

ASH WEDNESDAY



Wednesday 2 March 2022 • 7:00 PM
Grace Episcopal Church, Hinsdale, IL

GATHERING TOGETHER

All stand as the ministers enter in silence.

THE ACCLAMATION

Presider Blessed be the God of our salvation:
People **Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate 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 wretchedness, 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.**

THE WORD OF GOD

THE 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.

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.

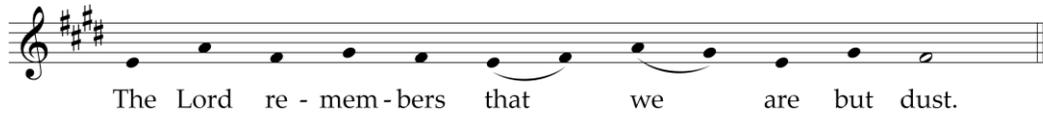
Let the bridegroom leave his room,
and the bride her canopy.

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?'"

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Silence for reflection is kept.

Response



- 8 The Lord is full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and of great kindness.
- 9 He will not always accuse us,
nor will he keep his anger for ever.
- 10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins,
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness. *Response*
- 11 For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.
- 12 As far as the east is from the west,
so far has he removed our sins from us. *Response*
- 13 As a father cares for his children,
so does the Lord care for those who fear him.
- 14 For he himself knows whereof we are made;
he remembers that we are but dust. *Response*

THE 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, labors, 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 honor and dishonor, 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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Silence for reflection is kept.

All stand for the Sequence Hymn.

SEQUENCE HYMN

“Kind Maker of the World, O Hear”

A LA VENUE DE NOËL



1 Kind Ma - ker of the world, O hear
 2 Each heart is man - i - fest to thee;
 3 Spare us, O Lord, who now con - fess
 4 Give us the dis - ci - pline that springs
 5 Grant, O thou bless - ed Trin - i - ty;



the fer - vent prayer, with man - y a tear poured forth by all the
 thou know - est our in - fir - mi - ty; now we re - pent, and
 our sins and all our wick - ed - ness, and, for the glo - ry
 from ab - sti - nence in out - ward things with in - ward fast - ing,
 grant, O un - chang - ing U - ni - ty; that this our fast of



pen - i - tent who keep this ho - ly fast of Lent!
 seek thy face; grant un - to us thy par - doning grace.
 of thy Name, our weak - ened souls to health re - claim.
 so that we in heart and soul may dwell with thee.
 for - ty days may work our pro - fit and thy praise!

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Preacher The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **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."

Preacher The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

REFLECTION

Donna Ialongo

After the reflection, the presider invites the people to the observance of a holy Lent.

Dear People of God: The first Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord's passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the Church to prepare for them by a season of penitence and fasting. This season of Lent provided a time in which converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism. It was also a time when those who, because of notorious sins, had been separated from the body of the faithful were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness, and restored to the fellowship of the Church. Thereby, the whole

Please kneel or stand for the Litany, as able.

LITANY OF PENITENCE

All **Most holy and merciful Father:**
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.

Presider 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 Priest stands, and, facing the people, says

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desires not the death of sinners, but rather that they may turn from their wickedness and live, has given power and commandment to his ministers to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the absolution and remission of their sins. He pardons and absolves all those who truly repent, and with sincere hearts believe his holy Gospel.

Therefore we beseech him to grant us true repentance and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him which we do on this day, and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure and holy, so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The People stand for the Peace.

THE PEACE

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you. **And also with you.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY

Offertory Sentence

*With joy, we give thanks to God for all who support this community of love and faith.
Now more than ever, your gifts truly do continue the mission and ministries of Grace Church.*

*If you wish to give electronically, please scan the QR code
or follow the link to our electronic giving platform.*



<http://www.gracehinsdale.org/give>

Anthem “Lord, Teach Us How to Pray Aright” T. Tallis (1505-1585), arr. W. Wismar

Lord, teach us how to pray aright with reverence and with fear;
though dust and ashes in thy sight, we may, we must draw near.
We perish if we cease from prayer; oh, grant us power to pray,
and when to meet thee we prepare, Lord, meet us by the way.

God of all grace we come to thee with broken, contrite hearts;
give what thine eye delights to see, truth in the inward parts;
faith in the only sacrifice that can for sin atone;
to cast our hopes, to fix our eyes on Christ, on Christ alone.

Patience to watch and wait and weep though mercy long delay;
courage our fainting souls to keep, and trust thee, come what may.
Give these and then thy will be done; thus, strengthened with all might,
we through thy Spirit and thy Son shall pray, and pray aright.

Iona Invitation

This is the table, not of the Church but of Jesus Christ.
It is made ready for those who love him and who want to love him more.

So come, you who have much faith and you have little;
You who have been here often
and you who have not been for a long time or ever before;
You who have tried to follow and you who have failed;

Come, not because the Church invites you;
It is Christ, and he invites you to meet him here.



Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Presider

Redeemer God, over forty days you flooded the earth,
over forty years you led your people through the wilderness,
and over forty days your Spirit led Jesus through the desert.
Bless us through the sustenance of this food and drink
to profess your Son's death and resurrection.
Send down your holy Spirit, that we may come
to resemble and follow our crucified and risen Savior,
and that this bread and this cup may become for us
our everlasting banquet, the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ;
who, at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks,
broke the bread, and gave it to them saying,
"Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you;
Do this in remembrance of me."
After supper he took the cup.
Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying,
"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.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Great is the mystery of faith.

All

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

Presider

Sanctifying God, where your children are in the wilderness,
lead them to your heart.
Where your people are hungry for you,
give them practices of fasting and scripture reading
and almsgiving and repentance and prayer.
Where your followers know beatings, imprisonments,
hardships and calamities,
visit them with the comforting power of your presence.
Raise up the glory of your resurrection
from the ashes of our pride and sloth and greed,
that all your church and the whole creation

may celebrate the wonders of your love,
until the day when every eye shall see you
and every tongue shall praise you, and you are all in all,
ever one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

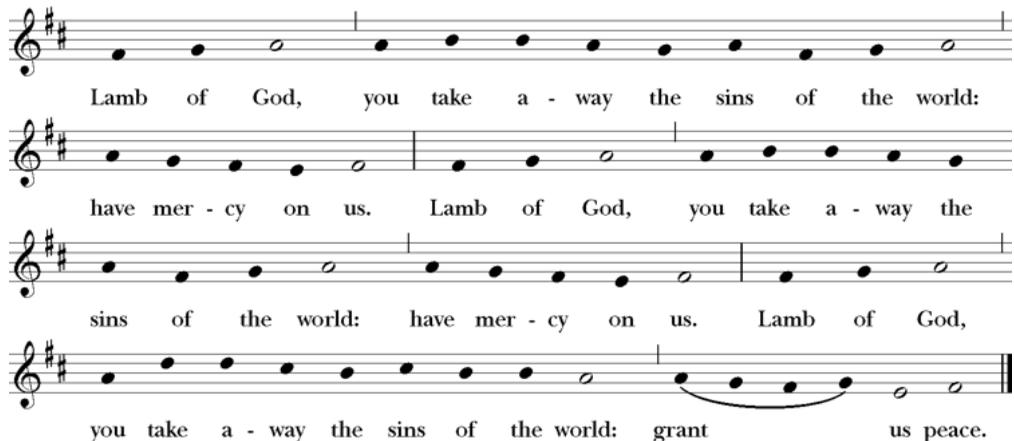
Presider And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be your 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.**

THE BREAKING OF BREAD

The bread is broken. Silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

The Invitation

From a sermon by St. Augustine

Presider Behold what you are;
People **May we become what we receive.**

THE COMMUNION

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

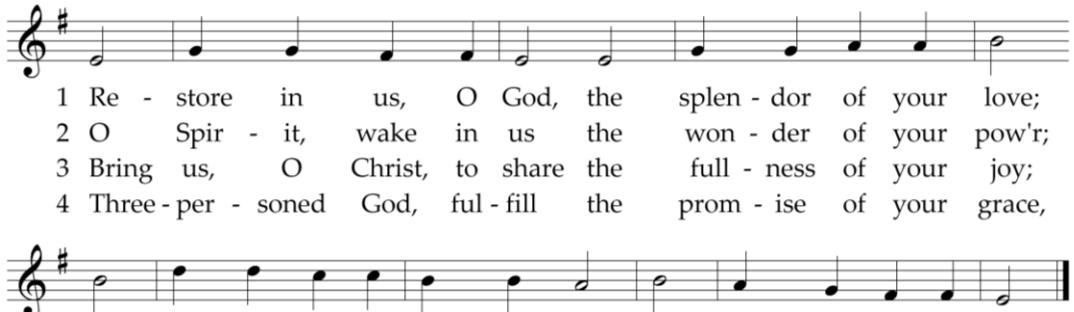
Presider Let us pray.

All **Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

SOLEMN PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

Presider Bow down before the Lord.

Grant, most merciful Lord,
to your people pardon and peace,
that they may be cleansed from all their sins,
and serve you with a quiet mind;
through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



1 Re - store in us, O God, the splen - dor of your love;
 2 O Spir - it, wake in us the won - der of your pow'r;
 3 Bring us, O Christ, to share the full - ness of your joy;
 4 Three - per - soned God, ful - fill the prom - ise of your grace,

re - new your im - age in our hearts, and all our sins re - move.
 from fruit - less fear un - furl our lives like spring-time bud and flow'r.
 bap - tize us in the ris - en life that death can - not de - stroy.
 that we, when all our search - ing ends, may see you face to face.

SENT FORTH TO THE WORLD

THE DISMISSAL

After the dismissal, the people respond **Thanks be to God.**

How do we deal with difficult Bible passages when we encounter them?

How do we deal with passages which historically have been used by others to vilify groups of people—passages that may seem to condone exclusion or condemnation of groups we may perceive as “other than us”? Everyone looks at scripture through a lens of some kind—a lens which will subsequently help shape the way they approach a given passage and ultimately interpret it.

We use the Baptismal Covenant as our lens, specifically “to seek and serve Christ in all persons,” and “to strive for justice and peace among all people.” (See the *Book of Common Prayer*, p. 304.) Through the Covenant, we understand how we are called to follow Christ and approach the difficult biblical passages with this knowledge in mind.

Why use incense in worship?

Incense has a long history in Christianity, Judaism and other religions. It adds our noses to the multi-sensory experience of worship. The psalmist expresses the symbolism of incense and prayer: “Let my prayer rise like incense before you; the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.”

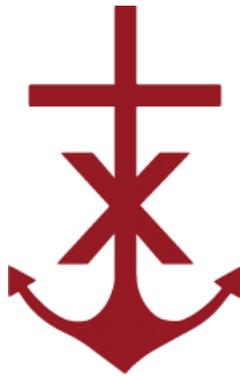
The clouds of incense represent cleansing and purification. The sweet smell suggests Christ's righteousness that covers sin. In some traditions, incense is used to honor holy things and holy people (the gathered people, that is, the body of Christ). The altar/table, the bread and wine, the ministers and the assembly may be “censed” as a way of showing their importance in the liturgy. Incense adds a festive accompaniment to processions, creating “holy clouds” and “holy smells” in the air.

The sweet smell of incense is a doorway to the holy in the same way that beautiful music, flowers, stained glass, or a room/building can lead us to ponder the mystery of God's presence. Incense in worship is an ancient practice that connects us to the Church around the world and through the ages.

Acknowledgements

Psalm 103, from *Gradual Psalms for the RCL*, ed. Bruce E. Ford, Church Publishing, Inc. “Kind Maker of the World, O Hear,” Text: attr. Gregory the Great (540-604); ver. *Hymnal* 1940. Tune: A LA VENUE DE NOËL, melody from *Fleurs de noëls*, 1535. Psalm 51, setting by Michel Guimont (b. 1950), © 1998, 2002, GIA Publications, Inc. “Restore in Us, O God,” Text: Carl P. Daw, Jr., (b. 1944), © 1989, Hope Publishing Co. Tune: SOUTHWELL, W. Daman, *The Psalms of David*, 1579, alt. Scripture texts are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, © 1989, by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA, and used by permission. Music reprinted under OneLicense.net, license # A-720489.

*Welcome to the transformative power
of Christ's love;
if you're here, you belong!*



GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH AND ACADEMY

120 East First Street
630-323-4900

Hinsdale, Illinois 60521
gracehinsdale.org