



Ash Wednesday
22 February 2023 Year A
7 PM

* Indicates please stand

Prelude Cantilena

Florence Price (1877-1955)

***Processional Hymn**

Hymnal #142

***Opening Acclamation**

BCP 355

***Collect For Purity**

The Collect of the Day

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 First Lesson

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.

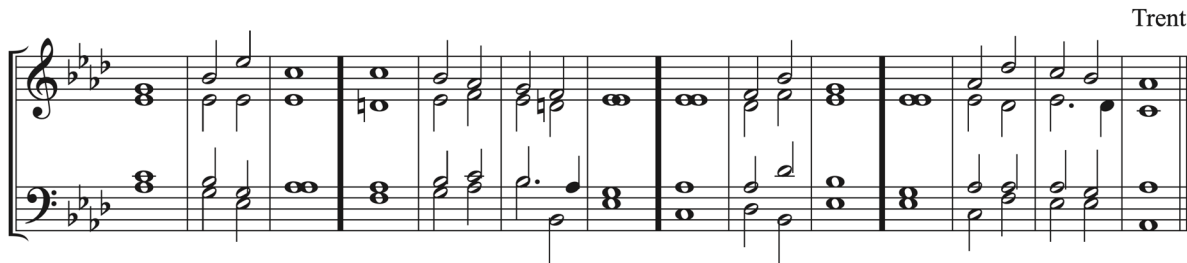
If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday.

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.

Psalm 103:8-14

Benedic, anima mea



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 ac- | cording | to our | wickedness.

11 For as the heavens are high a- | bove 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 re- | moved 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.

The Epistle 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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

***Sequence** Come, thou fount of every blessing (*Nettleton*)

Hymnal #686

***The Gospel Reading**

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 Sermon

The Rev. Megan Castellan

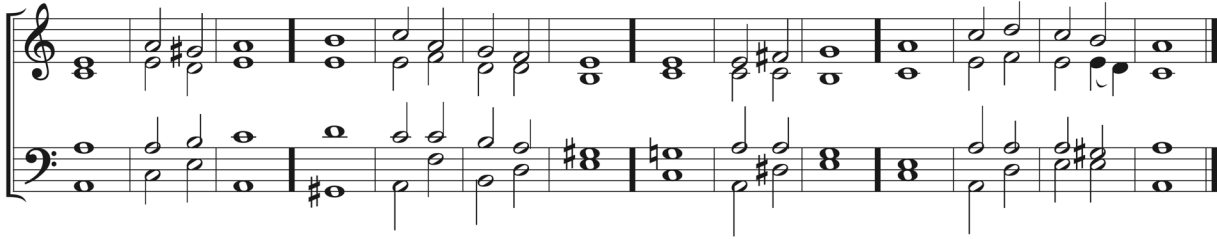
Exhortation

BCP 264

Imposition of Ashes (*if you wish to receive ashes, please come forward in single file*)

Psalm 51

Miserere mei, Deus



- 1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your | loving- | kindness; *
in your great compassion | blot out | my off- | enses.
- 2 Wash me through and through | from my | wickedness *
and | cleanse me | from my | sin.
- 3 For I know | my trans- | gressions, *
and my | sin is | ever · be- | fore 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 with- | in me, *
and will make me | under · stand | wisdom | secretly.
- 8 Purge me from my sin, and I | shall be | pure;
wash me, and I | shall be | clean in- | deed.
- 9 Make me hear of | joy and | gladness, *
that the body you have | broken | may re- | joice.
- 10 Hide your face | from my | sins *
and blot out | all | my in- | iquities.
- 11 Create in me a clean | heart, O | God, *
and renew a | right | spirit · with- | in 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 a- | gain *
and sustain me | with your | bounti · ful | Spirit.
- 14 I shall teach your ways | to the | wicked, *
and sinners | shall re- | turn to | you.
- 15 Deliver me from | death, O | God, *
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness,
O | God of | my sal- | vation.
- 16 Open my | lips, O | Lord, *
and my mouth | shall pro- | claim your | praise.

17 Had you desired it, I would have | offered | sacrifice; *
but you take no de- | light | in burnt- | offerings.
18 The sacrifice of God is a | troubled | spirit; *
a broken and contrite heart, O God, | you will | not des- | pise.

Litany of Penitence

The Celebrant and People together, all kneeling

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.

The Celebrant continues

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.

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 Peace**

Please remain in your pew. Wave!

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

Announcements & Welcome

Offertory Sentence

Anthem Have mercy upon me

George A. MacFarren (1813–87)

Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy loving kindness;
According to the multitude of thy tender mercies, blot out my transgressions.
Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquities, and cleanse me from my sins.
(Ps 51, vv1-2)

***Presentation Hymn** My God, accept my heart this day (*Song 67*)

Hymnal #697

***The Great Thanksgiving**

Expanded Language Prayer A

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts

People: We lift them to the Lord

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant: *continuing:* Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Holy, holy, holy (*Sanctus*)

Hymnal #S-130

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had fallen into sin and became subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, Sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and maker of all.

Jesus stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, He gave it to them, and said "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. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died

Christ is risen

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's 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 Christ.

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 Jesus Christ our Savior. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Fraction Anthem Lamb of God (*Agnus Dei*)

Hymnal #S-164

The Communion of the People

All people are invited to the Lord's Table.

Eucharist will be distributed in the center aisle. Please come forward in a single line to receive.

You may either intinct your wafer in the small chalice, or you may drink from the larger common chalice after consuming the wafer.

Please replace your mask after receiving the sacrament.

Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

Communion Music Wilt thou forgive that sin (*So giebst du nun*)

Hymnal #141

Post Communion Prayer

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.

Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing

***Recessional** Now quit your care and anxious fear (*Quittez, Pasteurs*)

Hymnal #145

Dismissal

Postlude Elegy

William Grant Still (1895–1978)

Liturgical Minister: Sonja Sanderson

Acolyte: Amber Massa

Virtual Vergers: Matthew Sanaker, Michael Roman

St. John's extends a warm welcome to visitors!

May you experience the Lord's presence during worship. Please fill out a visitor card and place it in the offering plate and stay for coffee in the parish hall after the service.

LARGE PRINT EDITIONS OF THE SERVICE ARE AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from **One License** with license #
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"Like" us on facebook @ Saint John's Episcopal Church

Office Hours Monday thru Thursday 10–3

The Rev. Megan Castellan, Rector

Gwen Freeman, Senior Warden
Parish Administrator, Cathy Wagner
Director of Music/Organist, Dr. Anna Stepler

Beverly Way, Junior Warden
Chuck Merrill, Weekday Sexton

If you need pastoral assistance, or just want to reach out to Mtr. Megan, please call her at 315-757-0251, or e-mail mtrmegan@stjohnsithaca.org.

If you would like to contribute to our ministries, you may make a secure donation at <https://stjohnsithaca.org/donate/>. Thank you!

Sign up for our weekly newsletter [The Fledgling](#) by contacting the church office.

Please Join Us:

Coffee Hour has resumed in the Parish Hall following the service. Please continue to wear your mask when you are not actively eating or drinking.

Morning Prayer Monday – Thursday at 9:30 on Facebook and YouTube.

Forward Day by Day for **February**, **March**, and **April** is available on the table in the rear of the church.

Flowers: If you wish to give candles or Sunday flowers in memory of a loved one, please call the church office (607-273-6532).