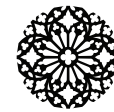


Ash Wednesday  
14 February 2024



The Cathedral  
Church of **Saint John**  
**the Divine**

The Imposition of Ashes

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### THE HOLY EUCHARIST & IMPOSITION OF ASHES

**12:15 PM**

The Reverend Canon Eva Suarez, *Celebrant & Preacher*  
The Cathedral Choir

**7:30 PM**

The Reverend Canon Steven Lee, *Celebrant*  
The Reverend Canon Patrick Malloy, *Preacher*  
*XI Dean, Cathedral Church of Saint John the Divine*  
The Cathedral Choir & Chorale

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*The Procession enters in silence. All stand, as able.*

### THE SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Presider* ✠ Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;

*People* God's mercy endures for ever.

*Presider* Let us pray.

*The Presider prays the collect and the People respond, "Amen." The People are seated.*

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### A READING FROM THE BOOK OF THE PROPHET JOEL

*(2:1-2, 12-17)*

*After the reading is said:*

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

*An extended period of silence is kept.*

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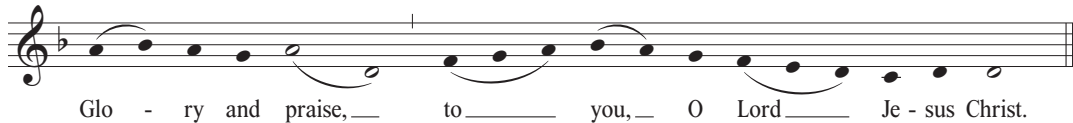
### PSALM 103:8-14

*Sung by the Choir.*

*Benedic, anima mea*

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.

Chant: H. Walford Davies (1869-1941)

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION***Sung by All, standing as able.*

Music: from *Kyrie Orbis Factor*,  
adapted by David Hurd (b. 1950)

**A READING FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL OF MATTHEW**

(6:1-6, 16-21)

*Presider* The ✝ Holy Gospel of our  
Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

*The Preacher reads the gospel, followed by the words:*

*Presider* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* Praise to you, O Christ.

**THE SERMON**

*An extended period of silence is kept.*

**EXHORTATION TO A HOLY LENT**

*The Presider speaks of the history of Lent and encourages the people to zealously undertake their observance of the season.*

**THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES**

*The Presider then says the following prayer*

**A**Lmighty 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.

*People* Amen.

*The People are invited to come forward.*

*As the Ashes are imposed, the following is said*

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

**PSALM DURING THE IMPOSITION***Sung by the Choir.**Miserere mei, Deus*

William Byrd (1540-1623)

**M**ISERERE mei, Deus,  
secundum magnam misericordiam tuam:  
et secundum multitudinem miserationum tuarum  
dele iniquitatem meam.

*Have mercy on me, O God,  
according to your loving-kindness;  
in your great compassion  
blot out my offenses.*

Psalm 51:1

## HYMN

*Sung by All.*

1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy like the wide-ness of the sea;  
 2 There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heaven;  
 3 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sure of the mind;

there's a kind-ness in his jus - tice, which is more than li - ber - ty.  
 there is no place where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment given.  
 and the heart of the e - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.

There is wel - come for the sin - ner, and more gra - ces for the good;  
 There is plen - ti - ful re - demp - tion in the blood that has been shed;  
 If our love were but more faith - ful, we should take him at his word;

there is mer - cy with the Sa - vior; there is heal - ing in his blood.  
 there is joy for all the mem - bers in the sor - rows of the Head.  
 and our life would be thanks - giv - ing for the good-ness of the Lord.

Words: Frederick William Faber (1814-1863), alt.

Music: Beecher, John Zundel (1815-1882), alt.

## THE LITANY OF PENITENCE

*Standing as able, the Presider and People pray together*

Hear the words of our Savior as recorded in the Gospel  
According to Mark:

**T**HE first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.” (12:29–31)

In silence, let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*An extended period of silence is kept.*

*Standing as able, the Presider and People pray together*

**M**OST 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.

*Then the Presider and People pray responsively*

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.*

*Then, facing the People, the Presider says*

**A**LMIGHTY 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.

*People Amen.*

## THE PEACE

*Presider* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* And also with you.



*A collection is taken. The People may place  
their offerings in the basket as it is passed  
or use the QR code.*



The Presider prays in the name of the assembly. In the course of the Eucharistic Prayer, these acclamations are sung.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
 hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
 Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
 Christ has died, Christ is ris - en, Christ will come a - gain.  
 A - men, a - men, a - men.

Music: David Hurd

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Presider* And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say

*Presider and People*

**O**UR 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 Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. Silence is kept. Then is sung

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us.  
 Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us.  
 Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Music: from *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950)

The Presider invites the People to Holy Communion. As the ministers receive the Sacrament, the People come forward.

## THE COMMUNION

The Holy Communion is distributed under the forms of both Bread and Wine. In the interest of public health, the Cathedral does not practice intinction, that is, the dipping of the Bread into the Wine. It is the faith of the Church that Jesus gives himself in the Sacrament whether it is received in only one kind or both. Gluten-free Wafers are available; please make your need known to the minister.

## ANTHEM

A Prayer

Ken Burton (b. 1970)

## POST COMMUNION HYMN

1. From ash - es to the liv - ing font your Church must jour - ney, Lord,  
 2. Through fast - ing, prayer, and char - i - ty your voice speaks deep with - in,  
 3. You call us to be pen - i - tent, you tend us pa - tient - ly,  
 4. From ash - es to the liv - ing font, your Church must jour - ney still,

Bap - tized in grace, in grace re - newed by your most ho - ly word.  
 Re - turn - ing us to ways of truth and turn - ing us from sin.  
 Pre - serv - ing us from per - ish - ing, so fruit - ful we might be.  
 Through cross and tomb to Eas - ter joy, in Spir - it - fire ful - filled.

Words: Alan J. Hommerding, © 1994 World Library Publications

Music: *St. Flavian, Day's Psalter*, 1562.

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

*Presider* Let us pray.

*All say together.*

**E**TERNAL 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.

**THE SOLEMN PRAYER**

*Deacon* Bow down before the Lord.

*The Presider then says*

**G**RANT, most merciful God, to your faithful people  
 pardon and peace, that they may be cleansed from all  
 their sins, and serve you with a quiet mind; through  
 our Savior Jesus Christ.

*People* Amen.

**THE DISMISSAL**

*Priest* Let us bless the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

**CLOSING VOLUNTARY**

*Elegy* William Grant Still (1895-1978)



*The People depart in peace.*

