WELCOME TO





The Imposition of Ashes and Holy Eucharist, Rite II.

Ash Wednesday
The Year of our Lord, 2024, being February 16th
Year A

Please Enter in Silence

Please remember to wear your name tag.

Prelude Shine, Jesus Shine

The Call to Worship The Parish Chimes

The Processional Anthem

The Glory of These Forty Days

#143

Welcome

The Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

All: His mercy endures forever.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

The Collect for Purity

O God, who before the passion of your only begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

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.

A Reading from Joel

2:1-2, 12-17

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?'"

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

The Psalm of the Day (Read in unison)

Psalm 103:8-14

Benedic, anima mea

- 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.

A Reading from 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.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Please stand if your health allows.

Gradual Anthem

If You Believe and I Believe



Celebrant: 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."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Please be seated.

The Sermon

Father Jim Stanley

Please stand as your health allows

Invitation to Holy Lent

BCP 264

Celebrant: 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. Please kneel if you are able, sitting if your health requires.

Silence is kept for a time.

Please be seated for the prayer over the ashes.

All: 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

The congregation is invited to come forward to receive ashes.

Ashes are imposed with the following words:

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

Litany of Penance

The Celebrant and People together, all kneeling

All 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.

Celebrant 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.

All Have mercy on us, Lord.

Celebrant 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.

All Have mercy on us, Lord.

Celebrant We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness: the

pride, hypocrisy, and impatience of our lives,

All We confess to you, Lord.

Celebrant Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our

exploitation of other people,

All We confess to you, Lord.

Celebrant Our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those

more fortunate than ourselves,

All We confess to you, Lord.

Celebrant Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts,

and our dishonesty in daily life and work,

All We confess to you, Lord.

Celebrant Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to

commend the faith that is in us.

All We confess to you, Lord.

Celebrant 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,

All Accept our repentance, Lord.

Celebrant For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts

toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and

contempt toward those who differ from us,

All Accept our repentance, Lord.

Celebrant For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our

lack of concern for those who come after us,

All Accept our repentance, Lord.

Celebrant Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from

us;

All Favorably hear us, for your mercy is great.

Celebrant Accomplish in us the work of your salvation,

All That we may show forth your glory in the world.

Celebrant By the cross and passion of your Son our Lord,

All Bring us with all your saints to the joy of his

resurrection.

Celebrant 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.*

Please stand if your health allows.

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

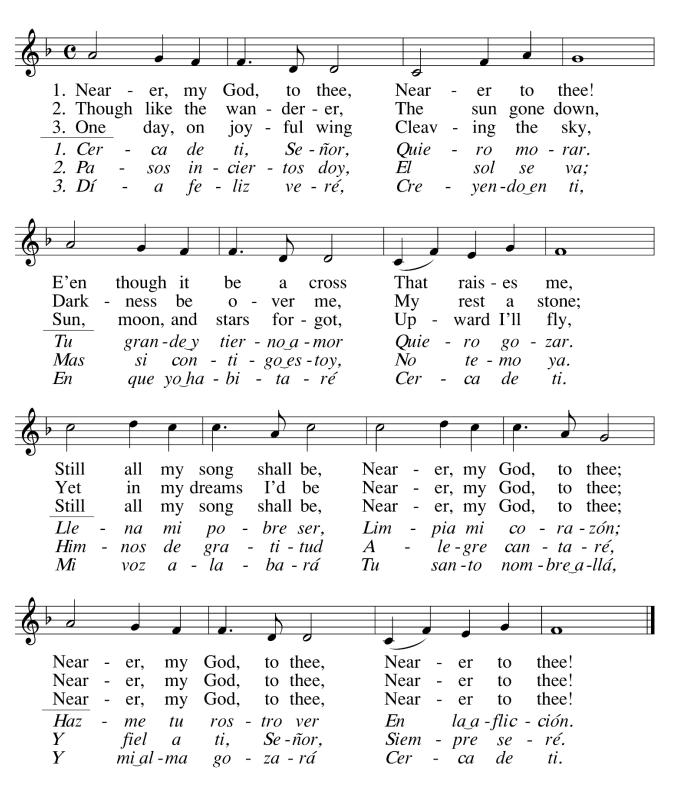
People: And also with you.



The Holy Communion

The Offertory

Nearer my God to Thee



The people's offerings are collected and brought forward to the altar.

Please stand for the Doxology.

Celebrant and People sing:

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

Celebrant: All things come of thee, O Lord

People: And of thine own have we given thee.

The Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP 367

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 him thanks and praise.

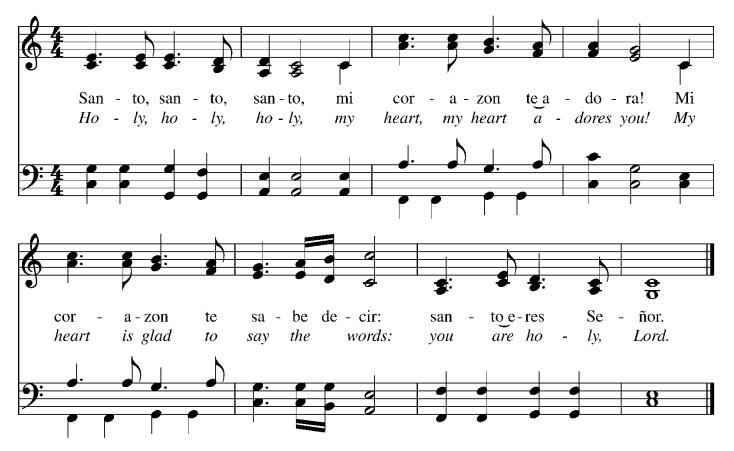
Celebrant:

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every- where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

All sing



Words: Variation on a traditional liturgical text. Music: Composer of melody unknown; arr. based on a two-part version as taught by Pablo D. Sosa (b. 1933).

The people stand or kneel.

Celebrant:

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, 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; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, 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."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People
We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

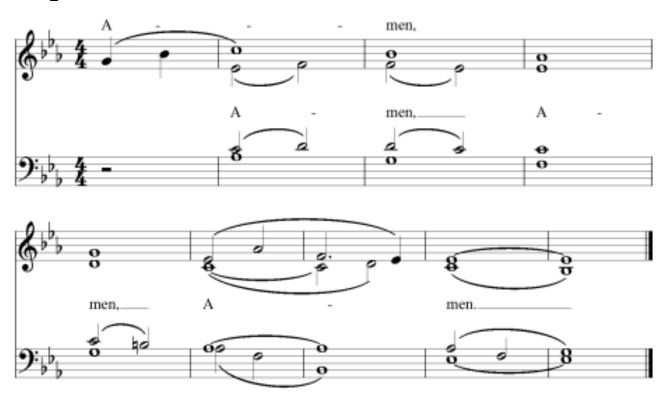
Celebrant:

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

All Sing



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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread, then says:

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore let us keep the feast.

Celebrant: 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.

Please be seated.

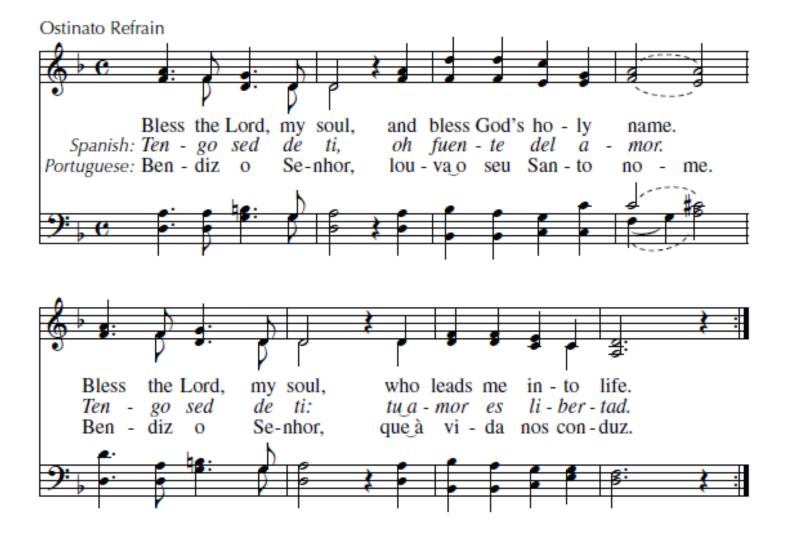
All are welcome to receive the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. If you prefer a blessing, cross arms over chest at the altar rail.

Please let an Usher know if you need the Sacrament brought to your pew.

The Holy Communion Anthem

Bless the Lord My Soul

#574



Please kneel, sit or stand.

Celebrant and 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.

Please stand if your health allows.

A Blessing of the People of God

The Recessional Anthem

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

#142

The Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

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