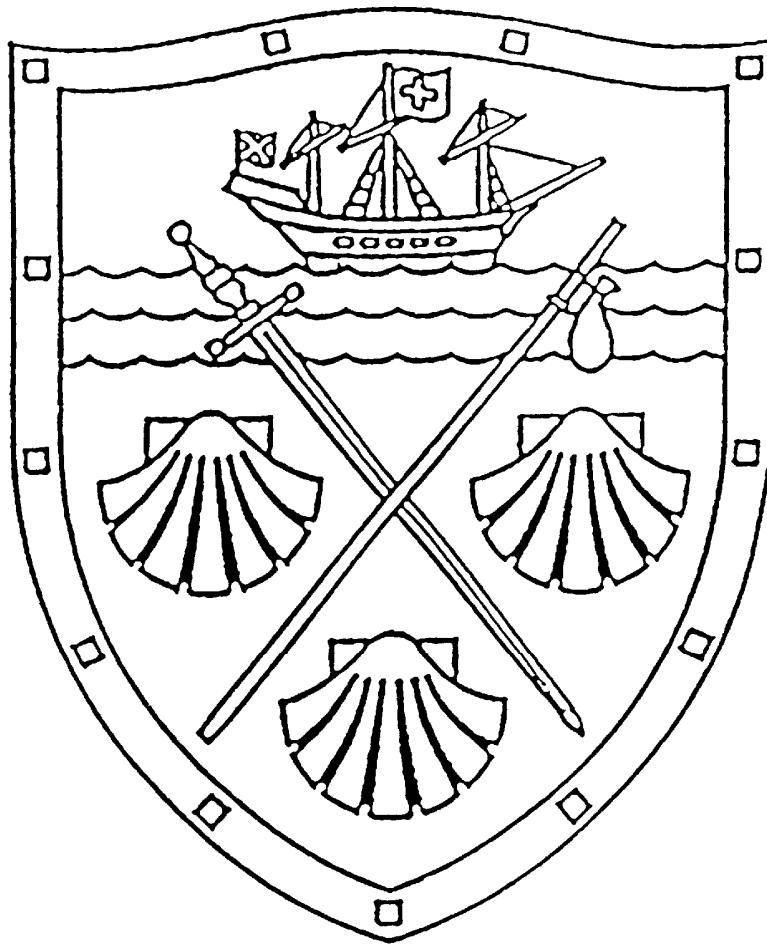


The Cathedral Church of St. James

Ash Wednesday

February 22, 2023

Sung Eucharist & Imposition of Ashes at 12:15pm



*The Cathedral Church of St. James
Diocese of Toronto • Anglican Church of Canada*

Welcome to St. James Cathedral

This sacred land is the territory of several Indigenous Nations - the Wendat, the Haudenosaunee, and the Anishnaabe, with special recognition to the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. We also acknowledge that we are on the shores of Niigaani-gichigami/Lake Ontario. This territory is governed by the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Treaty, an agreement between the Haudenosaunee Confederacy and the Anishnaabe Confederacy to peaceably share and sustain the life of the Great Lakes. In the spirit of that Treaty we seek to place at the centre of our gatherings the values of respectful reciprocity, diversity, peace, responsibility, and mutual aid.

Liturgical Note

In the context of Christian Liturgy, Israel does not refer to the current political state, but either to the historic Hebrews of the ancient Near East or, in Christian theology, to all people who put their faith and trust in Jesus Christ.

Want to stay informed about what is happening at your Cathedral?
Sign up for **E-Connections** on our website at www.stjamescathedral.ca
(scroll to the bottom of the page).

Children & Families

Godly Play meets every Sunday at both the 9:00am and 11:00am services.
Please email Karyne Whalen at kwhalen@stjamescathedral.ca for more information.

Accessibility

A Wheelchair Accessible Washroom is located
at the front of the Cathedral through the doors by the pulpit.
Assisted hearing devices are available from the sidespersons.

Coffee Hour

Join us in Snell Hall following the 9:00am & 11:00am services every Sunday.

Parking

There are a variety of inexpensive parking lots available around the Cathedral.
Please see the leaflets at the back of the Cathedral or
online at stjamescathedral.ca/contact for more information.

Connect with the Cathedral

Visit our website at stjamescathedral.ca | Follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/stjamesto

*As this is a very public and open space please be aware of your personal belongings.
Do not leave them unattended in the Cathedral or in the Cathedral Centre.*

*Welcome. We are so glad you have joined us for worship.
Please ensure that cell phones are turned off.*

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Collect of the Day

Presider Let us pray.

Please remain standing.

Almighty and holy God, your Son, in obedience to the Spirit, fasted forty days in the desert: give us grace to discipline ourselves, so that we may press on towards Easter with eager faith and love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Please be seated.

The First Reading

Joel 2: 1-2, 12-17

Reader 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. 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. 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. 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?’ ”

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm *Please remain seated.*

Psalm 103: 8-18

Tone 8 ii



Cantor The Lord is full of compassion and mer-cy,
slow to anger and of great kind-ness.

All **He will not always ac-cuse us,
neither will he keep his an-ger for ev-er.**

Cantor He has not dealt with us according to our sins,
nor rewarded us according to our wick-ed[^]ness.

All **For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is his mercy upon those who fear him.**

Cantor As far as the east is from the west,
so far has he set our sins from[^]us.

All **As a father has compassion on his chil-dren,
so is the Lord merciful towards those who fear him.**

Cantor For he knows of what we are made;
he remembers that we are but[^]dust.

All **Our days are but as grass;
we flourish as a flow-er of the[^]field;**

Cantor For as soon as the wind goes over it, it is gone,
and its place shall know it no more.

All **But the merciful goodness of the Lord is from of old
and endures for ever on those who fear him,
and his righteousness on chil-dren's chil-dren;**

Cantor On those who keep his co-ve[^]nant

All **and remember his command-ments to do them.**

Gospel Acclamation

Please stand, as you are able.

Cantor

Praise to you O Christ, King of e-ter-nal glo-ry

People **Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

Cantor If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

People **Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21

Gospeller

The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Gospeller

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

People

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospeller

Jesus said, "Beware of practising 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."

Gospeller

The Gospel of Christ.

People

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

Invitation to a Holy Lent

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 for each of us 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, both as individuals and as a community, 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 each of 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.

Litany of Penitence

Presider Let us kneel before our Creator and Redeemer.

Please kneel, as you are able. Silence is kept for a time.

Most holy and merciful God,

All **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.**

Leader 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, O God.**

Leader 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.

All **Have mercy on us, O God.**

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

All **Have mercy on us, O God.**

Leader Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people, we confess to you.

All **Have mercy on us, O God.**

Leader Our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves, we confess to you.

All **Have mercy on us, O God.**

Leader Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work, we confess to you.

All **Have mercy on us, O God.**

Leader Our negligence in prayer and worship and our failure to commend the faith that is in us, we confess to you.

All **Have mercy on us, O God.**

Leader 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, we confess to you.

All **Have mercy on us, O God.**

Leader For all false judgements, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbours, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, we confess to you.

All **Have mercy on us, O God.**

Leader For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us, we confess to you.

All **Have mercy on us, O God.**

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

All **Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.**

Imposition of Ashes

Presider 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.

People **Amen.**

Those who wish to receive the Imposition of Ashes are invited to come forward.

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

Please kneel, as you are able.

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

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

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

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

Presider Almighty God have mercy upon 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.

People **Amen.**

The Peace

Please stand, as you are able.

We offer each other a sign of peace, as you feel comfortable.

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory Hymn

Tune: Heinlein (Aus Der Tiefe)

All Forty days and forty nights you were fasting in the wild,
forty days and forty nights tempted, and yet undefiled:
burning heat throughout the day, bitter cold when light had fled,
prowling beasts around your way, stones your pillow, earth your bed.
Shall not we your trials share, learn your discipline of will,
and with you by fast and prayer wrestle with the powers of hell?
So if Satan, pressing hard, soul and body would destroy,
Christ who conquered, be our guard; give to us the victor's joy.
Saviour, may we hear your voice—keep us constant at your side;
and with you we shall rejoice at the eternal Eastertide.

Text: George Hunt Smyttan; Music: Melody attrib. Martin Herbst; harm. William Henry Monk.

Prayer over the Gifts

Presider 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.

People **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

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

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **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.

Please kneel, as you are able.

Sanctus & Benedictus

New Plainsong Mass – David Hurd

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.**

Presider God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, you have brought us this far along the way. In times of bitterness you did not abandon us, but guided us into the path of love and light. In every age you sent prophets to make known your loving will for all humanity.

The cry of the poor has become your own cry; our hunger and thirst for justice is your own desire. In the fullness of time, you sent your chosen servant to preach good news to the afflicted, to break bread with the outcast and despised, and to ransom those in bondage to prejudice and sin.

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.” For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

People **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Presider Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we await the day when Jesus shall return to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death. Come, Lord Jesus! And let the church say “Amen”!

People **Amen.**

Presider Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate, to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world. Come, Spirit of freedom! And let the church say “Amen”!

People **Amen.**

Presider Join our prayers and praise with your prophets and martyrs of every age, that, rejoicing in the hope of the resurrection, we might live in the freedom and hope of your Son. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

People **Amen.**

The Lord’s Prayer

Presider 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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Presider We break this bread,

People **Communion in Christ’s body once broken.**

Presider Let your Church be the wheat which bears its fruit in dying,

People **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.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Agnus Dei

New Plainsong Mass – David Hurd

All **Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.**

*All baptized persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion.
Gluten-free hosts are available upon request. It is not permitted to dip the bread in the wine for health reasons. If you choose not to receive communion, you are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing. Simply cross your hands over your chest to indicate this to the priest.*

Hymn

Tune: The Truth From Above

Cantor Hear me, O Lord, in my distress, give ear to my despairing plea!
In faithfulness, in righteousness, O hear my prayer and answer me.

***All* I claim no favour as of right; you are the God I serve and trust,
yet judge me not: for in your sight no living soul is counted just.**

Cantor My fierce oppressor hunts me down: I shrink in darkness, like the dead;
my spirit fails—all hope is gone, my heart is overwhelmed with dread.

***All* Days long since vanished I review, I see the wonders of your hands,
and I stretch out my hands to you, for you I thirst like desert sands.**

Cantor Lord, answer me without delay! I perish if you hide your face;
in you I trust: let this new day bring word of your unfailing grace.

***All* From my pursuers save me still: in you my refuge I have found;
teach me, O God, to do your will, and lead my feet on level ground.**

Cantor For your name's sake, Lord, hear my plea:
your servant's stricken life preserve!
From all oppression set me free to live and love the God I serve.

Text: David G. Preston based on Psalm 143; Music: English traditional melody.
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Motet **Create In Me A Clean Heart**

Thomas Keesecker

Cantor Create in me a clean heart, O God;
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from thy presence;
and take not your holy spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and up-hold me with your free Spirit. Amen.

Prayer after Communion

Presider Let us pray. *Please stand, as you are able.*
God of compassion, 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.

People **Amen.**

The Blessing

Bishop May the God of mercy transform you by his grace, and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

People **Amen.**

Dismissal

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Ash Wednesday Service exhorts us to “observe a holy Lent by...prayer, fasting and almsgiving...” Almsgiving, from the Greek for “compassion”, means giving generously to the poor. By giving alms we become part of God’s desire for justice and mercy in a concrete way. Each Lent, members of the Cathedral community are encouraged to “give alms” by donating to FaithWorks, a program of the Diocese of Toronto which funds agencies across the diocese and around the world which help the poor and others in need.

More information is available at www.faithworks.ca.

*Presiding Celebrant: The Very Rev’d Peter Wall • Homilist: The Right Rev’d Andrew Asbil
Reader: Elin Goulden • Honorary Verger: Paul D. Seddon, ODT
Music Director & Organist: Thomas Bell • Wayne Vance Organ Scholar: Jacob Wiens
Cantor: Kate Zimmon • Assisting at the Organ: Imre Olah*

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