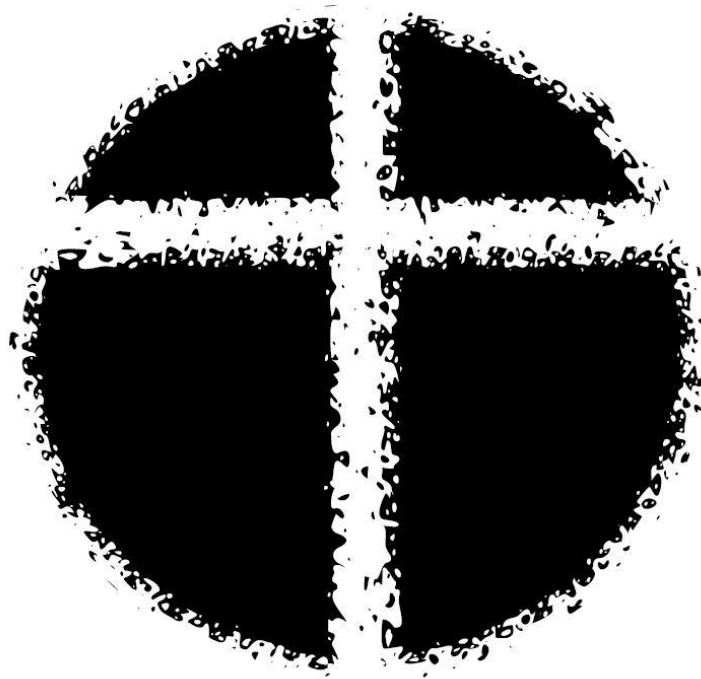


The Liturgy of Ash Wednesday



**Sung Eucharist Service
with the Imposition of Ashes**

St John the Evangelist, East Dulwich
Mass Setting: Latin Ferial plainsong

Introit

“Call to remembrance, O Lord,” attributed to Richard Farrant

The Gathering

Please stand

Entrance Hymn

NEH 67

**Forty days and forty nights
thou wast fasting in the wild;
forty days and forty nights
tempted and yet undefiled.**

**Sunbeams scorching all the day,
chilly dewdrops nightly shed,
prowling beasts about thy way,
stones thy pillow, earth thy bed.**

**Let us thine endurance share,
and awhile from joys abstain,
with thee watching unto prayer,
strong with thee to suffer pain.**

**And if Satan, vexing sore,
flesh or spirit should assail,
thou, his vanquisher before,
grant we may not faint nor fail.**

**So shall we have peace divine,
holier gladness ours shall be,
round us too shall angels shine,
such as ministered to thee.**

**Keep, O keep us, Saviour dear,
ever constant by thy side,
that with thee we may appear
at the eternal Eastertide.**

The president says

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Greeting

The president greets the people

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you
and also with you.

Introduction

The president explains the meaning of Lent and invites the people to observe it faithfully.

Brothers, sisters and siblings in Christ, since early days Christians have observed with great devotion the time of our Lord's passion and resurrection and prepared for this by a season of penitence and fasting. By carefully keeping these days, Christians take to heart the call to repentance and the assurance of forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel, and so grow in faith and in devotion to our Lord. I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy word.

*The choir sings **Kyrie eleison***

*Kyrie eleison.
Christe eleison.
Kyrie eleison.*

The Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,
you hate nothing that you have made
and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent:
create and make in us new and contrite hearts
that we, worthily lamenting our sins
and acknowledging our wretchedness,
may receive from you, the God of all mercy,
perfect remission and forgiveness;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

Please be seated

Reading: Isaiah 58.1-12

At the end the reader says

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 51 – R: Have mercy on me, O God.

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

At the end the reader says

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

“Forsake me not O Lord: make haste to help me O Lord of my salvation.”

Please stand

Gospel Reading: John 8:1-11

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

The Lord is a great God,

O that today you would listen to his voice.

Harden not your hearts.

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

When the Gospel is announced the reader says

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

Sermon

Please stand

The Liturgy of Penitence

Let us now call to mind our sin and the infinite mercy of God.

God the Father,
have mercy on us.

God the Son,
have mercy on us.

God the Holy Spirit,
have mercy on us.

Trinity of love,
have mercy on us.

**Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.**

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.
Lord, have mercy.

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.
Lord, have mercy.

We confess to you, Lord...

all our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy and impatience of our lives.
Lord, have mercy.

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people.
Lord, have mercy.

Our anger at our own frustration
and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves.
Lord, have mercy.

Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts
and our dishonesty in daily life and work.
Lord, have mercy.

Our negligence in prayer and worship
and our failure to commend the faith that is in us. **Lord, have mercy.**

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 judgements,
for uncharitable thoughts towards our neighbours
and for our prejudice and contempt towards 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.

Favourably hear us, for your mercy is great.

Accomplish in us the work of your salvation,
that we may show 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.

We have not loved you with our whole heart.

We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.

In your mercy forgive what we have been,

help us to amend what we are,

and direct what we shall be;

that we may do justly,

love mercy,

and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

The imposition of ashes

*The president and people receive the imposition of ashes,
the president first receiving the imposition from another minister.*

At the imposition the minister says to each person

Remember that you are dust,

and to dust you shall return.

Turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ.

Psalm 38 is sung during the ashing

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Please stand

The Peace

Since we are justified by faith,
we have peace with God
through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has given us access to his grace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace

Preparation of the Table

During the following hymn a collection will be taken

Offertory Hymn

NEH 456

**Teach me, my God and King,
In all things thee to see;
And what I do in anything
To do it as for thee!**

**A man that looks on glass,
On it may stay his eye;
Or if he pleaseth, through it pass,
And then the heaven espy.**

**All may of thee partake;
Nothing can be so mean,
Which with this tincture, 'for thy sake,
Will not grow bright and clean.**

**A servant with this clause
Makes drudgery divine;
Who sweeps a room, as for thy laws.
Makes that and the action fine.**

**This is the famous stone
That turneth all to gold;
For that which God doth touch and own
Cannot for less be told.**

The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it

Offertory Prayer

Merciful Father,
turn us from sin to faithfulness
and from disobedience to love,
and prepare us to celebrate the death
and resurrection of Christ our Saviour
who is alive and reigns,
now and for ever. **Amen.**

The president takes the bread and wine

The Eucharistic Prayer

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 thanks and praise.

The president gives thanks for God's work in creation

*The choir sings **Sanctus & Benedictus***

Sanctus, Sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth.

Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua.

Hosanna in excelsis.

Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini.

Hosanna in excelsis.

The president recalls the Last Supper

Christ is the bread of life.

**When we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,
until you come in glory.**

At the end of the prayer we say together **Amen.**

Please be seated

The Lord's Prayer

Lord Jesus, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

Breaking of the Bread

The president breaks the consecrated bread

When we eat this bread and drink this cup
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

The choir sings **Agnus Dei**

*Agnus Dei,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.*

*Agnus Dei,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.*

*Agnus Dei,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona nobis pacem.*

Giving of Communion

The president says

Draw near with faith.

Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ
which he gave for you,
and his blood which he shed for you.

Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts
by faith with thanksgiving.

The president and people receive communion

*Words of distribution are used and the communicant replies **Amen.***

Communion Anthem “*Let thy merciful ears*” by Thomas Mudd

Post Communion Prayer

Almighty God,
you have given your only Son
to be for us both a sacrifice for sin
and also an example of godly life:
give us grace that we may always most thankfully
receive these his inestimable gifts,
and also daily endeavour to follow
the blessed steps of his most holy life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

All say

Eternal God

**Comfort of the afflicted and healer of the broken,
you feed us at the table of life and hope:
teach us the ways of gentleness and peace,
that all the world may acknowledge
the kingdom of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.****

**O for a heart to praise my God,
A heart from sin set free;
A heart that always feels thy blood
So freely spilt for me:**

**A heart resigned, submissive, meek,
My dear Redeemer's throne;
Where only Christ is heard to speak,
Where Jesus reigns alone:**

**A humble, lowly, contrite heart,
Believing, true, and clean,
Which neither life nor death can part
From him that dwells within:**

**A heart in every thought renewed,
And full of love divine;
Perfect and right and pure and good,
A copy, Lord, of thine.**

**My heart, thou know'st, can never rest
Till thou create my peace;
Till of mine Eden repossess,
From self, and sin, I cease.**

**Thy nature, gracious Lord, impart,
Come quickly from above;
Write thy new name upon my heart,
Thy new best name of love**

The Dismissal

This is love, not that we loved God,
but that he loved us and sent his Son.

He is the sacrifice for our sins,
that we might live through him.

If God loves us so much
we ought to love one another.

If we love one another **God lives in us.**

The Dismissal Gospel: Luke 15: 4-7

Listen for the Word of the Lord.

Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbours, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who need no repentance.

The Blessing

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness,
to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.