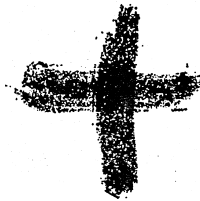




**BLACKBURN
CATHEDRAL**

The Cathedral
Eucharist
on
Ash Wednesday



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

Wednesday, 5 March, 2025 at 7.30pm

Welcome to this evening's service

The President
The Very Revd Peter Howell-Jones
Dean

The Preacher is
Canon James Lawrence
Missioner

The Deacon is
Canon Dr Jenny Gaffin
Precentor

The Subdeacon is
Nigel Scales

The service is sung by
The Cathedral Choir
Directed by
John Robinson
Director of Music

The organist is
John Hosking
Organist in Residence

The setting is
Darke in F

This service is being live streamed

*There is no welcome before the service,
which starts in silence.*

The Gathering

Please stand as the ministers enter.

The president says

The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit:
a broken and contrite heart he will not despise.

Psalms 51.17

There will be a period of silence

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.

The president introduces the celebration

The president says

The Collect

Let us pray for the grace to keep Lent faithfully.

Silence is kept – please remain standing

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.

Please sit

The Liturgy of the Word

Old Testament Reading

Read by Mihaela Mladin

(Isaiah 58.1-12)

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

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?”’

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading

Read by Michael Wedgeworth

(2 Corinthians 5.20b – 6.10)

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; 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, labours, 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 honour and dishonour, 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.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand with the president to sing

Gradual Hymn

THIRD MODE MELODY 373



When, rising from the bed of death,
o'erwhelmed with guilt and fear,
I see my Maker face to face,
O how shall I appear?
If yet while pardon may be found,
and mercy may be sought,
my heart with inward horror shrinks,
and trembles at the thought;

When thou, O Lord,
shalt stand disclosed
in majesty severe,
and sit in judgement on my soul,
O how shall I appear?
But thou hast told the troubled mind
who does her sins lament,
the timely tribute of her tears
shall endless woe prevent.

Then see the sorrow of my heart,
ere yet it be too late;
and hear my Saviour's dying groans,
to give those sorrows weight.
For never shall my soul despair
her pardon to procure,
who knows thine only Son has died
to make her pardon sure.

Joseph Addison (1672-1719)

The Gospel

(John 8.1-11)

The deacon says

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said 'Beware of practising 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.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

There is a period of silence after the sermon for reflection

The president says

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

Silence

Make our hearts clean, O God:
and renew a right spirit within us.

**Father eternal, giver of light and grace,
we have sinned against you and against our neighbour,
in what we have thought,
in what we have said and done,
through ignorance, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We have wounded your love,
and marred your image in us.
We are sorry and ashamed, and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us, forgive us all that is past;
and lead us out from darkness
to walk as children of light.
Amen.**

Please remain kneeling or sitting as the president moves to the table.

Our Lord Jesus Christ called upon the cities of Galilee to repent in sackcloth and 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.

If you do not wish to receive the imposition of ashes, please sit down.

If you are receiving the imposition of ashes, then go to the President at the middle of the chancel step, and STAND to receive them.



*Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return
Turn away from sin
and be faithful to Christ*

During the imposition of ashes, the choir sings:

Miserere mei, Deus, secundum magnam misericordiam tuam; et secundum multitudinem miserationum tuarum, dele iniquitatem meam.

Amplius lava me ab iniquitate mea: et a peccato meo munda me.

Quoniam iniquitatem meam ego cognosco, et peccatum meum contra me est semper.

Tibi soli peccavi, et malum coram te feci; ut justificeris in sermonibus tuis, et vincas cum iudicaris

Ecce enim in iniquitatibus conceptus sum: et in peccatis concepit me mater mea.

Ecce enim veritatem dilexisti; incerta et occulta sapientiae tuae manifestasti mihi.

Asperges me hyssopo, et mundabor; lavabis me, et super nivem dealbabor. Auditui meo dabis gaudium et laetitiam: et exultabunt ossa humiliata.

Averte faciem tuam a peccatis meis, et omnes iniquitates meas dele.

Cor mundum crea in me, Deus, et spiritum rectum innova in visceribus meis.

Ne projicias me a facie tua, et spiritum sanctum tuum ne auferas a me.

Have mercy on me, O God, in your great goodness;

according to the abundance of your compassion blot out my offences.

Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness and cleanse me from my sin.

For I acknowledge my faults and my sin is ever before me.

Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and righteous in your judgement.

I have been wicked even from my birth, a sinner when my mother conceived me.

Behold, you desire truth deep within me and shall make me understand wisdom in the depths of my heart.

Purge me with hyssop and I shall be clean; wash me and I shall be whiter than snow.

Make me hear of joy and gladness, that the bones you have broken may rejoice.

Turn your face from my sins and blot out all my misdeeds.

Make me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence and take not your holy spirit from me.

Redde mihi laetitiam salutaris tui, et spiritu principali confirma me.
Docebo iniquos vias tuas, et impii ad te convertentur.

Libera me de sanguinibus, Deus, Deus salutis meae, et exsultabit lingua mea iustitiam tuam.

Domine, labia mea aperies, et os meum annuntiabit laudem tuam.

Quoniam si voluisses sacrificium, dedissem utique; holocaustis non delectaberis.

Sacrificium Deo spiritus contribulatus; cor contritum et humiliatum, Deus, non despicias.

Benigne fac, Domine, in bona voluntate tua Sion, ut aedificentur muri Jerusalem.

Tunc acceptabis sacrificium iustitiae, oblationes et holocausta; tunc imponent super altare tuum vitulos.

Gregorio Allegri (c. 1582-1652)

silence

Please stand with the president for the peace

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

The president introduces says

Being justified by faith
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.
The peace of the Lord always with you.
and also with you.

The deacon says

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Give me again the joy of your salvation and sustain me with your gracious spirit; Then shall I teach your ways to the wicked and sinners shall return to you. Deliver me from my guilt, O God, the God of my salvation,

O Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall proclaim your praise. and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness.

For you desire no sacrifice, else I would give it; you take no delight in burnt offerings.

The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

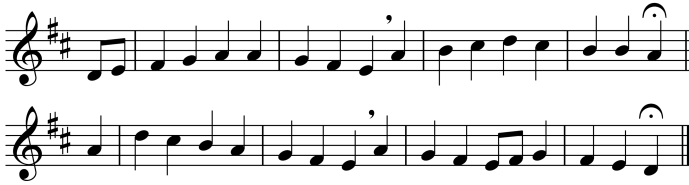
O be favourable and gracious to Zion; build up the walls of Jerusalem.

Then you will accept sacrifices offered in righteousness, the burnt offerings and oblations; then shall they offer up bulls on your altar.

Preparation of the Table

The deacon prepares the table

EISENACH 425



O love, how deep, how broad, how high!
How passing thought and fantasy
that God, the Son of God, should take
our mortal form for mortals' sake.

He sent no angel to our race
of higher or of lower place,
but wore the robe of human frame,
and he himself to this world came.

For us baptized, for us he bore
his holy fast, and hungered sore;
for us temptations sharp he knew;
for us the tempter overthrew.

For us to wicked pow'rs betrayed,
scourged, mocked, in crown of thorns arrayed;
for us he bore the cross's death;
for us at length gave up his breath.

For us he rose from death again,
for us he went on high to reign,
for us he sent his Spirit here
to guide, to strengthen, and to cheer.

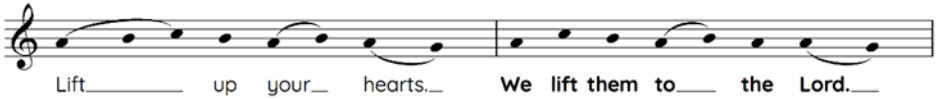
All honour, laud, and glory be,
O Jesu, virgin-born, to thee,
all glory, as is ever meet,
to Father and to Paraclete.

Benjamin Webb (1819-1885) from Thomas à Kempis (c. 1379-1471)

Taking of the Bread and Wine

God of mercy and compassion,
your Word calls us home to faith and love.
accept all we offer you this day;
in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer



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:

The choir sings:

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts,
heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord most high. Amen.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

All glory be to you, our heavenly Father,
who, in your tender mercy,
gave your only Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption;
who made there
by his one oblation of himself once offered
a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice
for the sins of the whole world;
he instituted, and in his holy gospel commanded us to continue,
a perpetual memory of his precious death
until he comes again.

Hear us, merciful Father, we humbly pray,
and grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
we receiving these gifts of your creation,
this bread and this wine,
according to your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution,
in remembrance of his death and passion,
may be partakers of his most blessed body and blood;

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.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:
**Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Therefore, Lord and heavenly Father,
in remembrance of the precious death and passion,
the mighty resurrection and glorious ascension
of your dear Son Jesus Christ,
we offer you through him this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.

Grant that by his merits and death,
and through faith in his blood,
we and all your Church may receive forgiveness of our sins
and all other benefits of his passion.
Although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins,
to offer you any sacrifice,
yet we pray that you will accept this
the duty and service that we owe.
Do not weigh our merits, but pardon our offences,
and fill us all who share in this holy communion
with your grace and heavenly blessing;

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.

Trusting in the compassion of God, as we join our prayers with
those of the Church Universal, so we pray, each in our own
language, as our Saviour taught us,

Notre père, qui es aux cieux ...	Missierna, li inti fis-smewwiet...
Vater unser im Himmel ...	Padre nosso, que estais nos céus...
Padre nostro che sei nei cieli ...	Ojczy nasz, któryś jest w niebie...
Otče náš, jenž jsi na nebesích ...	الَّذِي فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ،
Têve Mūsū, kuris esi danguje! ...	Ein Tad, yr hwn wyt yn y nefoedd...
Tatal nostru care esti in ceruri ...	

**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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The president breaks the consecrated bread, saying:

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

If you are able, please remain standing while the cantor sings

O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world,
grant us thy peace.

The Giving of Communion

The president says

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.**

When the stewards invite you to go forward, please approach the two communion stations in single file along the side aisles of the Nave.

Please return to your place by the central aisle of the Nave.

Communion is in one kind only, and the minister distributing communion will say

The body of Christ. Amen.

When the stewards invite you to go forward, please approach the two communion stations for bread in single file along the side aisles of the Nave.

Please do come and ask this first minister for any blessings.

After receiving the bread, if you wish to receive wine please move to the station near the central aisle, and return to your place by the central aisle of the Nave.

The minister distributing wine will say

The blood of Christ. Amen.

If you do not wish to receive communion wine, please walk past that second distribution point, and return to your place by the central aisle of the Nave.

While you are waiting to go for communion you may wish to sit down.

During communion

The choir sings:

Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts,
shut not thy merciful ears to our prayers, but spare us, Lord, most holy,
O God most mighty, O holy and merciful Saviour,
thou most worthy judge eternal,
suffer us not at our last hour for any pains of death to fall from thee.

Text from the BCP Burial service. Music Henry Purcell (1659-95)

Silence is kept

Prayer after Communion

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.**

Please stand to sing

Final Hymn

SOUTHWELL 701



Lord Jesus, think on me,
and purge away my sin;
from earthborn passions set me free,
and make me pure within.

Lord Jesus, think on me,
with care and woe opprest;
let me thy loving servant be,
and taste thy promised rest.

Lord Jesus, think on me,
nor let me go astray;
through darkness and perplexity
point thou the heavenly way.

Lord Jesus, think on me,
that, when the flood is past,
I may the eternal brightness see,
and share thy joy at last.

Greek, Synesius of Cyrene (375- 430) tr. A.W. Chatfield (1808-96)

The Dismissal

The president pronounces God's blessing

The deacon says

May the Father,
who does not despise the broken spirit
give to you a contrite heart.
And the blessing of almighty God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
rest upon you now and remain with you always.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

The president and ministers will leave in procession.

The Organ Voluntary



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