

# THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

ASH WEDNESDAY

February 22, 2012—10:00 a.m., 12:00 n., 6:30 p.m.

## The Ash Wednesday Liturgy

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### The Word of God

*The procession enters in silence. Those who are able are invited to stand for the procession.*

*The Book of Common Prayer, p. 264*

### The Collect of the Day

*The Celebrant says to the people*

The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

**A**lmighty 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 Lessons

*The People are seated.*

Hymn

**Hymnal No. 411**

*O bless the Lord, my soul*

### The Holy Gospel

**See Insert**

*Response at the beginning of the Gospel:*

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

*Response after the Gospel.*

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

### The Sermon

Mr. Bruce Jackson

*After the Sermon, all who are able stand, and the Celebrant appointed invites the people to the observance of a holy Lent, saying*

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 congregation was put in mind of the message of pardon and absolution set forth in the Gospel of our Savior, and of the need which all Christians continually have to renew their repentance and faith.

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. And, to make a right beginning of repentance, and as a mark of our mortal nature, let us now kneel before the Lord, our maker and redeemer.

*Silence is then kept for a time, all kneeling.*

*The Celebrant says the following prayer*

Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth: Grant that these ashes may be to us a sign of our mortality and penitence, that we may remember that it is only by your gracious gift that we are given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

*The ashes are imposed with the following words*  
Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

**Psalm 51:1-18** *Said at 10 am and noon services.  
Sung by the choir at 6:30 pm service.*

*Antiphon (Sung by all. 6:30 pm service)*

***Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
And renew a right spirit within me.***

- 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. *ANTIPHON*
- 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. *ANTIPHON*
- 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, *ANTIPHON*
- 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; \*  
ash me, and I shall be clean indeed. *ANTIPHON*
- 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. *ANTIPHON*
- [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. *ANTIPHON*
- 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. *ANTIPHON*
- 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.  
*ANTIPHON*
- 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. *ANTIPHON*

## **Litany of Penitence**

[p. 267]

*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.***

*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 Peace

*All stand. The Celebrant says to the people*  
The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**

*Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## The Holy Communion

*Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of bread and wine, and money or other gifts, to the deacon or celebrant. The people stand while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.*

Offertory Anthem:  
*Surely The Presence of The Lord Is In This Place*

ARR. SCHRADER

## The Great Thanksgiving [p. 367]

*The people remain standing. The Celebrant says*  
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 him thanks and praise.**

*The Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*Celebrant and People*

[Hymnal S-130]

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

*The people stand or kneel.*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become 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 Father of all.

He 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 Lord 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 he 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:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

*The Bishop continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his 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 him. 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 your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

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

*People and Celebrant*

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**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, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **The Breaking of the Bread**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.*

*A period of silence is kept.*

*Then is sung*

[Hymnal S-164]

**Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world: give us your peace, give us your peace.**

*The Celebrant says the following Invitation*

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*All baptized persons are invited to receive the Holy Communion at our Lord's Table.*

Communion Hymn

**Hymnal No. 574**

*Before thy throne, O God, we kneel*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

**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.**

**The Lenten Prayer over the People**

*The Deacon says*

Bow down before the Lord. May Christ, the Son of

*The Celebrant says*

Grant, most merciful Lord, to your faithful 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.*

Closing Hymn

**Hymnal No. 149**

*Eternal Lord of love*

*The Deacon, or the Celebrant, dismisses them with these words*

Let us bless the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF**

**ST JOHN THE BAPTIST**

4102 W UNION HILLS DRIVE, GLENDALE, AZ 85308

Phone: 623.582.5449

Website: [www.stjohnsaz.org](http://www.stjohnsaz.org)

Office email: [info@stjohnsaz.org](mailto:info@stjohnsaz.org)

Newsletter email: [newsletter@stjohnsaz.org](mailto:newsletter@stjohnsaz.org)

The Rev'd Canon Frank Clark, Priest-in-Charge

Mr. Bruce Jackson, Lay Curate

The Rev'd Chuck Milhoan, Deacon

Mr. Alan Glover, Organist/Choir Master