



ASH WEDNESDAY
THE HOLY EUCHARIST
WITH IMPOSITION OF ASHES
FEBRUARY 25, 2009
AT NOON

WASHINGTON NATIONAL CATHEDRAL

*The Reverend Canon Stephen Huber, presider
The Reverend Canon Carol L. Wade, gospeller
The Reverend Richard G. P. Kukowski, assistant
The Reverend Canon John L. Peterson, homilist*

THE WORD OF GOD

The service begins in silence. Please stand as the procession enters.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

The presider prays the collect. All respond Amen.

The people are seated for the lessons.

THE FIRST READING

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 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 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.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Silence follows the reading.

PSALM 103:8-14 *The people read the verses in bold.*

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and of great kindness.

**He will not always accuse us,
nor will he keep his anger for ever.**

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

As far as the east is from the west,
so far has he removed our sins from us.

**As a father cares for his children,
so does the Lord care for those who fear him.**

For he himself knows whereof we are made;
he remembers that we are but dust.

The people stand to sing and remain standing for the Gospel.

HYMN AT THE SEQUENCE - 147 *Sung by all.*
Now let us all with one accord

Bourbon

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
Glory to you, Lord 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."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The people are seated at the invitation of the homilist.

The people stand.

INVITATION TO A HOLY LENT

When the invitation has been made, all kneel as they are able for a period of silence.

The people remain kneeling while the presider blesses the ashes. The people respond Amen.

THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Ashes will be administered at the altar rail. After the imposition of ashes, all kneel for a period of silence.

PSALM 51:1-18

The people read the verses in bold.

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness;
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

**Wash me through and through from my wickedness
and cleanse me from my sin.**

For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.

**Against you only have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight.**

And so you are justified when you speak
and upright in your judgment.

**Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth,
a sinner from my mother's womb.**

For behold, you look for truth deep within me,
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.

**Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure;
wash me and I shall be clean indeed.**

Make me hear of joy and gladness,
that the body you have broken may rejoice.

**Hide your face from my sins
and blot out all my iniquities.**

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.

**Cast me not away from your presence
and take not your holy Spirit from me.**

Give me the joy of your saving help again
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

**I shall teach your ways to the wicked,
and sinners shall return to you.**

Deliver me from death, O God,
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness,
O God of my salvation.

**Open my lips, O Lord,
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice,
but you take no delight in burnt offerings.

**The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.**

THE LITANY OF PENITENCE

Most holy and merciful God: We confess to you and 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.

We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors 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 judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, 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;

Favorably hear us, for your mercy is great.

Accomplish in us the work of your salvation,

That we may show forth your glory in the world.

By the cross and passion of your Son our Lord,

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

THE DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

The presider prays the declaration of forgiveness, and the people respond **Amen.**

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

The people greet one another with a sign of God's peace.

THE OFFERTORY

The people remain seated while an offering is received to support the ministries of the Cathedral.

PRESENTATION ACCLAMATION

We gather at your table

The Eighth Tune



We gath-er at your ta-ble, Lord: we hum-bly lift our hearts to you! Here
all are wel-comed, all re-stored, and all are giv-en work to do.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

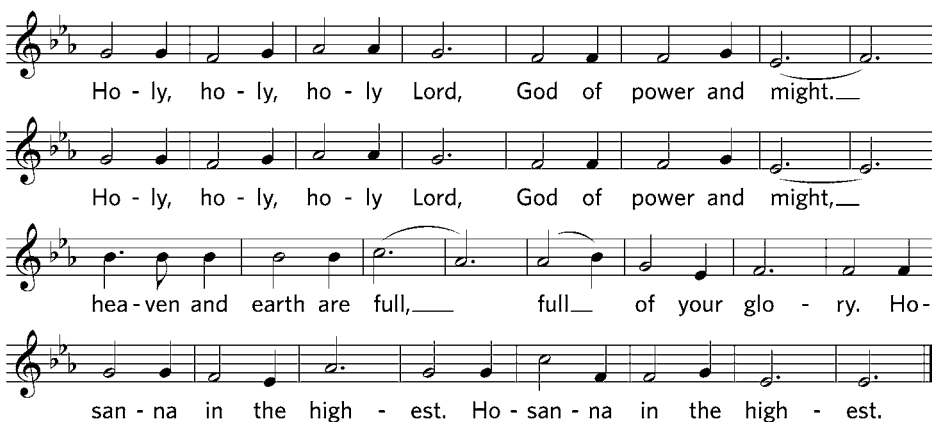
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The presider offers our thanks to God for the grace and mercy made available to us in Christ, and in response we sing:

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

Holy, holy, holy

Deutsche Messe



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might. —
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, —
hea - ven and earth are full, — full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The presider gives thanks to God for the reconciling work of Christ's self-offering on the cross and prays over the bread and wine.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.

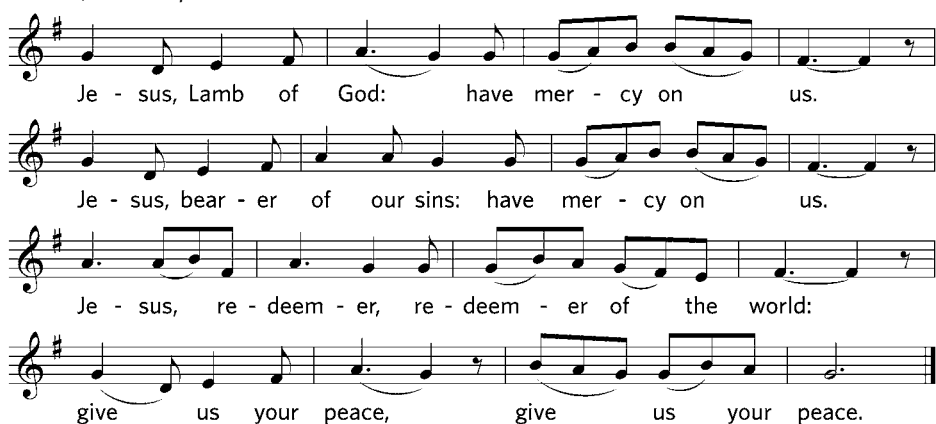
THE LORD'S PRAYER

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, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND FRACTION ANTHEM

Jesus, Lamb of God

Deutsche Messe



Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

give us your peace, give us your peace.

INVITATION

All who seek God and a deeper life in Christ are welcome to receive Holy Eucharist. Gluten-free wafers are available. Please make your need known to the minister.

MINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

HYMN AT THE COMMUNION - 142 *Sung by all.*

Lord, who throughout these forty days

St. Flavian

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER *Said by all.*

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, and renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

HYMN AT THE CLOSING - 143 *Sung by all.*

The glory of these forty days

Erhalt uns, Herr

THE PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

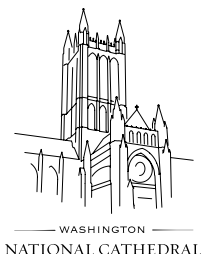
The presider prays the prayer over the people, which, according to ancient custom, replaces the final blessing during Lent. The people respond with Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The people remain standing while the procession leaves in silence.

PERMISSIONS *We gather at your table, Lord.* Words: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette © 1999 Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, from *Gifts of Love: New Hymns for Today's Worship* (Geneva Press 2000) All rights reserved. Used by permission Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-709283. Music: *The Eighth Tune*, Thomas Tallis (1505?-1585). Public Domain. *Sanctus: Holy, holy, holy.* Words: Traditional. Music: *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert (1797-1828). Public Domain. *Agnus Dei: Jesus, Lamb of God.* Words: Traditional. Music: *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert (1797-1828). Public Domain.



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