

Ash Wednesday

Congregational responses are in ***bold italic*** type.
“*” Indicates where you are invited to stand as you are able.

***Procession and Psalm 130** (*please stand at the sound of the bell*)

***Collect of the Day**

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

Let us pray...

The celebrant says the Collect. At the conclusion, all respond with ***“Amen”***.

First Reading

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

At the conclusion of the reading:

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

Thanks be to God

Psalm 103:8-14

The LORD is full of compassion and mercy, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.

***He will not always accuse us, *
nor will he keep his anger for ever.***

***He has not dealt with us according to our sins, *
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.***

***For as the heavens are high above the earth, *
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.***

***As far as the east is from the west, *
so far has he removed our sins from us.***

***As a father cares for his children, *
so does the LORD care for those who fear him.***

***For he himself knows whereof we are made; *
he remembers that we are but dust.***

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

At the conclusion of the reading:

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.

Thanks be to God

***Gospel Reading**

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Prior to the reading:

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Glory to your, Lord Christ

After the reading:

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Christ

Invitation to a Holy Lent

Note: Out of an abundance of caution, we will be “fasting” from the imposition of ashes this year. Our service continues with Psalm 51.

Psalm 51 (all kneel as they are able)

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; *

in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

*Wash me through and through from my wickedness *
and cleanse me from my sin.*

*For I know my transgressions, *
and my sin is ever before me.*

*Against you only have I sinned *
and done what is evil in your sight.*

*And so you are justified when you speak *
and upright in your judgment*

*Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, *
a sinner from my mother's womb.*

*For behold, you look for truth deep within me, *
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.*

*Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; *
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.*

*Make me hear of joy and gladness, *
that the body you have broken may rejoice.*

*Hide your face from my sins *
and blot out all my iniquities.*

*Create in me a clean heart, O God, *
and renew a right spirit within me.*

*Cast me not away from your presence *
and take not your holy Spirit from me.*

*Give me the joy of your saving help again *
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.*

*I shall teach your ways to the wicked, *
and sinners shall return to you.*

*Deliver me from death, O God, *
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness,
O God of my salvation.*

*Open my lips, O Lord, *
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.*

*Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice; *
but you take no delight in burnt-offerings.*

*The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit; *
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.*

The Litany of Penitence

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 priest then offers words of absolution.

***The Peace**

The peace of the Lord be always with you

And also with you

Please exchange a "no contact" sign of peace with those around you. Examples include a wave or a bow.

Offertory

The table is now prepared for the Eucharist. Monetary offerings can be placed in the designated collection plate at the conclusion or worship.

**Once the table is prepared, all stand the following is said:*

Blessed are you O Lord our God, Ruler of the Universe. Through your goodness we have this bread to offer. Fruit of the earth and the work of human hands, it will become for us the Bread of Life.

Blessed be God forever.

Blessed are you O Lord our God, Ruler of the Universe. Through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and the work of human hands, it will become for us the Drink of Life.

Blessed be God forever.

***The Eucharist**

The Lord be with you

And also with you

Lift up your hearts

We lift them up to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

It is right to give him thanks and praise

In this portion of the prayer, the Celebrant gives thanks to God the Father, for God's work in creation and revelation to God's people. Then follows the Sanctus, an angelic song of praise to God:

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

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven 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.

All continue to stand or kneel. The Celebrant now offers praise to God for God's work of salvation in the world through Jesus Christ. This act of praise recalls the events of Jesus' final meal with his disciples. It was at this meal where Jesus took the bread and the cup, blessed them as his Body and Blood, and gave them to his disciples. Then follows:

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant then calls for the Holy Spirit to be sent upon the gifts so "they may be Body and Blood of Christ," upon us gathered here, and upon the whole earth to bring all things into God's new creation. The Eucharistic prayer then concludes with the final doxology, all responding with AMEN.

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 forever. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

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 Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the bread, followed by a period of silence. Then, the following is said:

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast.

The Invitation

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.

When receiving the Sacrament, hold out your hands flat to allow the worship leader to spray them with sanitizer. The priest will then “drop” the bread in a way that minimizes skin contact. At this time, only the bread will be offered.

If you do not wish to receive, simply cross your arms and the priest will offer a blessing. Additionally, you may pray the Prayer for Spiritual Communion found below:

Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament and, since I cannot at this time receive communion, I pray you to come into my heart. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you; let me serve you in this life, until by your grace, I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen.

(From Saint Augustine’s Prayer Book, rev 2014., based on a prayer by St. Alphonsus de Liguori)

Post-Communion Prayer

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.

Prayer Over the People and Dismissal

The priest offers a Prayer Over the People. Then follows the dismissal:

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Thank you for joining us today! After the dismissal, please remain at your seat until the altar party has walked down the center aisle. Additionally, please keep your interactions brief as you exit the worship space.