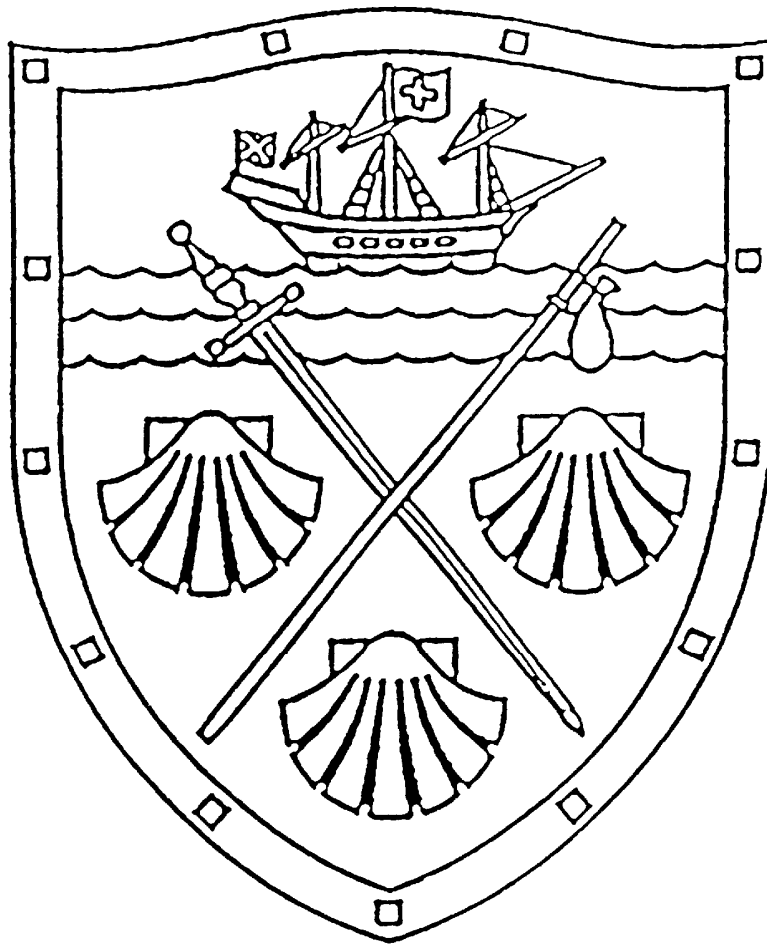


The Cathedral Church of St. James

Ash Wednesday

February 22, 2023

Holy Eucharist & Imposition of Ashes at 7:30am



*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 this morning.
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

Reader The Lord is full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and of great kindness.
He will not always accuse us,
neither will he keep his anger for ever.

People **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 great is his mercy upon those who fear him.**

Reader As far as the east is from the west,
so far has he set our sins from us.
As a father has compassion on his children,
so is the Lord merciful towards those who fear him.

People **For he knows of what we are made;
he remembers that we are but dust.
Our days are but as grass;
we flourish as a flower of the field;**

Reader For as soon as the wind goes over it, it is gone,
and its place shall know it no more.
But the merciful goodness of the Lord is from of old
and endures for ever on those who fear him,
and his righteousness on children's children;

People **On those who keep his covenant
and remember his commandments to do them.**

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.**

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.

Leader 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

Prayer over the Gifts

Please remain standing.

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.

Sanctus & Benedictus

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!**

Please kneel, as you are able.

Presider We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling a people into covenant with you; 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." Therefore, Father, according to his command,

People **we remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory;**

Presider 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 children; 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

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

Presider Lamb of God,

All **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.

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

Presider 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

Presider Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Presiding Celebrant: The Reverend Canon Dr. Stephen Fields

*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 Faith Works, 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*

A private prayer for use after receiving Holy Communion

Anima Christi

Soul of Christ, sanctify me

Body of Christ, save me

Blood of Christ, inebriate me

Water from the side of Christ, wash me

Passion of Christ, strengthen me

O Good Jesu, hear me

Within thy wounds hide me

Suffer me not to be separated from thee

From the malicious enemy defend me

In the hour of my death call me and bid me come to thee

That with thy Saints I may praise thee

For ever and ever. Amen.

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