

# Grace Episcopal Church

130 First Avenue, Nyack, New York

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The Rev. Dr. Dustin Trowbridge, *Rector*

Brandon N. Beachamp, *Organist and Choirmaster*

## Order of Service for Ash Wednesday — February 22, 2023 — 7:30pm

*All Stand, as able, as the ministers enter in silence.*

*(The Book of Common Prayer, p. 264)*

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: *His mercy endures forever.*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: 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. (All are seated)*

### THE FIRST READING

Joel 2:1-2,12-17

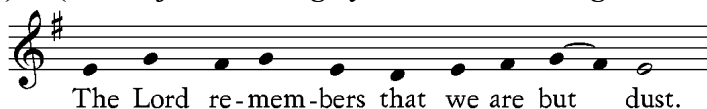
Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the Lord is coming, it is near—a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness! Like blackness spread upon the mountains, a great and powerful army comes; their like 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?'"

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

### PSALM 103 (8-14) *(The Refrain is sung by all; the choir sings the verses.)*

**Refrain**  
*(All)*



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. *(Refrain)*

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

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

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

13 As a father cares for his children,  
so does the LORD care for those who fear him.  
*(Refrain)*

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

**THE SECOND 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.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

**GRADUAL  
HYMN 149**

Old 124th

*(All Standing,  
as able)*

*Unison or harmony*

1 E - ter - nal Lord of love, be - hold your Church  
 2 So dai - ly dy - ing to the way of self,  
 3 If dead in you, so in you we a - rise,

walk - ing once more the pil - grim way of Lent,  
 so dai - ly liv - ing to your way of love,  
 you the first - born of all the faith - ful dead;

led by your cloud by day, by night your fire,  
 we walk the road, Lord Je - sus, that you trod,  
 and as through ston - y ground the green shoots break,

moved by your love and toward your pres - ence bent:  
 know - ing our - selves bap - tized in - to your death:  
 glo - rious in spring - time dress of leaf and flower,

far off yet here— the goal of all de - sire.  
 so we are dead and live with you in God.  
 so in the Fa - ther's glo - ry shall we wake.

## THE GOSPEL

Matthew 6:1-6,16-21

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

People: *Glory to you, O Lord.*

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."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: *Praise to you, O Christ.*

## SERMON

*The Rev. Dr. Dustin Trowbridge*

### THE INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF A HOLY LENT *(All standing, as able)*

Celebrant: Dear People of God: The first Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Christ'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)*

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.

## IMPOSITION OF ASHES

### ANTHEM *(Sung by the choir)*

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

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 judgment.

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.  
The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.  
Be favorable and gracious to Zion, and rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.  
Then you will be pleased with the appointed sacrifices, with burnt-offerings and oblations;  
then shall they offer young bullocks upon your altar.

Music: Paul Halley (b. 1952)  
Text: Psalm 51

## LITANY OF PENITENCE

Celebrant: Let us pray. *(The Celebrant and People together, all kneeling, as able)*

All: *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.*

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.*

Celebrant: 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 the 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 his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## THE PEACE

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: *And also with you.*

*(The People are encouraged to exchange the greetings of peace with all around them.)*

# The Holy Communion

*The Celebrant begins the Offertory with an Offertory Sentence.*

*The people's offerings are collected and presented during the Presentation Hymn.*

## ANTHEM AT THE OFFERING *(Sung by the choir)*

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

Have mercy upon me, O God, after Thy great goodness  
According to the multitude of Thy mercies do away mine offences.

Music: Antonio Lotti

Text: Psalm 51

## PRESENTATION HYMN 635

*Wer nur den  
lieben Gott*

*(All Standing,  
as able)*

*Unison or harmony*

1 If thou but trust in God to guide thee, and hope in him through  
2 Sing, pray, and keep his ways un - swerv - ing; so do thine own part

all thy ways, he'll give thee strength what - e'er be - tide thee,  
faith - ful - ly, and trust his word, though un - de - serv - ing;

and bear thee through the e - vil days. Who trusts in God's un -  
thou yet shalt find it true for thee; God nev - er yet for -

chang - ing love builds on a rock that nought can move.  
sook in need the soul that trust - ed him in - deed.

THE GREAT THANKGIVING

(Eucharistic Prayer B, BCP, p. 367)

*Celebrant*                      *People*  
 The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

*Celebrant*                      *People*  
 Lift up your hearts. 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.

Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again. 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:

SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of  
 power and might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
 Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
 in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Celebrant: We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

*All: We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory.*

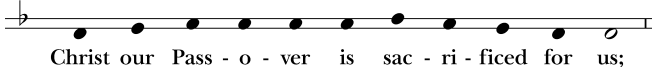
Celebrant: And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son

in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. 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:

*All: Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed by 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.*

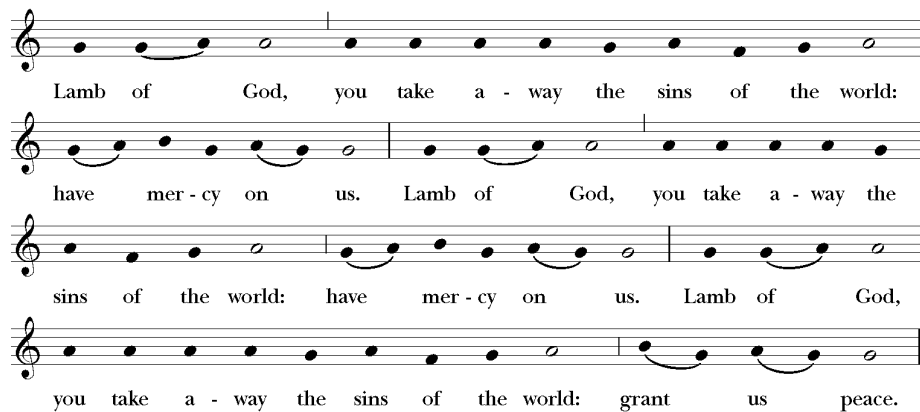
## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*(The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread and the following is sung by the choir and people.)*

Celebrant:  Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;

People:  There - fore let us keep the feast.

## AGNUS DEI



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Celebrant: 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.

## THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

**VOLUNTARY DURING THE COMMUNION**  
Chorale Prelude on "Wer nur den lieben Gott"

Georg Böhm

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Celebrant: Let us pray.

*All: Almighty and everliving God,  
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food  
of the most precious Body and Blood  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;  
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries  
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,  
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.  
And now, Father, send us out  
to do the work you have given us to do,  
to love and serve you  
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.  
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.*

## THE SOLMEMN PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

Celebrant: Bow down before the Lord. *(The people kneel, as able)*

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.

## DISMISSAL

Celebrant: Let us bless the Lord

*People: Thanks be to God.*

## HYMN 143

*Erhalt uns, Herr*



1 The glo - ry of these for - ty days we  
2 A - lone and fast - ing Mo - ses saw the  
3 So Dan - iel trained his mys - tic sight, de -  
4 Then grant us, Lord, like them to be full  
\*5 O Fa - ther, Son, and Spi - rit blest, to

*(All Stand)*



1 ce - le - brate with songs of praise; for Christ, through whom all  
2 lov - ing God who gave the law; and to E - li - jah,  
3 liv - ered from the li - ons' might; and John, the Bride - groom's  
4 oft in fast and prayer with thee; our spi - rits strength - en  
5 thee be ev - ery prayer ad - dressed, who art in three - fold



1 things were made, him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.  
2 fast - ing, came the steeds and char - i - ots of flame.  
3 friend, be - came the her - ald of Mes - si - ah's name.  
4 with thy grace, and give us joy to see thy face.  
5 Name a - dored, from age to age, the on - ly Lord.

*(The Congregation may depart in silence)*