

Ash Wednesday



Wednesday February 14, 2018
7:00pm

ASH WEDNESDAY LITURGY

WELCOME

PSALM 51:1-17 (read responsively)

¹Have 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.**

³For 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.**

⁵And 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.**

⁷For 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.**

⁹Make 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.**

¹¹Create 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.**

¹³Give 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.**

¹⁵Deliver 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.**

¹⁷Had 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.**

All: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen

EXHORTATION

Silence for reflection and self-examination

CONFESSION

P: Most holy and merciful Father:

C: 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.

P: 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.

C: Have mercy on us, Lord.

P: 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.

C: Have mercy on us, Lord.

P: We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness. The pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives,

C: we confess to you, Lord.

P: Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people,

C: we confess to you, Lord.

Our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,

C: we confess to you, Lord.

P: Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work,

C: we confess to you, Lord.

P: Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,

C: we confess to you, Lord.

P: 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,

C: accept our repentance, Lord.

P: For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,

C: accept our repentance, Lord.

P: For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us,

C: accept our repentance, Lord.

P: Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us.

C: Hear us, Lord, for your mercy is great. Amen

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Those who desire to receive ashes come forward and kneel before the altar.

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

After all who desire ashes have received them, the minister leads the congregation in the conclusion of the confession.

P: Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,

C: that we may show forth your glory in the world.

P: By the cross and Passion of your Son, our Lord,

C: bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

P: Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, does not desire the death of sinners, but rather that they may turn from their wickedness and live. Therefore we implore him to grant us true repentance and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him which we do on this day, that the rest of our life may be pure and holy, and that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

Silence for reflection.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, you hate nothing you have made, and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and honest hearts, so that, truly repenting of our sins, we may receive from you, the God of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

L: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:20b--6:10

L: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (spoken)

C: Return to the Lord, your God, who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

GOSPEL: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

SERMON

Silence for reflection.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Be Thou My Vision

WOV 776

CREED

A: With the whole church, let us confess our faith in words of Apostles' Creed.

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

THE PRAYERS

L: Lord, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

PEACE

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

C: And also with you.

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS As the Grains of Wheat **WOV 705**

Refrain

As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill
were gathered into one to become our bread;
so may all your people from all the ends of earth
be gathered into one in you.

1 As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst,
may we share the presence of your love.

Refrain

2 Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come
when all creation shares this feast with you.

Refrain

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Let us pray: Blessed are you,

C: O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

DIALOGUE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. You bid your people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast. Renew our zeal in faith and life, and bring us to the fullness of grace that belongs to the children of God. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

Holy Holy Holy Lord

WOV 616a

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might:

heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

. . . we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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, forever and ever. Amen.

COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN Let Us Break Bread Together **LBW 212**

- 1 Let us break bread together on our knees;
let us break bread together on our knees.

Refrain

When I fall on my knees,
with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.

- 2 Let us drink wine together on our knees;
let us drink wine together on our knees.

Refrain

- 3 Let us praise God together on our knees;
let us praise God together on our knees.

Refrain

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice, our alms, a making of peace, and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts; through Christ our Lord. C: **Amen.**

BLESSING

P: May God who has called us forth from the dust of the earth, and claimed us as children of the light, strengthen you on your journey into life renewed. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you ☩ peace. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

P: Marked with the cross of Christ, go forth to love and serve the Lord.
C: **Thanks be to God.**

