

The Gathering

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All

Amen.

The priest greets the people

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All

and also with you.

Introduction and Collect

*The president invites the people to observe Lent faithfully before
introducing the Collect*

Let us pray for grace to keep Lent faithfully.

Silence is kept.

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, world without end.

All

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word



First Reading

Joel 2.1-2,12-17

¹Blow 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 –
^{2a} 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.

¹²Yet even now, says the LORD,
return to me with all your heart,
with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;
¹³rend 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.

¹⁴Who 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?

¹⁵Blow the trumpet in Zion;
sanctify a fast;
call a solemn assembly;
¹⁶gather 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.
¹⁷Between 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?"'

At the end the reader may say

All

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 51.1-18

- 1 Have mercy on me, O God, in your great goodness;
according to the abundance of your compassion
blot out my offences.
- 2 **Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness
and cleanse me from my sin.**
- 3 For I acknowledge my faults
and my sin is ever before me.
- 4,5 **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.**
- 6 I have been wicked even from my birth,
a sinner when my mother conceived me.
- 7 **Behold, you desire truth deep within me
and shall make me understand wisdom
in the depths of my heart.**
- 8 Purge me with hyssop and I shall be clean;
wash me and I shall be whiter than snow.

- 9** **Make me hear of joy and gladness,
that the bones you have broken may rejoice.**
- 10 Turn your face from my sins
and blot out all my misdeeds.
- 11** **Make 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.
- 13,14** **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.**
- 15 Deliver me from my guilt, O God,
 the God of my salvation,
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness.
- 16** **O Lord, open my lips
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.**
- 17 For you desire no sacrifice, else I would give it;
you take no delight in burnt offerings.
- 18** **The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.**

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 5.20b-6.10

²⁰We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

¹As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. ²For 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!
³We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, ⁴but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labours, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, ⁷truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸in honour and dishonour, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see – we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

At the end the reader may say

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

All

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

The Lord is a great God, O that today you would listen to his voice. Harden not your hearts.

(cf. psalm 95.8)

All

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

Hear the Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Matthew.

All

Glory to Christ our Saviour.

Matthew 6.1-6, 16-21

Jesus said to the disciples, ¹'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.

²So 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. ³But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

⁵And 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. ⁶But 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.

¹⁶And 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. ¹⁷But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸so 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.

¹⁹Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; ²⁰but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.'

After the Gospel:

Give thanks to the Lord for this glorious Gospel
Praise to Christ, our Lord.

All

A Sermon is preached.

After the sermon, there is a time of quiet for reflection.

The Liturgy of Penitence

The Priest now leads a corporate examination of conscience,

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

All God the Father,
have mercy on us.

All God the Son,
have mercy on us.

All God the Holy Spirit,
have mercy on us.

All Trinity of love,
have mercy on us.

All **Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.**

We have not loved you with our whole heart,
mind, and strength.

We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.

We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

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.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

We confess to you, Lord ...

all our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy and impatience of
our lives.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Our anger at our own frustration
and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts
and our dishonesty in daily life and work.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Our negligence in prayer and worship
and our failure to commend the faith that is in us.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

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.

All **Accept our repentance, Lord.**

For all false judgements,
for uncharitable thoughts towards our neighbours
and for our prejudice and contempt towards those who differ
from us.

All **Accept our repentance, Lord.**

For our waste and pollution of your creation
and our lack of concern for those who come after us.

All **Accept our repentance, Lord.**

Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us.

All **Favourably hear us, for your mercy is great.**

Accomplish in us the work of your salvation,
that we may show your glory in the world.

All **that we may show 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.

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

Silence is kept.

All

**We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy, forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly,
love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God.
Amen.**

The Imposition of Ashes or Dirt

Dear friends in Christ, I invite you to receive these marks as a sign of the spirit of penitence with which we shall keep this season of Lent.

God our Father, you create us from the dust of the earth:
grant that the marks we receive may be for us
a sign of our 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.

All

Each person who wishes marks their forehead with a sign of the cross in ashes, or dirt. If couples or more than one worshipper is present, they may mark each other.

As the marks are made, the minister says:



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

God our Father,
the strength of all who put their trust in you,
mercifully accept our prayers;
and because, in our weakness,
we can do nothing good without you,
grant us the help of your grace,
that in keeping your commandments
we may please you, both in will and deed;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

The priest introduces the Peace with a sentence from scripture.

Since we are justified by faith,
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has given us access to his grace.

cf Romans 5.1,2

All

We meet in Christ's name
let us share his peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

Preparation of the Altar

The priest takes the bread and wine.

Merciful Father, turn us from sin to faithfulness
and from disobedience to love,
and prepare us to celebrate
the death and resurrection of Christ our Saviour
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

The priest says or sings:

All

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

All

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

All

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.



The priest begins the Eucharistic Prayer, celebrating the work of God in Christ

Worship and praise belong to you,
maker of light and darkness...

...we now offer you our praise,
with angels and archangels
and the whole company of heaven
singing the hymn of your unending glory:

All

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

The priest recalls Jesus' institution of the Eucharist, ending with the words:

...*"Drink this, all of you.
This is my Blood of the new covenant;
it is poured out for you, and for all,
that sins may be forgiven.
Do this in remembrance of me."*

All **We now obey your Son's command.
We recall his blessed passion and death,
his glorious resurrection and ascension;
and we look for the coming of his Kingdom.
Made one with him, we offer you these gifts
with them ourselves,
a single, holy, living sacrifice.**

Hear us, most merciful Father...

... we may be kindled with the fire of your love
and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

All **Help us, who are baptised
into the fellowship of Christ's Body
to live and work to your praise and glory;
may we grow together in unity and love
until at last, in your new creation,
we enter into our heritage
in the company of the Virgin Mary,
all the apostles, and prophets,
and of all our brothers and sisters
living and departed.**

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be to you,
Lord of all ages, world without end.

All **Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

The priest breaks the consecrated bread in silence.

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

The Lord's Prayer

Lord Jesus, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

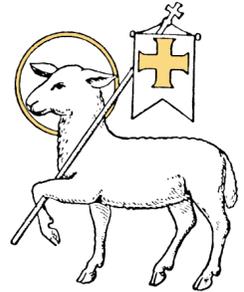
All

**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.**

Agnus Dei

All

**Jesus, Lamb of God,
have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins,
have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world,
grant us peace.**



The Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

All

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
But only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

We do not presume
to come to this your table, merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness,
but in your manifold and great mercies.
We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs
under your table.
But you are the same Lord
whose nature is always to have mercy.
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,
so to spiritually receive the flesh and blood
of your dear Son Jesus Christ
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,
and that we may evermore dwell in him
and he in us. Amen.

All

*God of unending love,
you are present to us in Word and Sacrament.
With all around the world who gather to worship,
I offer you my praise and thanksgiving;
and though I cannot eat the bread of God,
or drink the royal wine of heaven,
I pray that I may know the fountain of your love
pouring upon me
and your Incarnate presence encompassing me behind
and before,
that through the power of your Spirit,
I may rejoice in the sure hope
that I abide in your wondrous love
now and for all eternity,
in Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen*

As the priest cleans the vessels, a hymn may be sung.

Prayer after Communion

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**

All **God of our pilgrimage,
you have fed us with the bread of heaven.
Refresh and sustain us
as we go forward on our journey,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Dismissal

A final hymn is sung, followed by this responsory

All This is love, not that we loved God,
but that he loved us and sent his Son.
He is the sacrifice for our sins,
All **that we might live through him.**
If God loves us so much
All **we ought to love one another.**
If we love one another
All **God lives in us.**

cf 1 John 4.10-12

The Dismissal Gospel

Hear the Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke.

All **Glory to Christ, our Saviour.**

Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it.

When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbours, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who need no repentance. *(Luke 15.4-7)*

All This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to Christ, our Lord

Blessing

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness,
to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

All Go in the peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God