

Welcome

# St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church

## Service of the Holy Eucharist



Ash Wednesday – March 1, 2017



The Anglican Parish of Glengarry

[www.glengarryparish.ca](http://www.glengarryparish.ca)

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Welcome to our Church in the Wildwood.

Officiant: **Rev. Fran Aird** Liturgical Assistant: **Jean**

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Ash Wednesday marks the first day of Lent. Christians who observe Lent use it as a time for prayer and penance. By observing Lent, Christians are remembering the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, who withdrew into the wilderness and fasted for 40 days before his crucifixion. Traditionally, pancakes are eaten on the day before Ash Wednesday to use up rich, indulgent foods like eggs and milk before the 40-day fasting season of Lent begins.

## The Holy Eucharist

*Celebrant* If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts. *Psalm 95.7–8*

### The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you;

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

*Celebrant* Let us pray,

*People* **Almighty and everlasting God, you despise 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 brokenness, 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 Proclamation of the Word

#### The First Reading

*Jean.:* A reading from the second book of Joel:

Joe 2: 1-2 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.

12-17 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?'"

*Reader* Listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches. (Rev 2:7)  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

### **The Psalm—103: 8-18**

*Celebrant* The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, \*  
slow to anger and of great kindness.

*People* **He will not always accuse us, \***  
**nor will he keep his anger for ever.**

He has not dealt with us according to our sins, \*  
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.

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

As far as the east is from the west, \*  
so far has he removed our sins from us.

**As a father cares for his children, \***  
**so does the Lord care for those who fear him.**

For he himself knows whereof we are made; \*  
he remembers that we are but dust.

**Our days are like the grass; \***  
**we flourish like a flower of the field;**

When the wind goes over it, it is gone, \*  
and its place shall know it no more.

**But the merciful goodness of the Lord endures for ever**  
**on those who fear him, \* and his righteousness on children's children;**

On those who keep his covenant \*  
and remember his commandments and do them.

*All* **God of infinite mercy and forgiveness, by the cross and resurrection of Jesus your Son, wash away our sins and deliver us from our infirmities of body and spirit, that we may live with him his risen life, to the praise and glory of your holy name. Amen.**

## The Second Reading

*Patricia S.:* A reading from the Second letter of Paul to the Corinthians

*2 Cor. 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, 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.

*Reader* Listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches. (*Rev 2:7*)

*All* **Thanks be to God**

## Gradual Hymn 576 For the Healing of the Nations

### The Gospel Reading

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

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

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

*Mat 6:1-6* 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.

*16-21* 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.”

*Celebrant* The Gospel of Christ.

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

**Sermon** *Rev. Fran Aird*

### **Imposition of Ashes**

*Celebrant* Dear friends in Christ, every year at the time of the Christian Passover we celebrate our redemption through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Lent is a time to prepare for this celebration and to renew our life in the paschal mystery. We begin this holy season by remembering our need for repentance, and for the mercy and forgiveness proclaimed in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

We begin our journey to Easter with the sign of ashes, an ancient sign, speaking of the frailty and uncertainty of human life, and marking the penitence of the community as a whole.

I invite you therefore, in the name of the Lord, to observe a holy Lent by self-examination, penitence, prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, and by reading and meditating on the word of God. Let us kneel before our Creator and Redeemer.

### **The Psalm—51:1-17**

*Celebrant* Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; \*  
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

*People* **Wash me through and through from my wickedness \*  
and cleanse me from my sin.**

For I know my transgressions, \*  
and my sin is ever before me.

**Against you only have I sinned \*  
and done what is evil in your sight.**

And so you are justified when you speak \*  
and upright in your judgement.

**Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth  
a sinner from my mother's womb.**

For behold, you look for truth deep within me, \*  
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.

**Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; \*  
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.**

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

**Hide your face from my sins \*  
and blot out all my iniquities.**

Create in 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.**

Give me the joy of your saving help again \*  
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

**I shall teach your ways to the wicked, \*  
and sinners shall return to you.**

Deliver me from death, O God, \* and my tongue shall sing of your  
righteousness, O God of my salvation.

**Open my lips, O Lord, \*  
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice, \*  
but you take no delight in burnt-offerings.

*All* **Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no  
secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your  
Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **Litany of Penitence**

*All* **Most holy and merciful Father, we confess to you, 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 you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not  
loved our neighbours as ourselves. We have not forgiven others, as we have been  
forgiven.

*People* **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 judgements, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbours, 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;

**Hear us, Lord, for your mercy is great.**

*Celebrant*

Almighty God, from the dust of the earth you have created us. May these ashes be for us a sign of our mortality and penitence, and a reminder that only by your Gracious gift are we given eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen

*Those who desire to receive ashes come forward*

*Celebrant*

Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,

*People*

**That we may show forth your glory in the world.**

*Celebrant*

By the cross and passion of your Son, our Lord,

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

## **The Peace**

*Celebrant*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People*

**And with thy spirit.**

*The community may greet one another in the name of the Lord*

## **The Celebration of the Eucharist**

### **The Preparation of the Gifts**

*Representatives of the People bring the bread & wine to the Altar*

**Offertory Hymn 170 The Glory of These Forty Days**    *verses 1,2, &4*

*The Sidespeople bring the Offering and Food Basket to the Altar*

*All—Singing*

**We give thee but thine own, what e'er that gift may be,  
All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord from thee.**



### The Prayer over the Gifts

*Celebrant* Let us pray,  
*All* Merciful God, turn us from sin to faithfulness. Accept our offering, and prepare us to celebrate the death and resurrection of Christ our Saviour, who is alive and reigns with you now and for ever. Amen.

### The Great Thanksgiving

193—210 Eucharistic Prayer  
211 The Lord's Prayer - *you are invited to join hands with your neighbour*  
212 The Breaking of the Bread

### The Communion

*Celebrant* Holy Things for Holy People: The Gifts of God, for the People of God.  
*People* Thanks be to God!  
*—please join the Choir in singing Hymn 747 (Jesus, Lamb of God) —*  
*—All are Welcome at God's Table. We ask that you please refrain from Intinction —*

### Prayer after Communion

*Celebrant* Let us pray,  
*All* God of compassion, through your Son Jesus Christ you reconciled your people to yourself. Following his example of prayer and fasting, may we obey you with willing hearts and serve one another in holy love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Communion Hymn: 611 Our Father, We Have Wandered

### Doxology

*Celebrant* Glory to God,  
*All* whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.

### Announcements

### The Blessing

Recessional Hymn: 178 Restore in Us, O God

### Closing Hymn: Go Now in Peace

- 1 Go now in Peace ... never be afraid, God will go with you each hour of every day.
- 2 Go now in Faith ... steadfast strong and true, Know he will guide you in all you do.
- 3 Go now in Love ... and show you believe, Reach out to others, so all the world can see.
- 4 God will be there ... watching from above, Go now in Peace, in Faith, and in Love.

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### Dismissal

*Celebrant:* Worship has ended: Service can now begin.  
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

