

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church
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Ash Wednesday, February 17, 2021

12:00 Noon & 7:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist II & Self-Imposed Imposition of Ashes

Rev. Richard Signore, Celebrant & Preacher

* Collect *said in unison*

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.*

First Reading

Reader A reading from the book of Isaiah

Thus says the high and lofty one
who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy:
Shout out, do not hold back!
Lift up your voice like a trumpet!
Announce to my people their rebellion,
to the house of Jacob their sins.
Yet day after day they seek me
and delight to know my ways,
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;
they ask of me righteous judgments,
they delight to draw near to God.
"Why do we fast, but you do not see?
Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?"
Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day,
and oppress all your workers.
Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight
and to strike with a wicked fist.
Such fasting as you do today
will not make your voice heard on high.
Is such the fast that I choose,
a day to humble oneself?
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush,
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?
Will you call this a fast,
a day acceptable to the LORD?
Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the thongs of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?
Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them,
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?
Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up quickly;
your vindicator shall go before you,

the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.
Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.
If you remove the yoke from among you,
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,
if you offer your food to the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness
and your gloom be like the noonday.
The LORD will guide you continually,
and satisfy your needs in parched places,
and make your bones strong;
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water,
whose waters never fail.
Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to live in.

Isaiah 58:1-12

Reader The Word of the Lord **People Thanks be to God**

Psalm 103: 8- 14 (*said in unison*) **Page 733**

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.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ

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."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord **People: Praise to you Lord Christ**

Homily

Rev. Richard Signore

Invitation to a Holy Lent

BCP, p. 264

Blessing & Self-Imposed Imposition of Ashes

BCP, p. 266

Psalm 51 (*Said by all*)

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

**Wash me through and through from my wickedness *
and cleanse me from my sin.**

**For I know my transgressions, *
and my sin is ever before me.**

**Against you only have I sinned *
and done what is evil in your sight.**

**And so you are justified when you speak *
and upright in your judgment**

**Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, *
a sinner from my mother's womb.**

**For behold, you look for truth deep within me, *
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.**

**Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; *
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.**

**Make me hear of joy and gladness, *
that the body you have broken may rejoice.**

**Hide your face from my sins *
and blot out all my iniquities.**

**Create in me a clean heart, O God, *
and renew a right spirit within me.**

**Cast me not away from your presence *
and take not your holy Spirit from me.**

**Give me the joy of your saving help again *
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**

**I shall teach your ways to the wicked, *
and sinners shall return to you.**

**Deliver me from death, O God, *
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness,
O God of my salvation.**

**Open my lips, O Lord, *
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

**Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice; *
but you take no delight in burnt-offerings.**

**The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit; *
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.**

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.

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.

The Liturgy of the Table

* Great Thanksgiving, Prayer A

BCP, p. 361

Sanctus (*said by all*)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, 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.**

The Lord's Prayer

Prayer Book, p. 364

Fraction Anthem (*said by all*)

Setting: Gerald R. Near

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; therefore, let us keep the feast.

Communion

Prayer (*said by those at home*) *My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen. (St. Alphonsus de Liguori, 1696-1787)*

The Post Communion Prayer (*Said by all worshiping in person*)

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son and 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.

Blessing

Dismissal Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Recessional Hymn #143

Words: Maruice F. Bell; Music: Erhalt uns Herr

The glory of these forty days we celebrate with songs of praise; for Christ, through whom all things were made, himself has fasted and has prayed.

Alone and fasting Moses saw the loving God who gave the law; and to Elijah, fasting, came the steeds and chariots of flame.