

Choral Eucharist

with the Imposition of Ashes



Ash Wednesday

5 March 2025 • 7pm



St. George's Cathedral, Kingston

Mass Setting: *Russian Mass, Larkin*

Please stand as the Choir and Clergy enter the Cathedral.

Introit: The Lent Prose



- V** To thee, Redeemer, on thy throne of glory: lift we our weeping eyes in holy pleadings: listen, O Jesu, to our supplications.
- R:** **Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us: for we have sinned against thee.**
- V** O thou chief Corner-stone, Right Hand of the Father: Way of Salvation, Gate of Life Celestial: cleanse thou our sinful souls from all defilement.
- R:** **Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us: for we have sinned against thee.**
- V** God, we implore thee, in thy glory seated: bow down and hearken to thy weeping children: pity and pardon all our grievous trespasses.
- R:** **Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us: for we have sinned against thee.**
- V** Sins oft committed now we lay before thee: with true contrition, now no more we veil them: grant us, Redeemer, loving absolution.
- R:** **Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us: for we have sinned against thee.**
- V** Innocent, captive, taken unresisting: falsely accused, and for us sinners sentenced, save us, we pray thee, Jesu our Redeemer.
- R:** **Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us: for we have sinned against thee.**

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

The community prays in silence; then follows the Collect of the Day.

**Almighty and everlasting God,
you despise 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 brokenness,
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.**

The people are seated.

The Proclamation of the Word

The First Reading

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF THE PROPHET ISAIAH 58:1-12

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 practised righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgements, 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.

Bidding

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

Response

Thanks be to God

Psalm 103 *Benedic, anima mea.*

8 The LORD is full of compassion and gracious, / long-suffering, and of great goodness.

9 He will not alway be chiding; / neither keepeth he his anger for ever.

10 He hath not dealt with us after our sins, / nor rewarded us according to our wickednesses.

11 For look how high the heaven is in comparison of the earth, / so great is his mercy also toward them that fear him.

12 Look how wide also the east is from the west, / so far hath he set our sins from us.

13 Yea, like as a father pitieth his own children, / even so is the LORD merciful unto them that fear him.

14 For he knoweth whereof we are made: / he remembereth that we are but dust.

15 THE days of man are but as grass; / for he flourisheth as a flower of the field.

16 For as soon as the wind goeth over it, it is gone; / and the place thereof shall know it no more.

17 But the merciful goodness of the LORD endureth for ever and ever upon them that fear him, / and his righteousness unto children's children;

18 Even unto such as keep his covenant, / and think upon his commandments to do them.

The Second Reading

A READING FROM THE SECOND LETTER OF PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS 5:20b-6:10

We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made himself to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, "At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you." See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labours, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honour and dishonour, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see - we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Bidding

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

Response

Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn



Forty days and forty nights
thou wast fasting in the wild;
forty days and forty nights
tempted, and yet undefiled:

4 And if Satan, vexing sore,
flesh or spirit should assail,
thou, his vanquisher before,
grant we may not faint nor fail.

2 Sunbeams scorching all the day;
chilly dewdrops nightly shed;
prowling beasts about thy way;
stones thy pillow, earth thy bed.

5 So shall we have peace divine;
holier gladness ours shall be;
round us too shall angels shine,
such as ministered to thee.

3 Shall not we thy sorrows share,
and from earthly joys abstain,
fasting with unceasing prayer,
glad with thee to suffer pain?

6 Keep, O keep us, Saviour dear,
ever constant by thy side;
that with thee we may appear
at the eternal Eastertide.

Heinlein

Martin Herbst, 1654-81

George Hunt Smyttan 1822-70
and Francis Pott 1832-1909

The Holy Gospel:

Bidding The Lord be with you.

Response **And also with you.**

Bidding The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Response **Glory to you, Lord Jesus 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."

Bidding The Gospel of Christ

Response **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

The people are seated at the invitation of the preacher.

The Sermon: The Very Rev. Douglas Michael

The celebrant addresses the congregation, saying:

Dear friends in Christ, every year at the time of the Christian Passover we celebrate our redemption through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Lent is a time to prepare for this celebration and to renew our life in the paschal mystery. We begin this holy season by remembering our need for repentance, and for the mercy and forgiveness proclaimed in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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.

The celebrant continues,

I invite you therefore, in the name of the Lord, to observe a holy Lent by self-examination, penitence, prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, and by reading and meditating on the word of God.

Let us kneel before our Creator and Redeemer.

Psalm 51 *Miserere mei, Deus.*

HAVE mercy upon me, O God, after thy great goodness; / according to the multitude of thy mercies do away mine offences.

2 Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness, / and cleanse me from my sin.

3 For I acknowledge my faults, / and my sin is ever before me.

4 Against thee only have I sinned, and done that which is evil in thy sight; / that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and clear when thou dost judge.

5 Behold, I was brought forth in wickedness, / and in sin hath my mother conceived me.

6 But lo, thou requirest truth in the inward parts, / and shalt make me to understand wisdom secretly.

7 Thou shalt purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; / thou shalt wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

8 Thou shalt make me hear of joy and gladness, / that the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice.

9 Turn thy face from my sins, / and put out all my misdeeds.

10 Make me a clean heart, O God, / and renew a right spirit within me.

11 Cast me not away from thy presence, / and take not thy holy spirit from me.

12 O give me the comfort of thy help again, / and stablish me with a free spirit.

13 Then shall I teach thy ways unto the wicked, / and sinners shall be converted unto thee.

14 Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God, thou that art the God of my salvation; / and my tongue shall sing of thy righteousness.

15 O Lord, open thou my lips, / and my mouth shall show forth thy praise.

16 For thou desirest no sacrifice, else would I give it; / but thou delightest not in burnt offerings.

17 The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit: / a broken and contrite heart, O God, shalt thou not despise.

18 O BE favourable and gracious unto Sion; / build thou the walls of Jerusalem.

19 Then shalt thou be pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness, with the burnt offerings and oblations; / then shall they offer young bullocks upon thine altar.

Litany of Penitence

The celebrant and people say together,

Most holy and merciful Father, we confess to you, 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 neighbours 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 judgements, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbours, 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,
Hear us, Lord, for your mercy is great.

Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us,
Hear us, Lord, for your mercy is great.

Almighty God,
from the dust of the earth you have created us.
May these ashes be for us a sign
of our mortality and penitence,
and a reminder that only by your gracious gift
are we given eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

Those who desire to receive ashes come forward. The ashes are applied to the forehead of each person with the following words:

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

After all who desire ashes have received them, the celebrant leads the congregation in the conclusion of the confession, all kneeling.

Celebrant Accomplish in us, O God, 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, facing the people, says,

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.
Amen.

The Peace

All stand, and the celebrant addresses the people.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

During the hymn, an offering is received to support the mission and ministry of the Cathedral. All are invited to make a gift as the plate is passed, or by visiting www.stgeorgescathedral.ca/give.

Offertory Hymn



Jesu, lover of my soul,
let me to thy bosom fly,
while the nearer waters roll,
while the tempest still is high:
hide me, O my Saviour, hide,
till the storm of life is past;
safe into the haven guide,
O receive my soul at last.

3 Thou, O Christ, art all I want;
more than all in thee I find;
raise the fallen, cheer the faint,
heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Just and holy is thy name,
I am all unrighteousness;
false and full of sin I am,
thou art full of truth and grace.

2 Other refuge have I none,
hangs my helpless soul on thee;
leave, ah, leave me not alone,
still support and comfort me.
All my trust on thee is stayed,
all my help from thee I bring;
cover my defenceless head
with the shadow of thy wing.

4 Plenteous grace with thee is found,
grace to cover all my sin;
let the healing streams abound,
make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art:
freely let me take of thee,
spring thou up within my heart,
rise to all eternity.

Aberystwyth
Joseph Parry 1841-1903

Charles Wesley 1707-88

The Prayer over the Gifts

Celebrant

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 is alive and reigns with you now and for ever.
Amen.

The people stand as able.

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was tempted in every way, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again. Therefore with angels and archangels and all who have served you in every age, we raise our voices to proclaim the glory of your name.

Choir Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus. Dominus Deus Sabaoth. Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis.

Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini. Hosanna in excelsis.

(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.)

The people may stand, sit, or kneel as they are able.

Celebrant We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he 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. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

People Therefore, Father, according to his command,
we remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory;
Celebrant and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

People **Amen**

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
People **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.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant We break this bread,
All **Communion in Christ's body once broken.**
Celebrant Let your Church be the wheat which bears its fruit in dying.
All **If we have died with him, we shall live with him; if we hold firm,
we shall reign with him.**

Agnus Dei

Choir, in latin 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

The Communion

Celebrant The gifts of God for the People of God.
People **Thanks be to God.**

The sacrament is given with the following words.

The body of Christ (given for you).

*The communicant responds each time, **Amen.***

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive communion in this Church. Please move to the rail at the direction of the ushers. You may receive the bread in open and outstretched hands, responding: "Amen." Gluten-free wafers are available; please make your need known to the minister. If you prefer to not receive wine from the common cup, you may simply touch the base of the chalice, again responding: "Amen." Should you wish to receive a blessing, please indicate that to the priest by crossing your arms over your chest.

Motet

Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness, and forgive me all my sin.

For I acknowledge my faults, and my sin is ever before me.

S.S. Wesley 1810-76

Psalm 51 vv2,3

Prayer after Communion

Celebrant All your works praise you, O Lord.

People **And your faithful servants bless you.**

Gracious God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. May we, who share his body, live his risen life; we, who drink his cup, bring life to others; we, whom the Spirit lights, give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so that we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who journey with us. And so make haste to love, and be swift to be kind; And may the God who travels with us, the God of pilgrimage, the God of Hope, bless, care and keep you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and always.
Amen.

Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The people depart in silence.

Celebrant: The Right Rev. William Cliff

Preacher: The Very Rev. Douglas Michael

Deacon: The Rev. Dr. Reagan Gale
Reader: Gabrielle McIntyre
Lay Minister: Derek Falkner & Aveleigh Kyle
Livestream Technician: Derek Falkner

Server: Judith Challis
Intercessor: Sarah Earl
Sidesperson: Jerry Courage

We acknowledge that in Kingston we are situated on traditional Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee territory. We are grateful to be able to live, learn and play on these lands.

