



Ash Wednesday

St Mark the Evangelist Anglican Church

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Rev. Dr Mary-Cate Garden, Priest-in-Charge

We gather today on the traditional and unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishnaabe Nation. May we dwell on this land with respect and peace.

7 PM, HOLY EUCHARIST,

Celebrant The Lord be with you
People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.
Almighty and everlasting God,
you despise 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 brokenness,
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 PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

A Reading from the Book of Joel

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?'"

The word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 103:8-18

G. BLACK



O God, you are full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and of great kindness.

You will not always accuse us,
nor will you keep your anger for ever. **R**

You have 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 your mercy great upon those who fear you. **R**

As far as the east is from the west,
so far have you removed our sins from us.
As parents care for their children,
so do you care for those who love you. **R**

For you yourself know whereof we are made;
you remember that we are but dust.
Our days are like the grass;
we flourish like a flower of the field;
When the wind goes over it, it is gone,
and its place shall know it no more. **R**

But you merciful goodness endures for ever on those who fear you,
and your righteousness on children's children;
On those who keep your covenant
and remember your commandments and do them. **R.**



A Reading from the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

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, labours, 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 honour and dishonour, 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.

The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn 511 Lord Jesus, Think on Me

(SOUTHWELL)

Lord Jesus, think on me and purge away my sin:
from earth-born passions set me free and make me pure within.

Lord Jesus, think on me, and many a care oppressed;
let me thy loving servant be and taste they promised rest.

Lord Jesus, think on me, nor let me go astray;
through darkness and perplexity point thou the heavenly way.

Lord Jesus, think on me, that, when the flood is past,
I may the eternal brightness see and share thy joy at last.



Lord Jesus, think on me, that I may sing above
to Father, Holy Ghost, and thee the songs of praise and love.

Reader The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to
Matthew *MATTHEW 6:1-6, 16-21*

People **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Jesus said to the people, “Beware of practising 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 no break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

The Gospel of Christ.

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



Homily

Dear friends 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. Let us kneel before our Creator and
Redeemer.

Silence is then kept for reflection.

Psalm 51.1-18 is sung.

Psalm 51:1-18

(M. CAMIDGE)



1. Have mercy on me, O God, according to your ¹ loving ¹ kindness;*
in your great compassion ¹ blot out ¹ my offences.
2. Wash me through and ¹ through · from my ¹ wickedness *
and ¹ cleanse me ¹ from my ¹ sin.
3. For I ¹ know · my transgressions, *



and my ¹ sin is ¹ ever · be¹fore me.

4. Against you only ¹ have I ¹ sinned *
and done what is ¹ evil ¹ in your ¹ sight.
5. And so you are justified ¹ when you ¹ speak *
and ¹ upright ¹ in your ¹ judgement.
6. Indeed, I have been wicked ¹ from my ¹ birth, *
a sinner ¹ from my ¹ mother's ¹ womb.
7. For behold, you look for truth ¹ deep with¹in me, *
and will make me ¹ under-stand ¹ wisdom ¹ secretly.
8. Purge me from my sin, and ¹ I shall · be ¹ pure; *
wash me, and ¹ I shall · be ¹ clean in¹deed.
9. Make me hear of ¹ joy and ¹ gladness, *
that the body you have ¹ broken ¹ may re¹joice.
10. Hide your face ¹ from my ¹ sins *
and ¹ blot out ¹ all my · in¹iquities.
11. Create in me a clean ¹ heart, O ¹ God, *
and re¹new a · right ¹ spirit · with¹in me.
12. Cast me not a¹way · from your ¹ presence *
and take not your ¹ Holy ¹ Spirit · from ¹ me.
13. Give me the joy of your saving ¹ help a¹gain *
and sus¹tain me · with your ¹ boun¹ti-ful ¹ Spirit.
14. I shall teach your ¹ ways · to the ¹ wicked, *
and ¹ sinners · shall re¹turn to ¹ you.
15. Deliver me from ¹ death, O ¹ God, *
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness,
O ¹ God of ¹ my sal¹vation.
16. Open my ¹ lips, O ¹ Lord, *
and my ¹ mouth · shall pro¹claim your ¹ praise.
17. Had you desired it, I would have ¹ offered ¹ sacrifice, *



but you take ^l no de^light in · burnt-^lofferings.

18. The sacrifice of God is a ^l troubled ^l spirit; *
a broken and contrite heart, O ^l God, · you will ^l not des^lpise.

Litany of Penitence

The celebrant and people say together,

Most holy and merciful Father, we confess to you, 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 neighbours 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 judgements, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbours, 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;

Hear us, Lord, for your mercy is great.

Almighty God, from the dust of the earth you have created us. May these ashes be for us a sign of our mortality and penitence, and a reminder that only by your gracious gift are we given eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

Those who desire to receive ashes come forward, and the ashes are applied to the forehead of each person with the following words.

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

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

People Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,
That we may show forth your glory in the world.

Celebrant By the cross and passion of your Son, our Lord,
People **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 have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

All stand, and the presiding celebrant addresses the people.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The members of the community, ministers and people, may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Offertory Hymn 489 From the Falter of Breath

(IONA BOAT SONG)

From the falter of breath, through the silence of death;
to the wonder that's breaking beyond,
God has woven a way, unapparent by day;
for all those of whom heaven is fond.

From frustration and pain, through hop hard to sustain,
to the wholeness here promised, there known,
Christ has gone where we fear and has vowed to be near
on the journey we make on our own.

From the dimming of light, through the darkness of night,
to the glory of goodness above,
God the Spirit is sent to ensure heaven's intent
is embraced and completed in love.

From today till we die, through al questioning why,
to the place from which time and tide flow;
angels tread on our dreams, and magnificent themes
of heaven's promise are echoed below.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

The Preparation of the Gifts



The Prayer over the Gifts

Merciful God, turn us from sin to faithfulness. Accept our offering, and prepare us to celebrate the death and resurrection of Christ our Saviour, who is alive and reigns with you now and for ever. **Amen**

The Great Thanksgiving

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 our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant Holy God, Lover of creation,
we give you thanks and praise
for in the ocean of your steadfast love you bear us
and place the song of your Spirit in our hearts.
When we turn from your love and defile the earth,
you do not abandon us.
Your Spirit speaks through Huldah and Micah,
through prophets, sages, and saints in every age,
to confront our sin
and reveal the vision of your new creation.

Joining in the song of the universe
we proclaim your glory saying (singing):

All **Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

HYMN 735

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Celebrant Gracious God,
in the fullness of time you sent Jesus the Christ
to share our fragile humanity.
Through Jesus' life, death, and resurrection



you open the path from brokenness to health,
from fear to trust, from pride and conceit
to reverence for you.

Rejected by a world
that could not bear the Gospel of life,
Jesus knew death was near.
His head anointed for burial
by an unknown woman,
Jesus gathered together those who loved him.
He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it
and gave it to his friends,
saying, "Take and eat:
this is my body which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine,
gave you thanks,
and said "Drink this all of you,
this is my blood of the new covenant
which is shed for you and for many.
Whenever you drink it,
do this for the remembrance of me."

And now we gather at this table
in response to his commandment,
to share the bread and cup of Christ's undying love,
and to proclaim our faith

All

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Celebrant

Breathe your Holy Spirit,
the wisdom of the universe,
upon these gifts that we bring to you:
this bread, this cup,
ourselves, our souls and bodies,
that we may be signs of your love for all the world
and ministers of your transforming purpose.



Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory is yours, Creator of all,
and we bless your holy name for eve **Amen**

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us,
we are bold to say,

All **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,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant We break this bread,

All **Communion in Christ's body once broken.**

Celebrant Let your Church be the wheat
which bears its fruit in dying.

All **If we have died with him,
we shall live with him;
if we hold firm,
we shall reign with him.**

The Communion

Hymn 747 Jesus, Lamb of God

Anthem: Wilt Thou Forgive

F. SCHUBERT

J. HILTON ARR A. CLARKE

Prayer after Communion



Celebrant Let us pray.

God of compassion, through your Son Jesus Christ you reconciled your people to yourself. Following his example of prayer and fasting, may we obey you with willing hearts and serve one another in holy love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Celebrant Glory to God,
All **whose power, working in us,
can do infinitely more
than we can ask or imagine.**

**Glory to God from generation to generation,
in the Church and in Christ Jesus,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Closing Hymn 76 Thee We Adore, O Hidden Saviour, Thee

(ADORO TE)

Thee we adore, O hidden Saviour, thee,
who in thy sacrament dost deign to be;
both flesh and spirit at thy presence fail,
yet here thy presence we devoutly hail.

O blest memorial of our dying Lord,
who living bread to us doth here afford,
O may our souls forever feed on thee,
and thou, O Christ, forever precious be.

Fountain of goodness, Jesus, Lord and God,
cleanse us, unclean, with thy most cleansing blood;
increase our faith and love, that we may know
the hope and peace which from thy presence flow.

O Christ, whom now beneath a veil we see,
may what we thirst for soon our portion be,
to gaze on thee unveiled, and see thy face,
the vision of thy glory and thy grace.



A Hymn to God the Father

By John Donne

Wilt thou forgive that sin where I begun,
Which was my sin, though it were done before?
Wilt thou forgive that sin, through which I run,
And do run still, though still I do deplore?
When thou hast done, thou hast not done,
For I have more.

Wilt thou forgive that sin which I have won
Others to sin, and made my sin their door?
Wilt thou forgive that sin which I did shun
A year or two, but wallow'd in, a score?
When thou hast done, thou hast not done,
For I have more.

I have a sin of fear, that when I have spun
My last thread, I shall perish on the shore;
But swear by thyself, that at my death thy Son
Shall shine as he shines now, and heretofore;
And, having done that, thou hast done;
I fear no more.

