



## Ash Wednesday The Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes

*With God's help, we the people of Saint Andrew's Church seek to know and accept God's love in Jesus Christ for all people and to witness to God's love in word and action.*

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**February 17, 2021**

**12:00 p.m.**

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### **The Word of God**

Priest: Let us pray.

**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.*

**The First Reading:** *Joel 2:1-2, 12-17*

Reader:

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?'"

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**



- 8 The LORD is full of com'passion 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 ac'cording to our 'sins, \*  
nor rewarded us ac'cording 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 re'moved 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 where 'of we are 'made; \*  
he re'members that 'we are but 'dust.

### **The Second Reading:** *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 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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**The Gospel:** Matthew 6:1-6,16-21

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

**People: 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."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord

**People: Praise to you, Lord Christ**

**Homily**

The Rev. Jeffrey A. Packard

**Invitation to the Observance of a Holy Lent** (*standing*)

BCP 264

**Silence** (*kneeling*)

- 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.  
19 Be favorable and gracious to Zion, \*  
and rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.  
20 Then you will be pleased with the appointed sacrifices,  
with burnt-offerings and oblations; \*  
then shall they offer young bullocks upon your altar.

### **Litany of Penitence and Absolution**

BCP 267

*(continue kneeling)*

*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.

*The Celebrant continues*

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 Bishop, if present, or 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.**

## **Offertory Anthem**

“Great God, How Frail a Thing Are We!”

William Billings (1746-1800)

*Text: Great God, how frail a thing are we! How swift our minutes pass! Our age contracts within a span: we bloom and die like grass.*

*And must my moments thus decline, and must I sink to death?*

*To thee my spirit I resign, thou maker of my breath.*

## **The Holy Communion**

**Priest:** As our Savior Christ has taught us, let us pray:

**People and Priest:**

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 Communion of the People**

*We will consume our pre-consecrated communion together at this time.*

## **Postcommunion Prayer**

BCP 366

**Priest:** Let us pray.

**People:** 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

### Hymn 143

### “The Glory of These Forty Days”

*Erhalt uns, Herr*



1 The glo - ry of these for - ty days we  
2 A - lone and fast - ing Mo - ses saw the  
3 So Dan - iel trained his mys - tic sight, de -  
4 Then grant us, Lord, like them to be full  
\*5 O Fa - ther, Son, and Spi - rit blest, to



1 ce - le - brate with songs of praise; for Christ, through whom all  
2 lov - ing God who gave the law; and to E - li - jah,  
3 liv - ered from the li - ons' might; and John, the Bride - groom's  
4 oft in fast and prayer with thee; our spi - rits strength - en  
5 thee be ev - ery prayer ad - dressed, who art in three - fold



1 things were made, him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.  
2 fast - ing, came the steeds and char - i - ots of flame.  
3 friend, be - came the her - ald of Mes - si - ah's name.  
4 with thy grace, and give us joy to see thy face.  
5 Name a - dored, from age to age, the on - ly Lord.

## Dismissal

Deacon: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude “The Glory of These Forty Days”

Johann Walther (1653-1706)





**WEDNESDAY EVENINGS IN LENT**

February 24 – March 24 (March 31 for Taizé)

**TAIZÉ**

5:15 p.m. on Zoom

**LENTEN PROGRAM**

7 p.m. on Zoom

**Finding God in the Gospel of Mark.**

An Altoona Convocation cooperative program

**FRIDAYS IN LENT**

February 19 – March 26

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS (virtual)**

5:15 p.m. on Facebook

**MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY IN LENT**

**MORNING PRAYER**

8:30 a.m.

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