

† Worship Aid: Ash Wednesday †

NOTE: Please take this Newsletter home

Opening: In These Days of Lenten Journey

Refrain: In these days of Lenten journey we have seen and we have heard the call to sow justice in the lives of those we serve.

1. We reach out to those who are homeless, to those who live without warmth. In the coolness of evening we'll shelter their dreams; we will clothe them in mercy and peace. **Refrain**

2. We open our eyes to the hungry and see the faces of Christ. As we nourish all people who hunger for food, may their faith in our God be renewed. **Refrain**

3. We open our ears to the weary and hear the cry of the poor. To the voices that echo the song of despair, we will show our compassion and care. **Refrain**

Kyrie

Cantor: Kyrie Eleison **All: Kyrie Eleison**

Cantor: Christe Eleison **All: Christe Eleison**

Cantor: Kyrie Eleison **All: Kyrie Eleison**

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Joel:

JI 2:12-18

Even now, says the LORD, return to me with your whole heart, with fasting, and weeping, and mourning; Rend your hearts, not your garments, and return to the LORD, your God. For gracious and merciful is he, slow to anger, rich in kindness, and relenting in punishment. Perhaps he will again relent and leave behind him a blessing, Offerings and libations for the LORD, your God.

Blow the trumpet in Zion! proclaim a fast, call an assembly; Gather the people, notify the congregation; Assemble the elders, gather the children and the infants at the breast; Let the bridegroom quit his room and the bride her chamber. Between the porch and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep, and say, "Spare, O LORD, your people, and make not your heritage a reproach, with the nations ruling over them! Why should they say among the peoples, 'Where is their God?'" Then the LORD was stirred to concern for his land and took pity on his people.

The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God**

Responsorial Psalm: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Have mercy on me, O God, in your goodness; in the greatness of your compassion wipe out my offense. Thoroughly wash me from my guilt and of my sin cleanse me.

R. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

For I acknowledge my offense, and my sin is before me always: "Against you only have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight."

R. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

A clean heart create for me, O God, and a steadfast spirit new within me. Cast me not out from your presence, and your Holy Spirit take not from me.

R. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Give me back the joy of your salvation, and a willing spirit sustain in me. O Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

R. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

A reading from the second Letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

2 Cor 5:20—6:2

Brothers and sisters:

We are ambassadors for Christ, as if God were appealing through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who did not know sin, so that we might become the righteousness of God in him.

Working together, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. For he says: In an acceptable time I heard you, and on the day of salvation I helped you.

Behold, now is a very acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation.

The Word of the Lord **All: Thanks be to God**

Lenten Gospel Acclamation

Cantor, then **All** repeat: **Glory to you, O Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ.**

One does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God. **R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

The Lord be with you: **All: And with your spirit**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew:
All: Glory to you, O Lord

Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Jesus said to his disciples:

"Take care not to perform righteous deeds in order that people may see them; otherwise, you will have no recompense from your heavenly Father. When you give alms, do not blow a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets to win the praise of others. Amen, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right is doing, so that your almsgiving may be secret. And your Father who sees in secret will repay you.

"When you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, who love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on street corners so that others may see them. Amen, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you pray, go to your inner room, close the door, and pray to your Father in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will repay you.

"When you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites. They neglect their appearance, so that they may appear to others to be fasting. Amen, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, so that you may not appear to be fasting, except to your Father who is hidden. And your Father who sees what is hidden will repay you."

The Gospel of the Lord

ALL: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Homily

Hymn During Distribution of Ashes: Ashes

1. We rise again from ashes, from the good we've failed to do. We rise again from ashes, redeemed, O Lord, by you. our penance, lord, our sorrow, our grieving hearts renew, an offering of ashes, an offering to you

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2. We offer you our failures, we offer you attempts, the gifts not fully given, the dreams not fully dreamt. Our stumblings, give direction, our visions wider view, an offering of ashes, an offering to you

3. Then raise us up from ashes, your healing ease our pain. Though spring has turned to winter, and sunshine turned to rain, your rain will nurture growing, and create our world anew an offering of ashes, an offering to you.

4. Give thanks to God the Father, who gave us life and breath. Give thanks to Christ our Saviour who saved us by his death, who, with the Holy Spirit, creates the world anew from an offering of ashes, an offering to you.

Nicene Creed: I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

(all bow your heads for the next two lines)
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen

Prayers of the Faithful

Preparation of Gifts: O God, You Search Me

1. O', God, you search me, and you know me
All my thoughts lie open to your gaze
When I walk or lie down, you are before me
'Ever the maker and keeper of my days

2. You know my resting and my rising
You discern my purpose from afar
And with love everlasting, you besiege me
In ev'ry moment of life or death, you are

3. Before a word is on my tongue, Lord
You have known its meaning through and through
You are with me beyond my understanding
God of my present, my past and future, too

Holy

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest.

Mystery of Faith

We proclaim your death O Lord, and profess your Resurrection, until you come again.

Amen

Our Father

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.

Lamb of God

Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world have mercy, have mercy on us

Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world have mercy, have mercy on us

Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world
Grant us, grant us peace

The Prayer of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart, and allow me to unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Communion Hymn: Loving and Forgiving

Refrain: Loving and forgiving are you, O Lord
Slow to anger, rich in kindness,
Loving and forgiving are You

1. All my being, bless the Lord; Bless the holy name of God
All my being, bless the Lord;

Remembering the goodness of God. **Refrain**

2. God forgives us all our sins, healing those who live in pain. Saving us from final death God fills us with goodness and love. **Refrain**

3. Good and gracious is the Lord. Slow to anger, rich in love. God remembers not our sins. Forgiving and loving is God **Refrain**

4. As heaven soars above the earth so great the love for God for us. As far as east is from the west the Lord takes our sins from us. **Refrain**

Meditation Hymn: Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling

1. Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,
calling for you and for me;
see, on the portals he's waiting and watching,
watching for you and for me.

Refrain: Come home, come home;
you who are weary come home;
earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,
calling for you to come home!

2 Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading,
pleading for you and for me?
Why should we linger and heed not his mercies,
mercies for you and for me? **Refrain**

3 O for the wonderful love he has promised,
promised for you and for me!

Though we have sinned, he has mercy and pardon,
pardon for you and for me. **Refrain**

No Closing Hymn: Solemn Dismissal

During the weeks of Lent, we do not have a closing hymn, instead opting for a solemn dismissal. Please leave quietly after you have seen Father Tom clear the worship space. If you must talk, please be respectful of those who wish to stay and pray and whisper.

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