



**ST LAURENCE CHURCH
ASH WEDNESDAY**

**HOLY COMMUNION WITH THE
IMPOSITION OF ASHES**

**2 MARCH 2022
10 AM SERVICE AT BOWLES LODGE**



7.30PM SERVICE AT ST LAURENCE

THE ZOOM DETAILS ARE:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/457
2440784?pwd=Yjgwc2pUd1ZP
SkpyT3E4UVBsNS9HQQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4572440784?pwd=Yjgwc2pUd1ZPSkpyT3E4UVBsNS9HQQT09)

Meeting ID: 457 244 0784
Passcode: 5i1UCa

THE GATHERING.

INTROIT HYMN: CH 185)

**Forty days and forty nights
thou wast fasting in the wild;
forty days and forty nights
tempted and yet unbeguiled:**

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

**Let us thy endurance share
and from earthly greed abstain
with thee watching unto prayer,
with thee strong to suffer pain.**

**Then if evil on us press,
flesh or spirit to assail,
victor in the wilderness,
help us not to swerve or fail!
So shall peace divine be ours;
holier gladness ours shall be,
come to us angelic powers,
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 GREETING.

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

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

Brothers and sisters in Christ:
since early days Christians have
observed with great devotion the
time of our Lord's passion and
resurrection. It became the
custom of the Church to prepare
for this by a season of penitence
and fasting.

At first this season of Lent was observed by those who were preparing for Baptism at Easter and by those who were to be restored to the Church's fellowship from which they had been separated through sin. In course of time the Church came to recognize that, by a careful keeping of these days, all Christians might 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.

**Lord have mercy upon us,
Christ have mercy upon us,
Lord have mercy upon us.**

COLLECT OF THE DAY.

Let us pray:

(Silence is kept)

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.

We sit for:

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD.

Reading: Joel 2:12-18

read by Alison Jones

Even now, says the LORD, return to me with your whole heart, with fasting, and weeping, and mourning; Rend your hearts, not your garments, and return to the LORD, your God. For gracious and merciful is he, slow to anger, rich in kindness and relenting in punishment.

Perhaps he will again relent and leave behind him a blessing, Offerings and libations for the LORD, your God.

Blow the trumpet in Zion!
proclaim a fast, call an assembly;
Gather the people, notify the congregation;

Assemble the elders, gather the children and the infants at the breast;
Let the bridegroom quit his room and the bride her chamber.
Between the porch and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep, And say, "Spare, O LORD, your people, and make not your heritage a reproach, with the nations ruling over them! Why should they say among the peoples, 'Where is their God?'"

Then the LORD was stirred to concern for his land and took pity on his people.

This is the word of the Lord **Thanks be to God.**

**R. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.
Have mercy on me, O God, in your goodness; in the greatness of your compassion wipe out my offence. Thoroughly wash me from my guilt and of my sin cleanse me.
R. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.
For I acknowledge my offence, and my sin is before me always: "Against you only have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight."
R. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.**

**A clean heart create for me, O God, and a steadfast spirit renew within me. Cast me not out from your presence, and your Holy Spirit take not from me.
R. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.
Give me back the joy of your salvation, and a willing spirit sustain in me. O Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.
R. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.**

THE GOSPEL READING.

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew
Glory to you, O Lord.

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

Jesus said to his disciples: "Take care not to perform righteous deeds in order that people may see them; otherwise, you will have no recompense from your heavenly Father.
When you give alms, do not blow a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets

to win the praise of others.
Amen, I say to you,
they have received their reward.
But when you give alms,
do not let your left hand know
what your right is doing,
so that your almsgiving may be
secret.
And your Father who sees in
secret will repay you.

“When you pray,
do not be like the hypocrites,
who love to stand and pray in the
synagogues and on street corners
so that others may see them.
Amen, I say to you,
they have received their reward.
But when you pray, go to your
inner room,
close the door, and pray to your
Father in secret.
And your Father who sees in
secret will repay you.

“When you fast,
do not look gloomy like the
hypocrites.
They neglect their appearance,
so that they may appear to others
to be fasting.
Amen, I say to you, they have
received their reward.
But when you fast,
anoint your head and wash your
face,

so that you may not appear to be
fasting,
except to your Father who is
hidden.
And your Father who sees what is
hidden will repay you.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord,
Praise to you, O Christ.

Please sit

REFLECTION

IMPOSITION OF ASHES:

As a sign of the spirit of penitence
with which we shall keep this
season of preparation for Easter, I
invite you to receive on your head
in ash the sign of the cross, the
symbol of our salvation.

God our Father, you create us
from the dust of the earth: grant
that these ashes may be for us a
sign of penitence and a symbol of
our mortality; for it is by your
grace alone that we receive eternal
life in Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Amen.

*The people receive the imposition
of ashes at the high altar the
minister saying to each person:*

Remember that you are dust, and
to dust you shall return. Turn

away from sin and be faithful to Christ.

Each person responds by saying
Amen.

During the imposition silence may be kept, the organ/piano may be played.

PRAYER AT THE END OF THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES:

God our Father, the strength of all who put their trust in you, mercifully accept our prayers; and because, in our weakness, we can do nothing good without you, grant us the help of your grace, that in keeping your commandments we may please you, both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT.

We stand to share:

THE PEACE.

The Priest introduces the peace:

Being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

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.

The presentation of the Gifts by members of the congregation on behalf of the people.

OFFERTORY HYMN: (CH 319)

**Jesu, lover of my soul,
let me to thy bosom fly,
while the nearer waters roll,
while the tempest still is high:
hide me, O my Saviour, hide,
till the storm of life is past;
safe into the haven, guide
and receive my soul at last.**

**Other refuge have I none,
hangs my helpless soul on thee;
leave, ah! leave me, not alone,
still support and comfort me.
All my trust on you is stayed,
all my help from you I bring:
cover my defenceless head
with the shadow of thy wing.**

**Thou, O Christ, art all I want,
more than all in thee I find.
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint,
heal the sick and lead the blind.
Just and holy is thy name,
I am all unrighteousness;**

**false and full of sin I am,
thou are full of truth and grace.**

**Plenteous grace with thee is
found,
grace to cover all my sin:
let the healing streams abound;
make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art
freely let me take of thee;
spring thou up within my heart,
rise to all eternity!**

The bread and wine are placed on the altar.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have this bread to offer which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.
Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you Lord, God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become our spiritual drink.
Blessed be God for ever.

Pray, brothers and sisters, that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his Church.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS.

Lord, help us to resist temptation by our Lenten works of charity and penance.

By this sacrifice may we be prepared to celebrate the death and resurrection of Christ our Saviour and be cleansed from sin and renewed in spirit.

We make our prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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.

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise, almighty God and everlasting Father, through Jesus Christ your Son. For in these forty days you lead us into the desert of repentance that

through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline we may grow in grace and learn to be your people once again.

Through fasting, prayer and acts of service you bring us back to your generous heart.

Through study of your holy word you open our eyes to your presence in the world and free our hands to welcome others into the radiant splendour of your love.

As we prepare to celebrate the Easter feast with joyful hearts and minds we bless you for your mercy and join with saints and angels for ever praising you and saying:

**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.**

Sit/kneel

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ; who, in the

same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, 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:
**Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.
As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we, in the company of Our Lady, St. Laurence and all the saints, may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

As our Saviour has taught us, so we 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 Priest breaks the consecrated bread, saying:

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

We sing:

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.**

GIVING OF COMMUNION.

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

POST COMMUNION HYMN: (CH 301)

Please remain seated.

**Immortal, invisible, God only
wise,
in light inaccessible hid from
our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the
Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great
name we praise.**

**Unresting, unchanging, and silent
as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou
rulest in might -
thy justice like mountains high-
soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains
of goodness and love.**

**To all life thou givest, to both
great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life
of all;
we blossom and flourish as
leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish - but
nought changeth thee.**

**Great Father of glory, pure
Father of light,
thine angels adore thee, all
veiling their sight;
all laud we would render: O
help us to see
'tis only the splendour of light
hideth thee.**

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.**

THE DISMISSAL.

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

**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 and
those who you love this day and
always. Amen.**

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

RECESSIONAL HYMN: (CH 21)

**All my hope on God is founded;
he doth still my trust renew.
Me through change and chance
he guideth,
only good and only true.**

**God unknown, he alone
calls my heart to be his own.**

**Pride of man and earthly glory,
sword and crown betray God's
trust;
what with lavish care man
buildeth,
tower and temple, fall to dust.
But God's power, hour by hour.
is my temple and my tower.**

**God's great goodness ay
endureth,
deep his wisdom, passing
thought:
splendour, light and life attend
him,
beauty springeth out of nought.
Evermore, from his store
new-born worlds rise and adore.**

**Still from man to God eternal
sacrifice of praise be done,
high above all praises praising
for the gift of Christ his Son.
Christ doth call one and all;
ye who follow shall not fall.**

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

Let us bless the Lord
Thanks be to God

May the divine assistance remain
with us always.

**And with all our brothers and
sisters in Christ.**

May the souls of the faithful
departed through the mercy of
God, rest in peace.
And rise in glory. Amen.