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Archbishop & Metropolitan and the Bishop of the
Diocese of New Westminster: The Most Reverend John Stephens



Ash Wednesday Regional Service

February 18, 2026

Holy Eucharist and the Imposition of Ashes

St Clement's Anglican Church

Welcome to everyone worshipping with us in-person and online today.

The Gathering of the Community

please stand

The Presider greets the community

A Land Acknowledgement for Use at St Clement's

Written by Jenn Ashton, Indigenous Cultural Sensitivity Leader

Led by: The Reverend Helen Dunn

At St. Clement's Church, we appreciate that we currently reside, work, and worship in the ancestral, traditional, and contemporary lands of the Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations.

We recognize, support, advocate for and are grateful to Indigenous individuals and communities who live here now and for those who were forcibly removed from their homelands.

By offering this land acknowledgement, we work to hold ourselves and others more accountable to the needs and rights of Indigenous peoples, here and everywhere.

I, as part of St. Clement's, gratefully and respectfully carry these thoughts today and every day to be reminded of the importance of teaching, culture and contributions of the original caretakers of this land.

Following the ringing of the bell, a moment of silence is kept

Processional Hymn: Lead Us, Heavenly Father, Lead Us Common Praise (CP) 564

Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us
O'er the world's tempestuous sea;
Guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,
For we have no help but thee;
Yet possessing every blessing,
If our God our Father be.

Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us:
All our weakness thou dost know;
Thou didst tread this earth before us,
Thou didst feel its keenest woe;
Lone and dreary, faint and weary,
Through the desert thou didst go.

Spirit of our God, descending,
Fill our hearts with heavenly joy,
Love with every passion blending,
Pleasure that can never cloy:
Thus provided, pardoned, guided,
Nothing can our peace destroy.

Text: James Edmeston (1791-1867)

Music: Melody Friedrich Filitz (1804-1876); adapt. Thomas Binney (1798-1874); harm. Lowell Mason (1792-1872)

Presider The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Presider Almighty and everlasting God, you despise nothing you have made

All 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. Amen.

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah (58: 1-12)

Anne Moir

please sit

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.

Reader Holy Word. Holy Wisdom.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 103 (8-18)

Inclusive Language Psalter. Anglican Church of Canada (2016).

The presider reads the un-bolded verses and the people read the bolded ones

You are full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and of great kindness.

**You will not always accuse us,
nor will you keep your anger for ever.**

You have 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 your mercy great upon those who fear you.**

As far as the east is from the west,
so far have you removed our sins from us.

**As parents care for their children,
so do you, O Lord, care for those who fear you.**

For you yourself know whereof we are made;
you remember that we are but dust.

**Our days are like the grass;
we flourish like a flower of the field;**

when the wind goes over it, it is gone,
and its place shall know it no more.

**But your merciful goodness endures for ever on those who fear you,
and your righteousness on children's children;**

on those who keep the covenant
and remember the commandments and do them.

Glory to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God:
as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen.

A Reading from the Second Letter to the Corinthians (5:20b-6:10)

Mary-Anne Taylor

So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him 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, labors, 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 honor and dishonor, 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.

Reader Holy Word. Holy Wisdom.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn: Forgive Our Sins CP 614

please sit

Forgive our sins as we forgive,
You taught us, Lord, to pray,
But you alone can grant us grace
To live the words we say.

How can your pardon reach and bless
The unforgiving heart,
That broods on wrongs and will not let
Old bitterness depart?

The Gospel

All stand for the Gospel as you are able

Deacon The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (6:1-6; 16-21).

All **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."

Deacon The Gospel of Christ

All **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

The song continues...

In blazing light your cross reveals
The truth we dimly knew:
What trivial debts are owed to us,
How great our debt to you!

Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls,
And bid resentment cease;
Then, bound to all in bonds of love,
Our lives will spread your peace.

Text: Rosamond Eleanor Herklots (1905-1987), alt. © Oxford University Press.

*Music: Melody Supplement to Kentucky Harmony, 1820; harm. Russell Schulz-Widmar (1944-).
Harm. © 1991 Hope Publishing Co.*

Silence for Reflection

Anthem: Somebody's Knockin' at Your Door G 395

*Refrain: Somebody's knockin' at your door,
Somebody's knockin' at your door,
O sinner, why don't you answer?
Somebody's knockin' at your door.*

Knocks like Jesus, Somebody's knockin' at your door.
Knocks like Jesus, Somebody's knockin' at your door.
O sinner, why don't you answer?
Somebody's knockin' at your door. *Refrain*

Can't you hear Him? Somebody's knockin' at your door.
Can't you hear Him? Somebody's knockin' at your door.
O sinner, why don't you answer?
Somebody's knockin' at your door. *Refrain*

Jesus calls you, Somebody's knockin' at your door.
Jesus calls you, Somebody's knockin' at your door.
O sinner, why don't you answer?
Somebody's knockin' at your door. *Refrain*

Can't you trust Him? Somebody's knockin' at your door.
Can't you trust Him? Somebody's knockin' at your door. Text: African- American spiritual.
O sinner, why don't you answer?, Tune: SOMEBODY'S KNOCKIN'
Somebody's knockin' at your door. *Refrain* Irregular; African- American spiritual;
harm. by Richard Proulx, b.1937, ©

Presider 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.

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.

Litany of Penitence

Silence

The presider and people say together, Most holy and merciful God, 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.

Presider 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.

All **Have mercy on us, Lord.**

Presider We have closed our hearts 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.

All **Have mercy on us, Lord.**

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

All **We confess to you, Lord.**

Presider Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people,

All We confess to you, Lord.

Presider Our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,

All We confess to you, Lord.

Presider Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work,

All We confess to you, Lord.

Presider Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,

All We confess to you, Lord.

Presider Accept our repentance, Lord, for the wrongs we have done: for our indifference to human need and suffering, injustice and cruelty,

All Accept our repentance, Lord.

Presider For all false judgements, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbours, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,

All Accept our repentance, Lord.

Presider For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us,

All Accept our repentance, Lord.

Presider Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us;

All Hear us, Lord, for your mercy is great.

If ashes are to be imposed, the presider may say the following prayer.

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, and 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.

Presider Accomplish in us, O God,
 the work of your salvation,

All **That we may show forth your glory
 in the world.**

Presider By the cross and passion of your Son, our Lord,

All **Bring us with all your saints
 to the joy of his resurrection.**

The bishop, if present, or the priest 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

Presider The Peace of God be always with you.
All **And also with you.**

please stand

Please greet one another

The Offertory Hymn: Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies CP 5

please stand

Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true, the only Light,
Sun of Righteousness, arise!
Triumph o'er the shades of night.
Dayspring from on high, be near;
Daystar, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn
Unaccompanied by thee;
Joyless is the day's return,
Till thy mercy's beams I see,
Till thy inward light impart,
Glad my eyes and warm my heart.

Visit, then, this soul of mine;
Pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
Fill me, Radiancy divine;
Scatter all my unbelief;
More and more thyself display,
Shining to the perfect day.

Text: Charles Wesley (1707-1788).

Music: Melody Geystliche Gesangk Buchleyn, 1524; adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870), alt.

The Celebration of the Eucharist

The Prayer over the Gifts

please stand

Presider God of mercy and grace,
All **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.

If you know the brokenness of life, its fractures within and its division without, then you have participated in the broken body of Christ and you are invited to share in the breaking of bread.

Presider The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Presider Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Presider Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth, because you bid your faithful people to cleanse their hearts and to prepare with joy for the paschal feast; that reborn through the waters of baptism and renewed in the eucharistic mystery, we may be more fervent in prayer and more generous in the works of love. Therefore we raise our voices to you in praise to proclaim the glory of your name.

Sanctus: Holy, Holy, Holy SANC 74

All sing

First Time	Second Time	Third Time
Holy, holy, holy! My heart, my heart adores you! My heart is glad to say the words: You are holy, Lord.	Santo, santo, santo, Mi corazón te adora! Mi corazón te sabe decir: Santo eres Señor!	Holy, holy, holy! My heart, my heart adores you! My heart is glad to say the words: You are holy, Lord.

Text: Argentine trad. Music: Melody Argentine trad.; arr. Wild Goose Worship Group, Iona Community.
Arr. © 1990 WGRG c/o Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent.

Presider Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, now and forever.

All Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Presider Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray as our Saviour taught us in the language closest to your heart,

**All 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. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the
kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Presider We break this bread

All Communion in Christ's body once broken.

Presider 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.

The Communion

Presider The gifts of God for the people of God.

All Thanks be to God.

please sit

If you are not physically receiving Communion, then offer this prayer

In union, O God, with all your faithful people gathered wherever the eucharist is celebrated this day, I offer you praise and thanksgiving for creation and all the blessings of this life, for the redemption given to us through the life, death, and resurrection of Christ, and for the means of grace and the hope of glory. I pray you come into my heart, my soul and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you. May I serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to your promised reign of justice and peace; through Christ and in the unity of the Spirit. Amen.

Songs During Communion

please sit or stand

Dust and Ashes G 381

Dust and ashes touch our face,
Mark our failure and our falling.
Holy Spirit, come, walk with us tomorrow,
Take us as disciples, washed and wakened by
Your calling.

Refrain: Take us by the hand and lead us, lead us through the desert sands, bring us living water, Holy Spirit, come.

Dust and ashes soil our hands—
Greed of market, pride of nation.
Holy Spirit, come, walk with us tomorrow,
As we pray and struggle through
The meshes of oppression.

Refrain: Take us by the hand and lead us, lead us through the desert sands, bring us living water, Holy Spirit, come.

Dust and ashes choke our tongue
In the wasteland of depression.
Holy Spirit, come, walk with us tomorrow
Through all gloom and grieving to
The paths of resurrection. *Refrain*

Text: Brian Wren, b. 1936

Music: David Haas, b. 1957.

Adoremus Te Jesu Christe CP 338

*Refrain: Adoramus te, Jesu Christe,
Alleluia, alleluia!* X2

Et laudemus te Jesu Christe,
Et laudemus te, alleluia!

*Refrain: Let us praise your name, God our Saviour,
Alleluia, alleluia!* X2

Praise and bless your name, God our Saviour,
Praise and bless your name, alleluia!

Text: Taizé Community (France).

Music: Jacques Berthier (1923- 1994).

Text and music © 1991 Les Presses de Taizé. Used by permission of G.I.A. Publications, Inc., exclusive agent.

The Prayer after Communion

please stand

Presider God of compassion,

All through your Son Jesus Christ you reconciled your people to yourself. Following his example of prayer and fasting, may we obey you with willing hearts and serve one another in holy love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Sending Out of the Community

Blessing and Dismissal

The Closing Hymn: The Glory of these Forty Days CP 170

please stand

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.

So Daniel trained his mystic sight,
Delivered from the lion's might;
And John, the bride-groom's friend, became
The herald of Messiah's name.

Then grant, Lord, like them to be
Full oft in fast and prayer with thee;
Our spirits strengthen with thy grace,
And give us joy to see thy face.

O Father, Son, and Spirit blest,
To thee be every prayer addressed,
Who art in three-fold name adored,
From age to age, the only Lord.

Text: Latin (6th cent.); tr. Maurice F. Bell (1862- 1947), alt. Tr. ©
Oxford University Press.

Music: Melody *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543; adapt. and harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685- 1750).

Participants in the service

Clergy	The Reverend Helen Dunn, The Venerable Peggy Trendell-Jensen and the Reverend Elizabeth Mathers
Altar set-up	Wilna Parry
Altar Linens	TBD
Eucharistic Bread	Wilna Parry
Eucharistic Ministers	Ingrid Potter and Elizabeth Mathers
Readers	Anne Moir and Mary-Anne Taylor
Servers	Allison Williams and Jason Rajan
Sidespeople	David Smith and Olivia Creighton
Livestream A/V Technician	Sean Faivre-Duboz
Music	St Clement's choir; musical director- Lynley Lewis

Churches in the North Vancouver Deanery

St John the Evangelist:	https://www.stjohnnv.ca/
St Agnes:	https://www.saintagnes.ca/
St Catherines:	https://www.saint-catherines.org/
St Clement's:	https://www.stclementschurch.ca/
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church:	https://www.gloriadei.ca/



What to Give Up:

A Lenten Reflection

Give up complaining—focus on gratitude.

Give up pessimism—become an optimist.

Give up harsh judgments—think kindly thoughts.

Give up worry—trust Divine Providence.

Give up discouragement—be full of hope.

Give up bitterness—turn to forgiveness.

Give up hatred—return good for evil.

Give up negativism—be positive.

Give up anger—be more patient.

Give up pettiness—become mature.

Give up gloom—enjoy the beauty that is all around you.

Give up jealousy—pray for trust.

Give up gossiping—control your tongue.

Give up sin—turn to virtue.

Give up giving up—hang in there!

image from: [Pin on Church](#)

ASH WEDNESDAY WORD SEARCH



ABSTAIN
ASHES
BLESS
CROSS

EASTER
FAST
FOREHEAD
LENT

REPENT
WEDNESDAY



Image from: [Ash Wednesday Coloring Pages - Best Coloring Pages For Kids](#)