Ash Wednesday Eucharist

11:00 am, 2:00 pm, and 5:30 pm

Due to Covid restrictions, the ashes will be sprinkled on the top of the head.

INTROIT: Psalm 57.17

The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit / a broken and contrite heart, O God, shalt thou not despise. (Ps) Be merciful unto me, O God, be merciful unto me; for my soul trusteth in thee.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: world without end, Amen.

The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit a broken and contrite heart, O God, shalt thou not despise.

The people kneel

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts be open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

KYRIE ELEISON

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

V / The Lord be with you; R / *And with thy spirit*.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who hatest nothing that thou hast made, and dost forgive the sins of all them that 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, world without end. *Amen.*

FIRST READING: 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 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?"

The word of the Lord R / *Thanks be to God*

TRACT: Psalm 103.8-14

- 8 The Lord is full of compassion and gracious : 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.

SECOND READING: James 4.6-10

But he gives more grace; therefore it says, "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble." Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you men of double mind. Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to dejection. Humble yourselves before the Lord and he will exalt you.

V / The word of the Lord R / *Thanks be to God*

GOSPEL: Matthew 6.1-6,16-21 R / *Glory be to thee, O Lord*

Jesus said, "Beware of practising 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 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 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 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.

> V / The Gospel of Christ R / *Praise be to thee, O Christ*

THE BLESSING & IMPOSITION OF THE ASHES

The Celebrant then addresses the people, saying:

Brothers and sisters in Christ, every year at the time of the Christian Passover, we celebrate our redemption through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Lent is a time to prepare for this celebration and to renew our life in the paschal mystery. We begin this holy season by remembering our need for repentance, and for the mercy and forgiveness proclaimed in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We begin our journey to Easter with the sign of ashes, an ancient sign, speaking of the frailty and uncertainty of human life, and marking the penitence of the community as a whole. I invite you therefore, in the name of the Lord, to observe a holy Lent by self-examination, penitence, prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, and by reading and meditating on the word of God.

The people kneel and silence is kept for a space.

V / Make me a clean heart, O God; R / *And renew a right spirit within me.*

The Celebrant blesses the ashes, saying:

Almighty God, who hast created us out of the dust of the earth: Bl(+)ess and sanc(+)tify these ashes, that they may be to us a sign of our mortality and our penitence, that we may remember that it is only by thy gracious gift that we are given eternal life; through Christ our Lord. *Amen*

The people then move forward to receive the ashes; the Celebrant sprinkling them on the head of each, saying:

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

After the imposition the people remain kneeling and say these verses of the following psalm with the Celebrant:

PSALM 51 vv 1-4, 10 Miserere

HAVE MERCY upon me, O God, after thy great goodness : according to the multitude of thy mercies do away mine offences.

Wash me throughly from my wickedness : and cleanse me from my sin.

For I acknowledge my faults : and my sin is ever before me.

Against thee only have I sinned and done that which is evil in thy sight: that thou mightiest be justified when thou speakest, and clear when thou dost judge.

Make me a clean heart, O God : and renew a right spirit within me.

The priest then pronounces the absolution;

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him: Have mercy upon you; pardon and deliver you from all your sins; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness; and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

OFFERTORY

Please feel free to sit while the elements are prepared at the altar, standing as soon as the Celebrant is ready to say the Prayer over the Gifts and begin the Eucharistic Prayer. Remain standing through the beginning of the Eucharistic Prayer (the Great Thanksgiving) kneeling at the Sanctus.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Merciful Father, aided by our Lenten discipline, turn us from sin to faithfulness, accept our offering, and prepare us to celebrate the death and resurrection of Christ our Saviour, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, now and ever. *Amen*

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

V / The Lord be with you;
R / And with thy spirit.
V / Lift up your hearts;
R / We lift them up unto the Lord.
V / Let us give thanks unto our Lord God;
R / 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, Creator and Preserver of all things.

Who hast bidden us thy faithful people to cleanse our hearts and to prepare with joy for the paschal feast; that reborn through the waters of baptism, and renewed in the eucharistic mystery, we may be more fervent in prayer and more generous in the works of love.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee and saying:

The people kneel

Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts, Heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord most High.

Blessèd is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord: Hosanna in the highest.

Blessing and glory and thanksgiving be unto thee Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who 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; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memorial of that his precious death, until his coming again. Hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech thee; and grant that we receiving these thy creatures of bread and wine, according to thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took Bread; and, when he had given thanks, he brake 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 ye all, of this; 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 Father, Lord of heaven and earth, we thy humble servants, with all thy holy Church, remembering the precious death of thy beloved Son, his mighty resurrection, and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming again in glory, do make before thee, in this sacrament of the holy Bread of eternal life and the Cup of everlasting salvation, the memorial which he hath commanded; And we entirely desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, most humbly beseeching thee to grant, that by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we and all thy whole Church may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion; And we pray that by the power of thy Holy Spirit, all we who are partakers of this holy Communion may be fulfilled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. *Amen*.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour hath commanded and 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 them that trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.

The Consecrated Bread is broken. After a short period of silence the Celebrant says:

The peace of the Lord be always with you: R / *And with thy spirit.*

HOLY COMMUNION

All that shall receive the Communion humbly say this prayer following:

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*.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us thy peace.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. O Lord our God, strengthened by these holy mysteries and following thy Son's example of prayer and fasting, may we obey thee with willing hearts and serve one another in holy love; through Christ our Lord. *Amen*

BLESSING

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always. *Amen.*