

ASH WEDNESDAY LITURGY

7:00 P.M. MARCH 2ND, 2022



Book of Alternative Services

Celebrant: The Venerable Susan Oliver
Deacon: The Reverend Sheila Moorey
Organist: Dr. Joy Berg
Crucifer: Fred Freeman

Opening Hymn #400 What Wondrous Love Is This

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul.

To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing;
to God and to the Lamb I will sing;
to God and to the Lamb, who is the great I AM
while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,
while millions join the theme, I will sing.

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on.
And when from death I'm free I'll sing and joyful be,
and through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and through eternity I'll sing on.

Greeting and the Ash Wednesday Collect

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Celebrant: 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. **Amen.**

First Reading: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

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.

All: Return to the Lord, your God, who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

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.

All: Return to the Lord, your God, who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

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.

All: Return to the Lord, your God, who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

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?""

All: Return to the Lord, your God, who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love."

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5: 20b - 6: 10

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, 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.

All: Return to the Lord, your God, who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love."

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

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."

All: Return to the Lord, your God, who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love."

Homily: Archdeacon Sue

The Lenten Invitation page 281

Litany of Penitence page 283

Prayer over the Ashes page 285

Imposition of Ashes

All wishing to receive ashes as a sign of our repentance and desire to renew our Christian life are invited to come forward and kneel at the altar rail.

Hymn: When the Night Becomes Dark

When the night becomes dark, your love, O Lord, is a fire;
Your love, O Lord, is a fire.

Absolution

The Peace *We greet each other with the peace of Christ.*

Offertory Hymn How Deep the Father's Love for Us

How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure,
that He should give His only Son to make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss - the Father turns His face away,
as wounds which mar the Chosen One bring many sons to glory.

Behold the man upon a cross, my sin upon His shoulders;
ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life - I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything, no gifts, no power, no wisdom;
but I will boast in Jesus Christ, His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer;
But this I know with all my heart - His wounds have paid my ransom.

Prayer over the Gifts

(Please stand)

Celebrant: Merciful God,

All: 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.

BAS, pg. 198

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; because you bid your faithful people to cleanse their hearts...Therefore we raise our voices to you in praise to proclaim the glory of your name.

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

Celebrant: We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made know to us in creation;...Therefore, Father, according to his command,

People: 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...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.

Celebrant: And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All: 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.

Celebrant: We break this bread,

People: 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.

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the People of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Hymns During Communion

Come and Find the Quiet Centre

Come and find the quiet centre in the crowded life we lead,
find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed.
clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes, that we can see
all the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.

Silence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the pace,
God it is he who speaks and names us, knows our being, face to face,
making space within our thinking, lifting shades to show the sun,
raising courage when we're shrinking, finding scope for faith begun.

In the Spirit let us travel, open to each other's pain,
let our loves and fears unravel, celebrate the space we gain:
there's a place for deepest dreaming, there's a time for heart to care,
in the Spirit's lively scheming there is always room to spare!

#435 Take My Life, and Let it Be

Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days, let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet, and let them be swift and purposeful for thee.

Take my lips, and let them be filled with messages from thee;
take my intellect, and use every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine;
take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love, my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

There is a Redeemer

There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God's own Son,
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.

Chorus

**Thank you O my Father, for giving us Your Son;
and leaving your Spirit 'til the work on earth is done.**

Jesus, my Redeemer, name above all names,
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, hope for sinners slain.

Chorus

**When I stand in glory I will see his face,
And there I'll serve my king forever in that holy place.**

Prayers after Communion *(Please Stand)*

Celebrant: 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

Celebrant: Glory to God,

All: whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.

Blessing

Closing Hymn: Restore In Us, O God

Restore in us, O God, the splendor of your love;
renew your image in our hearts, and all our sins remove.

O Spirit, wake in us the wonder of your pow'r,
from fruitless fear unfurl our lives like springtime bud and flow'r.

Bring us, O Christ, to share the fullness of your joy;
baptize us in the risen life that death cannot destroy.

Three-personed God, fulfill the promise of your grace,
that we, when all our searching ends, may see you face to face.

The Dismissal

Celebrant: Go forth in the name of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

This service is assembled from resources found in the Book of Alternative Services, Published by the Anglican Church of Canada.

And from ALTERNATIVE COLLECTS FOR YEARS A, B & C OF THE REVISED COMMON LECTIONARY AND SEASONAL PRAYERS OVER THE GIFTS AND AFTER COMMUNION Prepared by the Liturgy Task Force, Faith, Worship, and Ministry Committee

Of the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada and found online at <https://www.anglican.ca/wp-content/uploads/Alternative-RCL-Collects-Final-2019.pdf>

Permission to reprint, podcast, and/or stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-707445. All rights reserved.

What Wonderful Love Is This, Music Melody William Walker ©1993 The Pilgrim Press; copied with permission under OneLicense.net #A-707445.

How Deep The Father's Love For Us, Stuart Townend ©1995 Thankyou Music. CCLI©2803607

There is a Redeemer, Melody Green ©Brentwood Benson Publishing CCLI©2803607

Take My Life and Let it Be, text: Frances Ridley Havergal; copied with permission under OneLicense.net #A-707445.

When the Night Becomes Dark, Taizé Community; copied with permission under OneLicense.net #A-707445

Come and Find the Quiet Centre, Shirley Erena Murray, (c)1992 Hope Publishing Co; copied with permission under OneLicense.net #A-707445.