



SAINT JOHN'S
CATHEDRAL
EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF FLORIDA

Ash Wednesday Imposition of Ashes

February 22, 2023 | 7 a.m., 12 p.m. & 7 p.m.



ASH WEDNESDAY IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Introit (7 p.m.)

Motet

Hide Not Thou Thy Face
Richard Farrant

Hide not Thou Thy face from us, O Lord, and cast not off Thy servants in Thy displeasure; for we confess our sins unto Thee, and hide not our unrighteousness. For Thy mercy's sake deliver us from all our sins.

THE WORD OF GOD

The People stand as the Ministers of the service enter.

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People His mercy endures for ever.

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant

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.**

Hymn 143 (12 & 7 p.m.)

Erhalt uns, Herr

The People are seated.

The Lesson

Joel 2:1-2,12-17

Reader A Reading from the Book of Joel.

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?’”

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

A period of silence for reflection follows the reading.

The psalm is said in unison.

Psalm 103:8-14

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.

A period of silence for reflection follows the reading.

Anthem (7 p.m.)

Sicut cervus
G. P. da Palestrina

As the hart longs for the water brook, so yearns my soul for you, O God.

The Gospel

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Reader 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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Meditation

The Rev. Mark Anderson

A period of silence for reflection follows the meditation.

The People stand.

Invitation to a Holy Lent

The Celebrant says

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 kept for a time, all kneeling as able.

The Prayer Over the Ashes

The Celebrant then says

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.**

Imposition of Ashes

All are invited forward to receive the imposition of ashes. The ashes are imposed with the following words:

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

After receiving ashes, you are invited to receive prayers in our chapel to the left of the altar.

The Choir sings Psalm 51 during the Imposition of Ashes. (7 p.m.)

The Litany of Penitence

The Celebrant and People say together, all kneeling

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.

The Celebrant continues

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 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 Blessing

The Celebrant says the blessing.

Hymn 149 (12 & 7 p.m.)

Old 124th

The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

The People remain standing as the Ministers of the Service depart.

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