

*The Benefice of Caldecote,
Northhill and Old Warden*



*A service of Eucharist
with Imposition of Ashes*

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, now and for ever.

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.

Metrical Psalm

Psalm 51

God, be merciful to me,
let your love my refuge be;
my offences wash away,
cleansing me from my sin today.
My transgressions I confess,
grief and guilt my soul oppress;
I have sinned against your grace
and provoked you to your face.

Wash me, wash me pure within,
cleansing, O cleansing me from my sin:
in your righteousness I trust,
in your judgements you are just.
Come, salvation to impart,
teach your wisdom to my heart;
make me pure, your grace bestow,
that your mercy I may know.

Gracious God, my heart renew,
make my spirit right and true;
from my sins O hide your face,
blot them out in boundless grace.
Cast your servant not away,
let your Spirit with me stay;
make me joyful, willing, strong,
teach me your salvation's song!

Michael Perry (1942-1996)
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Tune: *Aberystwyth* by Joseph Parry (1841-1903)

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.

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

The Gospel is announced and all respond

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

All

Sermon

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.**



Silence is kept

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

By the cross and passion of your Son our Lord,
bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

All

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 Ash or Dirt

Dear friends in Christ, I invite you to receive these ashes 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 these ashes 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 comes forward to receive a sign of the cross on their forehead in ash or dirt.

At the imposition, the minister says to each person:

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



When all who wish have been marked, the priest continues the prayer

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

A Hymn is sung while the altar is prepared and the sacred vessels containing the bread and wine are placed upon it.

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

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

It is indeed right and good
to give you thanks and praise,
almighty God and everlasting Father,
through Jesus Christ your Son.

...

As we prepare to celebrate the Easter feast
with joyful hearts and minds
we bless you for your mercy
and join with saints and angels
for ever praising you and saying:

All

**Holy, holy, holy,
God of power and might,
Filling earth and heaven
With your glorious light.**

**Blessèd is the one who
Comes in God's great name;
Angels sing 'Hosanna!'
In the highest heav'n.**

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

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

All

**Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Hear us, most merciful Father...

Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with *The Blessed Virgin, Mary, St Leonard and All Saints*
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever.

All

Amen.

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.**

Breaking of the Bread

The priest breaks the consecrated bread in silence.

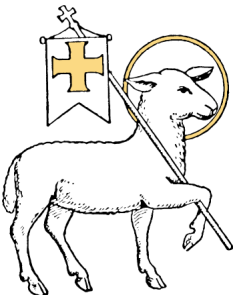
All Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes

Agnus Dei

All O Lamb of God, you take away
The sin of all the world;
With mercy look on us, we pray,
O Jesus, Lamb of God

O Lamb of God, you take away
The sin of all the world;
With mercy look on us, we pray,
O sweetest Lamb of God.

O Lamb of God, you take away
The sin of all the world;
O grant us peace, dear Lord, we pray,
O holy Lamb of God.



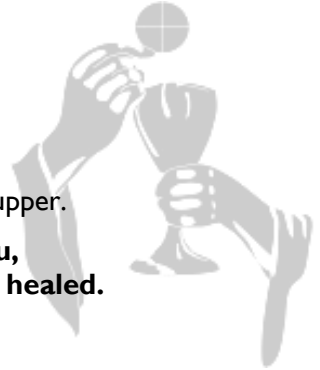
Giving of Communion

The priest invites the people to 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 eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ
and to drink his blood,
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.

*The priest and people receive communion. As each receives the
sacrament, words of distribution are used and the person replies*

Amen.

Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept.

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

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.
All He is the sacrifice for our sins,
that we might live through him.
All If God loves us so much
we ought to love one another.
All If we love one another
God lives in us.

cf I John 4.10-12

The Dismissal Gospel

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

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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 you, O Christ.

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.**

Go in the peace of Christ.

All **Thanks be to God**

The priests and people depart.