



ALL SAINTS'

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

ASH WEDNESDAY

MORNING PRAYER
AND IMPOSITION OF ASHES

FEBRUARY 14, 2018

SEVEN THIRTY IN THE MORNING
HISTORIC CHURCH

Lively, Prayerful, Welcoming

Founded in 1742

106 W. Church Street, Frederick, MD 21701

301-663-5625

www.allsaintsmd.org

WELCOME!

Whatever your religious background, and however you have come to be here, we're glad to have you join in our praises of God today. We hope you will feel comfortable here and fulfilled, and strengthened spiritually to meet the challenges of your daily life. So that we may have a record of your time with us, please fill out a guest card located in the pew racks. Please return your card to an usher or place it in the offering plate. We also welcome you to join us in fellowship in the Parish Hall every Sunday after morning services.

WHILE WORSHIPING WITH US

- Please remember to silence your cell phone, pager, or electronic device prior to the service.
- The complete liturgy service is in the red Book of Common Prayer (BCP).
- Children's worship bags with activities are available from an usher to use during the services.
- Wheelchairs are available. One chair is located at the 3rd floor Historic Church elevator door; the other is near the church offices by the coat rack.

ALL SAINTS' *Holy Week & Easter*

Palm Sunday, March 25

8:00 am Holy Eucharist - HC*

10:00 am Holy Eucharist with Music - HC*

Meet in Garden for Procession

6:00 pm Holy Eucharist - HC

Monday, March 26

12:00 pm Holy Eucharist - Chapel

Tuesday, March 27

12:00 pm Holy Eucharist - Chapel

Wednesday, March 28

12:00 pm Holy Eucharist - Chapel

5:30 pm Holy Eucharist - Chapel

Maundy Thursday, March 29

12:00 pm Holy Eucharist - Chapel

7:30 pm Holy Eucharist - HC

9:00 pm Watch Begins - Chapel

Good Friday, March 30

8:30 am Close of Watch - Chapel

12:00 pm Good Friday Service - HC

3:00 pm Family Journey through
Holy Week

5:30 pm Good Fri. for All Ages - GH

Holy Saturday, March 31

7:30 pm Great Vigil of Easter - HC

Easter Day, April 1

8:00 am Easter Eucharist - HC*

9:00 am Easter Eucharist with
Sermon for All Ages - GH*11:00 am Easter Eucharist with
Choral Music - HC*

HC: Historic Church *Childcare
GH: Great Hall Provided
Chapel: St. Paul's Chapel

Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent, a time of reflection, repentance and turning our hearts to God in preparation for our journey through Christ's death and resurrection.

In keeping with the practice of the ancient people of Israel, early Christians used sackcloth and ashes as a sign of their repentance. Though the custom began as private devotion, by the eleventh century the reception of ashes as a sign of repentance had become a universal practice in the Western Church.

The earliest Christian rite associated with the wearing of ashes was the admission of public penitents. Those who expressed sorrow for their sins would wear ashes on their heads so that their fellow Christians might pray for them and welcome them back into the communion of the church before Easter. This rite of repentance and forgiveness has now been given to the whole church in the Ash Wednesday invitation to fast, pray and undertake acts of self-denial. In the Litany of Penitence we acknowledge our sins and pray for forgiveness and renewal of life, asking God to turn our hearts away from those things which separate us from God and from one another. We pray that by Christ's mercy, God's holy work may be accomplished in us.

The words "Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return," are spoken to each person who receives ashes on this day. This mark is an embodied sign that we all stand before God as mortals and sinners; it is also a reminder of the forgiveness and redemptive love that God shows to each of us and to the whole world.

THE WORD OF GOD

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

INVITATORY

Rend your hearts and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and repents of evil.

All stand, as able.

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

VENITE: PSALM 95: 1-7

Spoken in unison

Come, let us sing to the Lord; *

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *

and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, *

and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *

and the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it, *

and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *

and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is our God,

and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *

Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

PSALM 103*Read responsively by alternating whole verse.*

- 1 Bless the Lord, O my soul, *
and all that is within me, bless his holy Name.
- 2 **Bless the Lord, O my soul, *
and forget not all his benefits.**
- 3 He forgives all your sins *
and heals all your infirmities;
- 4 **He redeems your life from the grave *
and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;**
- 5 He satisfies you with good things, *
and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.
- 6 **The Lord executes righteousness *
and judgment for all who are oppressed.**
- 7 He made his ways known to Moses *
and his works to the children of Israel.
- 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.**
- 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.**
- 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.**

- 15 Our days are like the grass; *
we flourish like a flower of the field;
- 16 When the wind goes over it, it is gone, *
and its place shall know it no more.**
- 17 But the merciful goodness of the Lord endures for ever
on those who fear him, *
and his righteousness on children's children;
- 18 On those who keep his covenant *
and remember his commandments and do them.**
- 19 The Lord has set his throne in heaven, *
and his kingship has dominion over all.
- 20 Bless the Lord, you angels of his,
you mighty ones who do his bidding, *
and hearken to the voice of his word.**
- 21 Bless the Lord, all you his hosts, *
you ministers of his who do his will.
- 22 Bless the Lord, all you works of his,
in all places of his dominion; *
bless the Lord, O my soul.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

The people are seated.

THE 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 it 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.

CANTICLE 14: A SONG OF PENITENCE

O Lord and Ruler of the hosts of heaven, *

God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob,
and of all their righteous offspring:

You made the heavens and the earth, *
with all their vast array.

All things quake with fear at your presence; *
they tremble because of your power.

But your merciful promise is beyond all measure; *
it surpasses all that our minds can fathom.

O Lord, you are full of compassion, *
long-suffering, and abounding in mercy.

You hold back your hand; *
you do not punish as we deserve.

In your great goodness, Lord,
you have promised forgiveness to sinners, *
that they may repent of their sin and be saved.

And now, O Lord, I bend the knee of my heart, *
and make my appeal, sure of your gracious goodness.

I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned, *
and I know my wickedness only too well.

Therefore I make this prayer to you: *

Forgive me, Lord, forgive me.

Do not let me perish in my sin, *

nor condemn me to the depths of the earth.

For you, O Lord, are the God of those who repent, *

and in me you will show forth your goodness.

Unworthy as I am, you will save me,

in accordance with your great mercy, *

and I will praise you without ceasing all the days of my life.

For all the powers of heaven sing your praises, *

and yours is the glory to ages of ages. Amen.

Silence follows the reading.

The people stand for the Gospel.

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory be to thee, O Lord.

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 be to thee, O Christ.

The people stand.

INVITATION TO A HOLY LENT AND BLESSING OF ASHES

BCP p. 264

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

All are invited to receive the imposition of ashes, which will be administered at the altar rail.

PSALM 51: 1-18

The people read the verses in bold.

- 1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; *
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
- 2 **Wash me through and through from my wickedness *
and cleanse me from my sin.**
- 3 For I know my transgressions, *
and my sin is ever before me.
- 4 **Against you only have I sinned *
and done what is evil in your sight.**

- 5 And so you are justified when you speak *
and upright in your judgment.
- 6 Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, *
a sinner from my mother's womb.**
- 7 For behold, you look for truth deep within me, *
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.
- 8 Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; *
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.**
- 9 Make me hear of joy and gladness, *
that the body you have broken may rejoice.
- 10 Hide your face from my sins *
and blot out all my iniquities.**
- 11 Create in me a clean heart, O God, *
and renew a right spirit within me.
- 12 Cast me not away from your presence *
and take not your holy Spirit from me.**
- 13 Give me the joy of your saving help again *
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.
- 14 I shall teach your ways to the wicked, *
and sinners shall return to you.**
- 15 Deliver me from death, O God, *
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness,
O God of my salvation.
- 16 Open my lips, O Lord, *
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.**
- 17 Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice, *
but you take no delight in burnt-offerings.
- 18 The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit; *
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.**

THE LITANY OF PENITENCE

All kneel, as able.

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

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

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.**

A COLLECT FOR THE RENEWAL OF LIFE

O God, the King eternal, whose light divides the day from the night and turns the shadow of death into the morning: Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet into the way of peace; that, having done your will with cheerfulness during the day, we may, when night comes, rejoice to give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A PRAYER FOR MISSION

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The congregants may offer their prayers and intercessions, aloud or in their hearts.

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

A PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

CLOSING SENTENCES

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

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