

ASH WEDNESDAY

CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR SOLEMN HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE TWO FEBRUARY 14, 2024 | 7:30 PM



THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The ministers enter in silence. All stand, as they are able.

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.**

THE LESSONS

The 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 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?'"

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Silence is kept.

Antiphon:



The LORD knows where - of we are made; he re - mem - bers that we are



but dust.

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. *Antiphon*

11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, * so is his mercy great upon those

who fear him.

him.

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

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

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

**Antiphon*

The Second Reading

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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn

Hymnal 143 (vv. 1-2) – The glory of these forty days

Erhalt uns, Herr

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 6:1-6,16-21

Gospeler 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."

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sequence Hymn

Hymnal 143 (vv. 43-4) – The glory of these forty days

Erhalt uns, Herr

The Sermon

The Rev. Jeff D.S. Thornberg, Rector

After a brief silence for reflection, as they are able, and the Celebrant invites the people to the observance of a holy Lent.

All stand.

THE INVITATION TO A HOLY LENT

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.

Silence is then kept for a time, all kneeling, as they are able.

The Celebrant says the following prayer.

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.**

All are invited to participate. The people follow the choir to receive imposition of ashes.

Ashes are imposed with the following words: Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

Anthem

A new heart Melissa Dunphy (b. 1980)

I will give you a new heart, and put a new spirit within you. I will take away your heart of stone, I will give you a heart of flesh.

THE LITANY OF PENITENCE

The Celebrant and people together, all standing or kneeling, as they are able.

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.

People 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.

People Have mercy on us, Lord.

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

impatience of our lives,

People We confess to you, Lord.

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

People We confess to you, Lord.

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

ourselves,

People We confess to you, Lord.

Celebrant Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily

life and work,

People We confess to you, Lord.

Celebrant Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is

in us

People 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,

People 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,

People Accept our repentance, Lord.

Celebrant For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who

come after us,

People Accept our repentance, Lord.

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

People Favorably hear us, for your mercy is great.

Celebrant Accomplish in us the work of your salvation,

People 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 Celebrant stands and, facing the people, says

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.**

The people stand, as they are able, for The Peace.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

All greet one another in the name of the Lord.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Celebrant says the offertory sentence.

Offertory Anthem

Lord, for they tender mercies' sake

Richard Farrant (1525-1580)

Lord, for thy tender mercies' sake,
lay not our sins to our charge,
but forgive that is past, and give us grace to amend our sinful lives:
to decline from sin, and incline to virtue,
that we may walk with a perfect heart before thee now and evermore.

The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer C

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 God thanks and praise.

The people remain standing, as they are able, and the Celebrant begins,

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

People Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

People By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

People Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

People By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

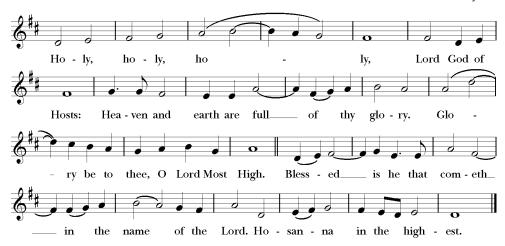
And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

The Celebrant and people sing together,

Holy, holy, holy Lord

Hymn S-114 – Sanctus

Healey Willan (1880-1968)



The people remain standing, or kneel, as they are able. The Celebrant continues.

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving, *People* We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Ancestors: God of Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebecca, Jacob and Rachel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

People Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

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.

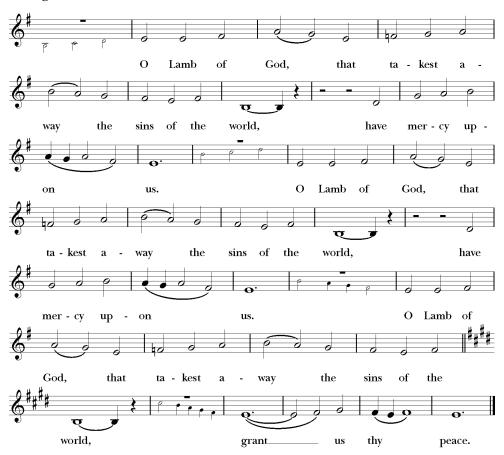
The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem

Hymn S-114 – Agnus Dei

Willan



The Celebrant says the Invitation to Communion.

Hymnal 693 – Just as I am Woodworth

Prayer for Spiritual Reception

(A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion).

The Celebrant says the following,

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

(St. Alphonsus de Liguori, 1696-1787; from Bishop Curry)

Then the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Almighty and ever living God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Priest blesses the people.

The Solemn Prayer over the People

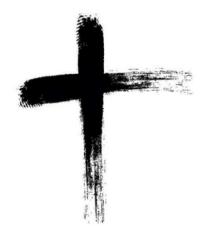
Grant most merciful Lord, to your faithful people pardon and peace, that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve you with a quiet mind; through Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

Dismissal

The Celebrant dismisses the people.

People Thanks be to God.

The ministers depart in silence.



PARTICIPANTS

Celebrant The Rev. Tim Hartley

Preacher
The Rev. Jeff D.S. Thornberg, *Rector*

Verger and Liturgical Coordinator Joanna Cory

> Eucharistic Ministers Jeff Ross, Eric Miller

> > Acolyte Joseph Hu

Readers Janey Cutting, Jeff Ross

> Organist Alice Rucker

Our Saviour Choir Michele Baker, Mackenzie Brown, Laurel Bullock, Janey Cutting, Juli Kennedy, John Musselman, Santo Ragno, Kim Sirean, Phyllis Scorcia, Cheryl Townsend, Sherry Xiao, Charlie Youngblood

> Usher Russ Case

Altar Guild Phyllis Scorcia, Peggy O'Leary, Connie Bucey, Carrie Voris, Vera Hoalim

> Audio/Video Jay Hu, Hannah Riley

Chaplain to the Preschool The Rev. Anne Thornberg

Associate for Congregational Life Hannah Riley

Eucharistic Ministers Coordinator Joanna Cory

> Acolyte Wranglers Charity Xia and Hannah Riley

Welcome Coordinator
Charlotte Van Fleet

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The Rev. Jeff Thornberg, Rector www.COSEpiscopal.org



We are better because you choose to spend time among us...