

St George's-in-the-Pines Church

February 17 2010



The Solemn Liturgy of

Ash Wednesday

INTROIT

(The Lent Prose is sung in Procession)

¶*Stand*

ATTENDE DOMINE

Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us: for we have sinned against thee.

To thee, Redeemer, on thy throne of glory: lift we our weeping eyes in holy pleadings: listen, O Jesu, to our supplications.

Refrain

O thou chief Cornerstone, Right Hand of the Father: Way of Salvation, Gate of Life Celestial: cleanse thou our sinful souls from all defilement.

Refrain

God, we implore thee, in thy glory seated: bow down and hearken to thy weeping children: pity and pardon all our grievous trespasses.

Refrain

Sins oft committed now we lay before thee: with true contrition, now no more we veil them: grant us, Redeemer, loving absolution.

Refrain

Innocent, captive, taken unresisting: falsely accused, and for us sinners sentenced, save us, we pray thee, Jesu our Redeemer.

Refrain

Words 10th Century Mozarabic
The English Hymnal (1906)

Music Plainsong Mode V

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

¶*Kneel or Sit*

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

FINAL RESPONSORY

¶*Stand*

Celebrant: He shall give his angels charge over thee,
People: To keep thee in all thy ways

Celebrant: Behold now is the accepted time;
People: Behold now is the day of salvation.

Celebrant: Let us therefore approve ourselves as the servants of God
People: In much patience, in watchings, in fastings, and by love unfeigned.

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honour all people; love and serve the LORD, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

May the God of mercy transform you by his grace, and may the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you for ever. Amen.

¶*All depart in silence.*

HYMN

O kind Creator, bow Thine ear
To mark the cry, to know the tear
Before Thy throne of mercy spent
In this Thy holy fast of Lent.

Our hearts are open, LORD, to Thee;
Thou knowest our infirmity;
Pour out on all who seek Thy face
Abundance of Thy pardoning grace.

Our sins are many, this we know;
Spare us, good LORD, Thy mercy show;
And for the honour of Thy Name
Our fainting souls to life reclaim.

Give us the self-control that springs
From discipline of outward things,
That fasting inward secretly
The soul may purely dwell with Thee.

We pray Thee, HOLY TRINITY,
One GOD, unchanging UNITY,
That we from this our abstinence
May reap the fruits of penitence. Amen.

Words *St. Gregory the Great*
(6th Century)
Tr. Canon T. A. Lacey (1906)

Tune *BABYLON'S STREAMS*
by *Thomas Campion (1567–1620)*

SALUTATION

¶*Remain Standing*

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: And with thy Spirit.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

¶*Silent Prayers*

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty and everlasting God, who hatest nothing that thou hast made and dost forgive the sins of all those 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 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, for ever and ever. Amen.

FIRST LESSON

¶*Sit*

The First Lesson is written in second chapter of the Book of Joel beginning at the first verse.

Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of the LORD cometh, for it is nigh at hand; a day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness, as the morning spread upon the mountains: a great people and a strong; there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, even to the years of many generations. Therefore also now, saith the LORD, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: and rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the LORD your God: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil. Who knoweth if he will return and repent, and leave a blessing behind him; even a meat offering and a drink offering unto 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, and those that suck the breasts: let the bridegroom go forth of his chamber, and the bride out of her closet. Let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, 'Spare thy people, O LORD, and give not thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them: wherefore should they say among the people, "Where is their God?"'

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

whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People: Therefore, let us keep the feast.

All Sing:

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Celebrant: Behold the Lamb of God:
Behold him that taketh away the sins of the world.

¶*The celebrant and people then receive communion. The communicant responds each time, Amen. All baptized persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Some may wish to receive a blessing instead. Cross your hands over your chest to indicate this. Please assist the chalice bearer by grasping the cup at the base and guiding it to your lips.*

Celebrant:

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 the 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 the holy Communion may be fulfilled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; through Jesus Christ our LORD, by whom and with

PSALM CIII

¶*Chanted by the Cantor*

The LORD is full of compassion and mercy
long-suffering, and of great goodness.
He will not always be chiding
neither keepeth he his anger for ever.
He hath not dealt with us after our sins
nor rewarded us according to our wickednesses.
For look how high the heaven is in comparison of the earth
so great is his mercy also toward them that fear him.
Look how wide also the east is from the west
so far hath he set our sins from us.
Yea, like as a father pitieth his own children
even so is the Lord merciful unto them that fear him.
For he knoweth whereof we are made
he remembereth that we are but dust.
The days of man are but as grass
for he flourisheth as a flower of the field.
For as soon as the wind goeth over it, it is gone
and the place thereof shall know it no more.
But the merciful goodness of the LORD endureth for ever and ever
upon them that fear him
and his righteousness upon children's children;
Even upon such as keep his covenant
and think upon his commandments to do them.

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.

Words King David

Music Plainsong Mode VIII

SECOND LESSON

The Second Lesson is written in the fifth chapter of the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians, beginning at the twentieth verse.

We pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God. For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him. We then, as workers together with him, beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain. (For he saith, 'I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee': behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.) Giving no offence in any thing, that the ministry be not blamed: but in all things approving ourselves as the ministers of God, in much patience, in afflictions, in necessities, in distresses, in stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labours, in watchings, in fastings; by pureness, by knowledge, by long suffering, by kindness, by the Holy Ghost, by love unfeigned, by the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armour of righteousness on the right hand and on the left, by honour and dishonour, by evil report and good report: as deceivers, and yet true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and, behold, we live; as chastened, and not killed; as sorrowful, yet alway rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things.

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

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant: The LORD be with you.
People: And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up unto the LORD.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks unto our LORD God.
People: It is meet and right so to do.

Celebrant:

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 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 singing:

All:

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

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

¶*Kneel or Sit*

THE OFFERTORY

¶*Remain Standing*

SENTENCE

I beseech you, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.
Romans 12.1

HYMN

Turn back, O man, forswear thy foolish ways.
Old now is earth, and none may count her days,
Yet thou, her child, whose head is crowned with flame,
Still wilt not hear thine inner GOD proclaim,
'Turn back, O man, forswear thy foolish ways.'

Earth might be fair, and all men glad and wise.
Age after age their tragic empires rise,
Built while they dream, and in that dreaming weep:
Would man but wake from out his haunted sleep,
Earth might be fair, and all men glad and wise.

Earth shall be fair, and all her people one:
Nor till that hour shall GOD'S whole will be done.
Now, even now, once more from earth to sky
Peals forth in joy man's old, undaunted cry,
'Earth shall be fair, and all her folk be one!'

Words *Clifford Bax, 1919*

Tune OLD 124TH
Melody Genevan Psalter, 1551

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 liveth and reigneth with thee now and for ever. Amen.

GRADUAL

¶*Stand*

O for a closer walk with GOD,
A calm and heavenly frame,
A light to shine upon the road
That leads me to the Lamb!

Where is the blessedness I knew
When first I saw the LORD?
Where is the soul refreshing view
Of Jesus and his word?

Return, O holy Dove, return,
Sweet messenger of rest;
I hate the sins that made thee mourn,
And drove thee from my breast.

The dearest idol I have known,
Whate'er that idol be,
Help me to tear it from thy throne,
And worship only thee.

So shall my walk be close with GOD,
Calm and serene my frame;
So purer light shall mark the road
That leads me to the Lamb.

Words *William Cowper*
(1731–1800)

Tune CAITHNESS
Melody Scottish Psalter, 1635
Harm. The English Hymnal, 1906

HOLY GOSPEL

¶*Stand*

Gospeller: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Gospeller: The Holy Gospel is written in the sixth chapter of the Gospel according to Saint Matthew, beginning at the first verse.

People: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

‘Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them: otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven. Therefore when thou doest thine alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory of men. Verily I say unto you, they have their reward. But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth: that thine alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly. And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, they have their reward. But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly. Moreover when ye fast, be not, as the hypocrites, of a sad countenance: for they disfigure their faces, that they may appear unto men to fast. Verily I say unto you, they have their reward. But thou, when thou fastest, anoint thine head, and wash thy face; that thou appear not unto men to fast, but unto thy Father which is in secret: and thy Father, which seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly. Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.’

Gospeller: The Gospel of Christ.

People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

CONFESSION OF SIN

¶*Kneel*

All:

Turn thou us, O good LORD, and so shall we be turned. Be favourable, O LORD, be favourable to thy people. Who turn to thee in weeping, fasting and praying. For thou art a merciful God, full of compassion, long-suffering and of great pity. Thou sparest when we deserve punishment and in thy wrath thinkest upon mercy. Spare thy people, good LORD, spare them, and let not thine heritage be brought to confusion. Hear us, O LORD, for thy mercy is great. And after the multitude of thy mercies look upon us; Through the merits and mediation of thy blessed Son, Jesus Christ our LORD. Amen.

Celebrant:

Almighty God, the Father of our LORD Jesus Christ, who desireth not the death of a sinner, but rather that he may turn from his wickedness and live, hath given power, and commandment, to his Ministers, to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the Absolution and Remission of their sins. He pardoneth and absolveth all those who truly repent, and unfeignedly believe his holy Gospel.

Wherefore let us beseech him to grant us true repentance, and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him which we do at this present; 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 PEACE

¶*Stand*

Celebrant: The peace of the LORD be always with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Behold, I was shapen in wickedness
 and in sin hath my mother conceived me.
 But lo, thou requirest truth in the inward parts
 and shalt make me to understand wisdom secretly.
 Thou shalt purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean
 thou shalt wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
 Thou shalt make me hear of joy and gladness
 that the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice.
 Turn thy face from my sins
 and put out all my misdeeds.
 Make me a clean heart, O God
 and renew a right spirit within me.
 Cast me not away from thy presence
 and take not thy holy Spirit from me.
 O give me the comfort of thy help again
 and stablish me with thy free Spirit.
 Then shall I teach thy ways unto the wicked
 and sinners shall be converted unto thee.
 Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God, thou that art the God of
 my health
 and my tongue shall sing of thy righteousness.
 Thou shalt open my lips, O LORD
 and my mouth shall shew thy praise.
 For thou desirest no sacrifice, else would I give it thee
 but thou delightest not in burnt-offerings.
 The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit
 a broken and contrite heart, O God, shalt thou not despise.
 O be favourable and gracious unto Sion
 build thou the walls of Jerusalem.

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.

Words *King David*

Music *Plainsong*

THE INVITATION

¶*Remain Standing*

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 Saviour, and of the need which all Christians continually have to renew their repentance and faith.

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 the observance of a holy Lent, by self examination and repentance, by prayer, fasting and alms-giving; 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 Creator and Redeemer.

¶*Kneel*

Celebrant: O LORD, save thy servants;
People: That put their trust in thee.

Celebrant: Send unto them help from above,
People: And evermore mightily defend them.

Celebrant: Help us, O God our Saviour.
People: And for the glory of thy Name deliver us; deliver us;
be merciful to us sinners, for thy Name's sake.

Celebrant: O LORD, hear our prayer.
People: And let our cry come unto thee.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O LORD, we beseech thee, mercifully hear our prayers and spare all those who confess their sins unto thee; that they, whose consciences by sin are accused, by thy merciful pardon may be absolved; through Christ our LORD. Amen.

O most mighty God, and merciful Father, who hast compassion upon all people, and who wouldest not the death of a sinner, but rather that he should turn from his sin, and be saved: Mercifully forgive us our trespasses; receive and comfort us, who are grieved and wearied with the burden of our sins. Thy property is always to have mercy; to thee only it appertaineth to forgive sins. Spare us therefore, good LORD, spare thy people, whom thou hast redeemed; enter not into judgment with thy servants; but so turn thine anger from us, who meekly acknowledge our transgressions, and truly repent us of our faults, and so make haste to help us in this world, that we may ever live with thee in the world to come; through Jesus Christ our LORD. Amen.

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Almighty and everlasting God, we beseech thee to spare them that are penitent, and to be favourable to them that call upon thee. Vouchsafe, we pray thee, to send thy holy Angel from heaven to bless and sanctify these ashes, that they may be a wholesome medicine to all them that humbly call upon thy holy Name, who in their consciences by sin are accused, who in the sight of thy heavenly mercy bewail their sins, and earnestly and meekly implore thy gracious loving-kindness. And we beseech thee to grant to all them that call upon thy holy Name, that being sprinkled with these ashes for the remission of their sins, they may be preserved evermore both in body and soul. Through Christ our LORD. Amen.

*¶Those who desire to receive ashes come forward,
and the ashes are applied to the forehead of each
with these words:*

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

PENITENTIAL PSALM

¶Chanted by the Cantor

Have mercy upon me, O God, after thy great goodness
according to the multitude of thy mercies do away mine offences.
Wash me thoroughly 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 this evil in thy sight
that thou mightest be justified in thy saying, and clear when thou
art judged.