Holy Trinity Headington Quarry

Ash Wednesday

Sung Eucharist with Imposition of

Ashes



The Gathering

'The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit: a broken and contrite heart you will not despise'

Psalm 51: 7

Please stand. A hymn may be sung.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Greeting

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you and also with you.

Introduction

The President explains the meaning of Lent and invites the people to observe it faithfully

Brothers and sisters in Christ, since early days Christians have observed with great devotion the time of our Lord's passion and resurrection and prepared for this by a season of penitence and fasting. By carefully keeping these days, Christians take to heart the call to repentance and the assurance of forgiveness proclaimed in the Gospel, and so grow in faith and in devotion to our Lord.

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.

The Trisagion is sung three times



The Collect

Let us pray for grace to keep Lent faithfully.

Silence is kept.

Holy God,
Our lives are laid open before you.
rescue us from the chaos of sin
and through the death of your Son
bring us healing and make us whole
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

Please sit

Old Testament 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?

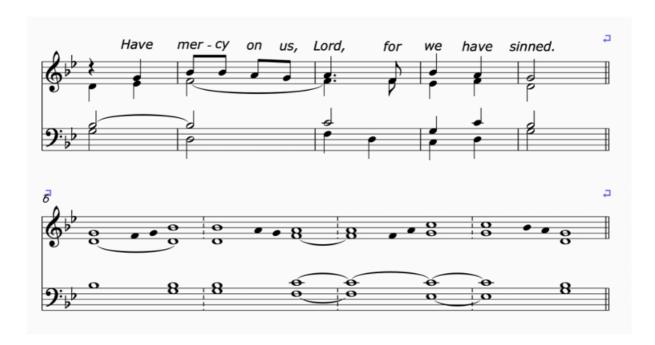
Blow the trumpet in Zion;
sanctify a fast;
call a solemn assembly;
gather the people.
Sanctify the congregation;
assemble the aged;
gather the children,
even infants at the breast.
Let the bridegroom leave his room,
and the bride her canopy.

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?" '

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 51



Psalm 51

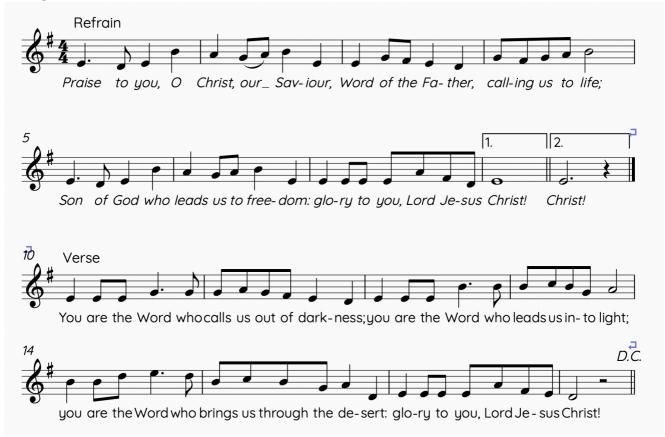
Have mercy on us, Lord, for we have sinned.

- Have mercy upon me, O God, in | your great love, In your compassion blot out | my offences: Wash me throughly | from my guilt, And cleanse me | from my sin. R
- To you I con | fess my faults, For they ever stare me | in the face: Against you it is that | I have sinned, And done evil | in your sight. R
- Make me a clean | heart, O God, And renew a right spir | it within me: Cast me not out | of your sight, Nor take your holy | spirit from me. R
- 4 Uphold me | with your might, And strengthen me with | perseverance: Open my | lips, O Lord, And my mouth shall de | clare your praise. R

Gospel reading: Matthew 6.1-6, 16-21

Please stand for the gospel reading.

Gospel Acclamation



Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew **Glory to you, O Lord.**

'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 not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ**

Sermon

Please sit.

The Liturgy of Penitence

Self-examination and Confession

Let us now call to mind our sin and the infinite mercy of God.

All sit or kneel

God the Father, have mercy on us.

God the Son, have mercy on us.

God the Holy Spirit, have mercy on us.

Trinity of love, have mercy on us.

Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed.

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.
Lord, have mercy.

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. Lord, have mercy.

We confess to you, Lord ... all our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy and impatience of our lives. Lord, have mercy.

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people. **Lord, have mercy.**

Our anger at our own frustration and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves. **Lord, have mercy.**

Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts and our dishonesty in daily life and work. **Lord, have mercy.**

Our negligence in prayer and worship and our failure to commend the faith that is in us. **Lord, have mercy.**

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 towards our neighbours and for our prejudice and contempt towards 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. Favourably hear us, for your mercy is great.

Accomplish in us the work of your salvation, that we may show 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.

Silence is kept.

We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy
forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly,
love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

The Imposition of Ashes

Dear friends in Christ,

I invite you to receive these ashes as a sign of the spirit of penitence with which we shall keep this season of Lent.

God our Father,
you create us from the dust of the earth.
grant that these ashes may be for us
a sign of our penitence
and a symbol of our mortality;
for it is by your grace alone
that we receive eternal life
in Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Amen.

The president and people receive the imposition of ashes, the president first receiving the imposition from another minister.

At the imposition the minister says

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return. Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel.

Silence is kept.

The Absolution

The Lord enrich you with his grace, and nourish you with his blessing; the Lord defend you in trouble and keep you from all evil; the Lord accept your prayers, and absolve you from your offences, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Saviour.

Amen.

The Peace

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us access to his grace.
The peace of the Lord be always with you and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Preparation of the Table

A hymn is sung

Taking of the Bread and Wine

The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.

Risen Lord and Saviour, present among us with the wealth of your love. Cleanse us from sin and give us the faith to offer our praise and grow in your grace. **Amen.**

Please remain standing or sit or kneel

Eucharistic Prayer E

The Lord be with you and also with you.

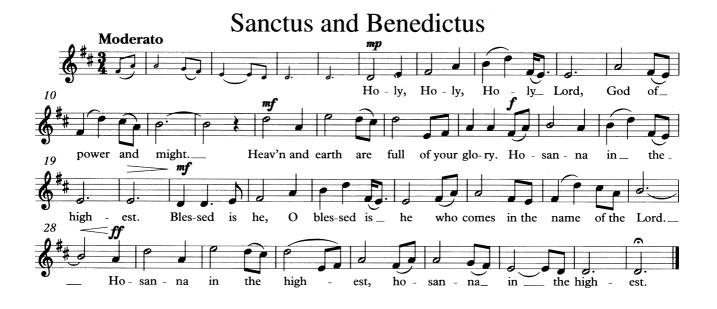
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise, almighty God and everlasting Father, through Jesus Christ your Son. For in these forty days you lead us into the desert of repentance that through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline we may grow in grace and learn to be your people once again. Through fasting, prayer and acts of service you bring us back to your generous heart.

Through study of your holy word you open our eyes to your presence in the world and free our hands to welcome others into the radiant splendour of your love. As we prepare to celebrate the Easter feast with joyful hearts and minds we bless you for your mercy and join with saints and angels for ever praising you and singing:



We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you. He broke the bread, gave it to them and said: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.

Again he praised you, 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.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,

in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice

made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus: **Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life: Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.
Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with blessed Mary, John the Baptist and all the saints to
feast at your table in heaven.
Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever.

Amen

The Lord's Prayer

Please sit or kneel

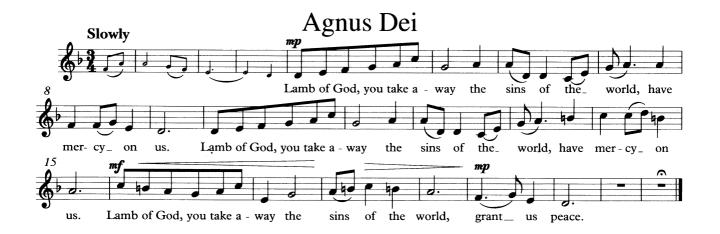
Lord Jesus, remember us in your Kingdom and teach us to pray.

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup.

We proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



Giving of Communion

Draw near with faith.

Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you.

Eat and drink in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

The president and people receive communion. If you would prefer a blessing, please do come forward too.

During the distribution of communion, the choir sings an anthem.

Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept.

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us both a sacrifice for sin and also an example of godly life. give us grace that we may always most thankfully receive these his inestimable gifts, and also daily endeavour to follow the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

God of our pilgrimage, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Refresh and sustain us as we go forward on our journey, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Sending Out

Please stand. A hymn is sung.

The Blessing

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. In the name of Christ. Amen.

Organ Voluntary

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