

# ASH WEDNESDAY

FEBRUARY 17, 2021 • 12:00 P.M.



## THE HOLY EUCHARIST

### RITE I

## THE WORD OF GOD

VOLUNTARY

*O Welt, ich muss dich lassen*

Johannes Brahms

THE COLLECT

The Book of Common Prayer, page 264

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*An extended period of silence is observed for prayer.*

*Celebrant* Almighty and everlasting God, who hatest nothing that thou hast made, and dost 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 obtain of thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

*People* **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 58:1-12

*Reader* A Reading from the Book of Isaiah.

<sup>1</sup> 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. <sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> "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. <sup>4</sup> 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. <sup>5</sup> 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? <sup>6</sup> 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? <sup>7</sup> 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? <sup>8</sup> 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. <sup>9</sup> 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, <sup>10</sup> 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. <sup>11</sup> 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. <sup>12</sup> 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.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

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

*A moment of silence follows the reading.*

PSALM 103:8-14 *Benedic, anima mea* .....733

*Celebrant and People*

<sup>8</sup> **The LORD is full of compassion and mercy, \*  
slow to anger and of great kindness.**

<sup>9</sup> **He will not always accuse us, \*  
nor will he keep his anger for ever.**

<sup>10</sup> **He has not dealt with us according to our sins, \*  
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.**

<sup>11</sup> **For as the heavens are high above the earth, \*  
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.**

<sup>12</sup> **As far as the east is from the west, \*  
so far has he removed our sins from us.**

<sup>13</sup> **As a father cares for his children, \*  
so does the LORD care for those who fear him.**

<sup>14</sup> **For he himself knows whereof we are made; \*  
he remembers that we are but dust.**

THE GOSPEL READING

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

*People* **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> 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. <sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, <sup>4</sup> so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. <sup>5</sup> 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. <sup>6</sup> 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. <sup>16</sup> 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.<sup>17</sup> But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face,<sup>18</sup> 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.<sup>19</sup> Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal;<sup>20</sup> but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal.<sup>21</sup> For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

THE HOMILY

The Very Rev. Matthew Johnson

INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF A HOLY LENT .....264

*Celebrant* 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 pray to the Lord, our maker and redeemer.

*A period of silence is observed.*

BLESSING AND IMPOSITION OF ASHES .....265

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

*People* **Amen.**

LITANY OF PENITENCE .....267

*Celebrant* Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

*A moment of silence is observed.*

*Celebrant and People*

**Most holy and merciful Father:**

**We confess to thee 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.**

*Celebrant* We have not loved thee 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.

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

*Celebrant* We have not heard thy call to serve, as Christ served us.  
We have not been true to the mind of Christ.  
We have grieved thy Holy Spirit.

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

*Celebrant* We confess to thee, O Lord, all our past unfaithfulness:  
the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience of our lives,

*People* **We confess to thee, O Lord.**

*Celebrant* Our lust, gluttony, and abuse of others,

*People* **We confess to thee, O Lord.**

*Celebrant* Our anger, hatred, malice, and envy,

*People* **We confess to thee, O Lord.**

*Celebrant* Our laziness, intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts,  
and our dishonesty in daily life and work,

*People* **We confess to thee, O Lord.**

*Celebrant* Our negligence in prayer and worship,  
and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,

*People* **We confess to thee, O Lord.**

*Celebrant* Accept our repentance, O Lord, for the wrongs we have done:  
for our blindness to human need and suffering,  
and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,

*People* **Accept our repentance, O Lord.**

*Celebrant* For all false judgments,  
for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors,  
and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,

*People* **Accept our repentance, O Lord.**

*Celebrant* For poor stewardship and misuse of thy creation,  
and our lack of concern for the generations to come,

*People* **Accept our repentance, O Lord.**

*Celebrant* Restore us, good Lord, and let thy anger depart from us;

*People* **Favorably hear us, for thy mercy is great.**

*Celebrant* Accomplish in us the work of thy salvation;

*People* **That we may show forth thy glory in the world.**

*Celebrant* By the cross and passion of thy Son our Lord,

*People* **Bring us with all thy saints to the joy of his resurrection.**

*Celebrant* Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desireth not the death of sinners, but rather that they may turn from their wickedness and live, hath given power and commandment to his ministers to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the absolution and remission of their sins. He pardoneth and absolveth all those who truly repent, and with sincere hearts do 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.

*People* **Amen.**

THE PEACE ..... 360

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

### THE HOLY COMMUNION

VOLUNTARY                      *O wie selig seid ihr doch, ihr Frommen*                      Johannes Brahms

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (Eucharistic Prayer I)..... 333

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People*     **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

*People*     **It is meet and right so to do.**

*Celebrant* It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was in every way tempted as we are, yet did not sin; by whose grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer unto ourselves, but unto him who died for us and rose again.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

*Celebrant and People*

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:**

**Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.**

**Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.**

**Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*Celebrant* All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son 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, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake 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."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with this thy holy gift, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, this thy gift and creature; that we, receiving it according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.

*People*     **AMEN.**

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

*Celebrant and People*

**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 .....337

*After the Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread, a moment of silence is observed.*

*Celebrant*   Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

*People*     **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

AGNUS DEI.....337

*Celebrant and People*

**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.

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS.....337

*Celebrant and People*

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

THE COMMUNION.....338

SOLEMN PRAYER The Book of Occasional Services, page 25

*Celebrant* Grant, most merciful Lord, to thy faithful people pardon and peace, that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve thee with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*People* Amen.

DISMISSAL.....340

*Celebrant* Let us bless the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY *Herzliebster Jesu* Johannes Brahms

*Permission to stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #735780-A. All rights reserved.*

---

**SERVERS**

**Organist** Lawrence Goering

**Presider** Matt Johnson

**Reader** Lalor Smith

---

## DRIVE-IN ASHES AND COMMUNION

*Ashes and Communion will be administered in the church parking lot **until 2:00 p.m.***

*When you arrive, the Driver and any Passengers should **remain inside your vehicle** and roll down the window (remember to wear a mask). The Celebrant will come to your vehicle and administer the Communion bread, saying*

The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life.

*After receiving Communion, the Celebrant and People will pray together*

**Gracious Father, we give thee praise and thanks for this Holy Communion of the Body and Blood of your beloved Son Jesus Christ, the pledge of our redemption; and we pray that it may bring us forgiveness of our sins, strength in our weakness, and everlasting salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Next the Celebrant will pour a small amount of ashes into your hand and say*

Remember that thou art dust, and unto dust shalt thou return.

*You are invited to use the ashes to draw a cross on your forehead. (Any remaining ashes can be brushed onto the ground).*

## CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD AND DAY SCHOOL

231 N. Church St., Rocky Mount, NC 27804  
www.goodshepherdrmt.org (252) 442-1134

### Sunday Services

8:00 a.m. (public, outdoor Morning Prayer)  
10:30 a.m. (live stream Liturgy of the Word at [gslive.org](https://gslive.org))