM

Missa XVIII

Deus genitor alme (plainchant)

NOTE: *Hymns can be found in the blue hymnals in front of you in the pew rack.*

THE OPENING RITE

ORGAN – “O mensch beweine dein Sünde gross” BWV 622

J. S. Bach (1685 - 1750)

Please stand when the bell is rung.

HYMN 143 – “The glory of these forty days”

Erbalt uns, Herr

INTROIT – *Miserere omnium (Please remain standing)*

Tone VII

Thou hast mercy on all things, O Lord, and hatest nothing that thou hast created: and winkest at men's iniquities, because they should amend, and sparest all men, for they are thine, O Lord, thou lover of souls. *Ps.* Be merciful unto me, O God, be merciful unto me: for my soul trusteth in thee. Glory be... Thou hast mercy...

COLLECT OF THE DAY *(Ash Wednesday)*

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

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 LITURGY OF THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING – *Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 (Please be seated)*

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 there is spread upon the mountains a great and powerful people; their like has never been from of old, nor will be again after them through the years of all generations. “Yet even now,” says the Lord, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; 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 repents of evil. Who knows whether he will not turn and repent, and leave a blessing behind him, a cereal 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 elders; gather the children, even nursing infants. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her chamber. Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep and say, “Spare thy people, O Lord, and make not thy heritage a reproach, a byword among the nations. Why should they say among the peoples, ‘Where is their God?’”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 103: 8-14 – *Miserere mei, Deus*

Chant: Ivor Atkins (1869 – 1953)

8 The LORD is full of compassion and mercy, * long-suffering, and of great goodness. 9 He will not alway be chiding; * neither keepeth he his anger for ever. 10 He hath not dealt with us after our sins; * nor rewarded us according to our wickednesses. 11 For look how high the heaven is in comparison of the earth; * so great is his mercy also toward them that fear him. 12 Look how wide also the east is from the west; * so far hath he set our sins from us. 13 Yea, like as a father pitieth his own children; * even so is the LORD merciful unto them that fear him. 14 For he knoweth whereof we are made; * he remembereth that we are but dust.

EPISTLE – *2 Corinthians 5:20b – 5:10*

We beseech 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.

Working together with him, then, we entreat you not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says,

“At the acceptable time I have listened to you,
and helped you on the day of salvation.”

Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We put no obstacle in any one’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry,

but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, tumults, labors, watching, hunger; by purity, knowledge, forbearance, kindness, the Holy 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 well known; as dying, and behold we live; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Subdeacon The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

TRACT – *Domine, non secundum (Please stand)*

Tone VII

O Lord, deal not with us after our sins; nor reward us according to our wickednesses. *V.* O Lord, remember not our old sins, but have mercy upon us, and that soon: for we are come to great misery. *V.* Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of thy Name, O Lord: O deliver us and be merciful unto our sins, for thy Name's sake.

THE HOLY GOSPEL – *Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21*

Deacon The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Deacon ✠ 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 men in order to be seen by them; for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven. Thus, when you give alms, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by men. Truly, I say to 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 in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. 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 men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But 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. And when you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by men but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but lay 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 will your heart be also."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF A HOLY LENT *(Please stand)*

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.

Silence is then kept for a time, all kneeling.

THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES

The Celebrant then says the following prayer.

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

The ashes will be imposed at the crossing outside the rood screen by the Celebrant.

Come forward via the center aisle and return to your pew using the side aisles.

The ashes are imposed with the following words.

Remember that thou art dust, and unto dust shalt thou return.

PSALM 51 – Miserere mei, Deus

Gregorio Allegri (1582 – 1652)

MISERERE mei, Deus: secundum magnam misericordiam tuam.
 2 Et secundum multitudinem miserationum tuarum: dele iniquitatem meam. 3
 Amplius lava me ab iniquitate mea: et a peccato meo munda me. 4 Quoniam
 iniquitatem meam ego cognosco: et peccatum meum contra me est semper. 5
 Tibi soli peccavi, et malum coram te feci: ut justificeris in sermonibus tuis, et
 vincas cum judicaris. 8 Asperges me hyssopo, et mundabor: lavabis me, et super
 nivem dealbabor. 9 Auditui meo dabis gaudium et lætitiā: et exultabunt ossa
 humiliata. 10 Averte faciem tuam a peccatis meis: et omnes iniquitates meas dele.
 11 Cor mundum crea in me, Deus: et spiritum rectum in nova in visceribus meis.
 12 Ne projicias me a facie tua: et spiritum sanctum tuum ne auferas a me.

13 Redde mihi lætitiã salutaris tui: et spiritu principali confirma me.
16 Domine, labia mea aperiens: et os meum annuntiabit laudem tuam.
17 Quoniam si voluisses sacrificium, dedisse: utique holocaustis non delectaberis. 18 Sacrificium Deo spiritus contribulatus: cor contritum et humiliatum, Deus, non despicias. 19 Benigne fac, Domine, in bona voluntate tua Sion: ut ædificentur muri Jerusalem. 20 Tunc acceptabis sacrificium justitiæ, oblationes et holocausta: tunc imponent super altare tuum vitulos.

HAVE mercy upon me, O God: after thy great goodness. 2 According to the multitude of thy mercies do away mine offences. 3 Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness: and cleanse me from my sin. 4 For I acknowledge my faults: and my sin is ever before me. 5 Against thee only have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified in thy saying, and clear when thou art judged. 8 Thou shalt purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: thou shalt wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. 9 Thou shalt make me hear of joy and gladness: that the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice. 10 Turn thy face from my sins: and put out all my misdeeds. 11 Make me a clean heart, O God: and renew a right spirit within me. 12 Cast me not away from thy presence: and take not thy holy Spirit from me. 13 O give me the comfort of thy help again: and stablish me with thy free Spirit. 16 Thou shalt open my lips, O Lord: and my mouth shall shew thy praise. 17 For thou desirest no sacrifice, else would I give it thee: but thou delightest not in burnt-offerings. 18 The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit: a broken and contrite heart, O God, shalt thou not despise. 19 O be favourable and gracious unto Sion: build thou the walls of Jerusalem. 20 Then shalt thou be pleased with the sacrifice of righteousness, with the burnt-offerings and oblations: then shall they offer young bullocks upon thine altar.

LITANY OF PENITENCE

The Celebrant and People together, all kneeling

Most holy and merciful Father:

**we confess to thee 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 Celebrant continues

We have not loved thee 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.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

We have not heard thy call to serve, as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved thy Holy Spirit.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

We confess to thee, O Lord, all our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience of our lives,

We confess to thee, O Lord.

Our lust, gluttony, and abuse of others,

We confess to thee, O Lord.

Our anger, hatred, malice, and envy,
We confess to thee, O Lord.

Our laziness, intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work,
We confess to thee, O Lord.

Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,
We confess to thee, O Lord.

Accept our repentance, O 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, O Lord.

For all false judgements, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,
Accept our repentance, O Lord.

For our poor stewardship and misuse of thy creation, and our lack of concern for the generations to come,
Accept our repentance, O Lord.

Restore us, good Lord, and let thy anger depart from us;
Favorably hear us, for thy mercy is great.

Accomplish in us the work of thy salvation;
That we may show forth thy glory in the world.

By the cross and passion of thy Son our Lord,
Bring us with all thy 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 desireth not the death of sinners, but rather that they may turn from their wickedness and live, hath given power and commandment to his ministers to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the absolution and remission of their sins. He ✠ pardoneth and absolveth all those who truly repent, and with sincere hearts do 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 *(Please stand)*

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

Announcements may be made. The people are seated for the Offertory.

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

OFFERTORY ANTIPHON – *Exaltabo te*

Tone II

I will magnify thee, O Lord, for thou hast set me up, and not made my foes to triumph over me: O Lord my God, I cried unto thee and thou hast healed me.

ANTHEM – In ieiunio et fletu

Thomas Tallis (c. 1505 – 1585)

In ieiunio et fletu orabant sacerdotes: Parce, Domine, parce populo tuo, et ne des hereditatem tuam in perditionem: Inter vestibulum et altare plorabant sacerdotes, dicentes: Parce populo tuo.

Fasting and weeping, the priests shall pray: Spare thy people, Lord, and give not thy heritage over to destruction. Between the porch and the altar, the priests shall pray: Spare thy people.

All stand for the hymn as the offering is brought forward and the gifts, altar, & people are censed.

HYMN 142 – “Lord, who throughout these forty days”

St. Flavian

ORATE, FRATRES (*Please remain standing*)

Celebrant Pray, brothers and sisters, that this my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the Father Almighty.

People **May the Lord receive this Sacrifice at thy hands, to the praise and glory of his Name, both to our benefit, and that of all his holy Church.**

SURSUM CORDA & PREFACE

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People **It is meet and right so to do.**

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was in every way tempted as we are, yet did not sin; by whose grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and live no longer unto ourselves, but unto him who died for us and rose again. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

SANCTUS ET BENEDICTUS

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus, Domine Deus Sabaoth: Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis. ✠ Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini. Hosanna in excelsis.

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.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER II *(Please kneel if you are able to do so)*

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, 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, he 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 REMISSION OF
SINS.

Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."



Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

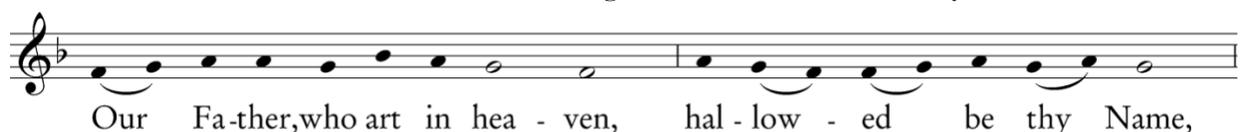
And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy ✠ grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

✠ 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.**

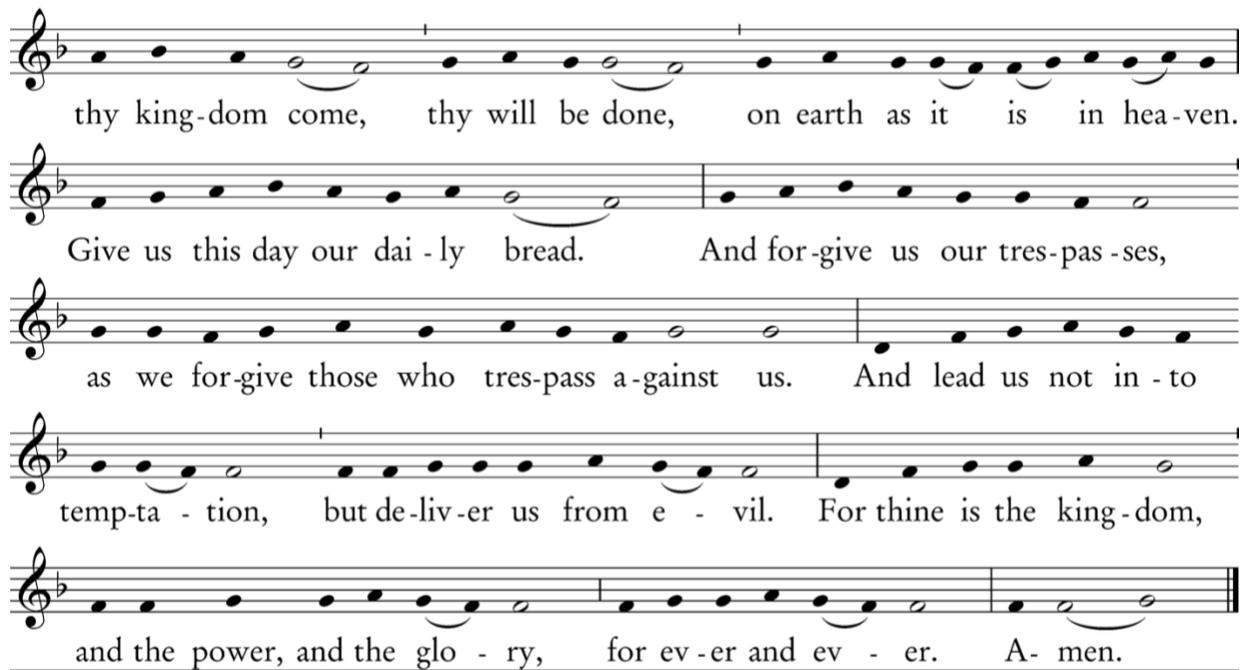
THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Hymnal S 119

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



Our Fa-ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed be thy Name,



thy king-dom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in hea-ven.
 Give us this day our dai-ly bread. And for-give us our tres-pas-ses,
 as we for-give those who tres-pass a-gainst us. And lead us not in-to
 temp-ta-tion, but de-liv-er us from e-vil. For thine is the king-dom,
 and the power, and the glo-ry, for ev-er and ev-er. A-men.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People Therefore let us keep the feast.

AGNUS DEI

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
 Miserere nobis. Agnus Dei, qui tollis
 peccata mundi, Miserere nobis.
 Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
 Dona nobis pacem.

*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.*

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

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 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 INVITATION – ECCE AGNUS DEI

Celebrant ✠ Behold the Lamb of God; behold him that taketh away the sins of the world.

People Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON – *Qui meditabitur*

Tone I

He who doth meditate on the law of the Lord day and night: will bring forth his fruit in due season.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Please come forward to the altar rail and then return to your pew via the passageway on the right. If you are unable to come forward, communion can be brought to you in your pew. All baptized Christians are welcome to receive the Eucharist at the Lord's Table. Gluten-free wafers are available. If you are not receiving, you are invited to come forward for a blessing (indicated by crossing your arms over your chest). If you have not been baptized and find yourself drawn to Jesus Christ and life in him, please let one of our clergy know. We would be honored to have a conversation with you about baptism or answer any other questions. Baptism and life in the Body of Christ is open to all.

HYMN 147 – “Now let us all with one accord”

Bourbon

THE CLOSING RITE

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER *(Please kneel or stand)*

Let us pray: Almighty and everliving 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.**

SOLEMN PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

Deacon Bow down before the Lord.

Celebrant Grant, most merciful Lord, to thy faithful people pardon and peace, that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve thee with a quiet mind; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL *(Please stand)*

Deacon Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN 411 – “O bless the Lord, my soul”

St. Thomas (Williams)

Soloists in the Allegri “Miserere mei”

Lori Harrison, *Soprano I*

Deborah Abel, *Soprano II*

Beth Kershaw Shirley, *Alto*

Jason Connell, *Tenor*

Robert Henry, *Bass*

This coming Sunday, March 6 – First Sunday in Lent

8:00 – Morning Prayer & Low Mass

9:55 – Sunday School

10:00 – Solemn Mass with Great Litany in Procession

11:15 – Coffee Hour

5:00 – Pre-Evensong Organ Recital (Jeffrey Mills)

5:30 – Evensong & Benediction

**S. STEPHEN'S CHURCH
in Providence**

114 George Street, Providence RI 02906
(401) 421-6702

Parish Leadership

Thomas Bledsoe, *Senior Warden*

Robert Rose, *Junior Warden*

Muriel Jobbers, *Treasurer*

Molly Bledsoe Ellis, *Clerk*

Vestry

Karl Benziger, Lynne deBenedette, Jennifer DePardo, Leana Hooks,
Sharon Lloyd Clark, Julia Steiny, Louis Verdelotti

The Rev'd Benjamin Straley, *Rector*

The Rev'd William Locke, *Assisting Priest*

The Rev'd Michael A. Pearson, *Assisting Priest*

James Busby, D.Mus., *Organist & Choirmaster*

Jen Long, *Office Administrative Assistant*

Andrew Lonardo, *Sexton*

Kiersten Marek, *Nursery Childcare Provider*

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