

**ONLINE
ASH WEDNESDAY
EUCCHARIST**

17 February 2021

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN *(NEH 67)*

**Forty days and forty nights
Thou wast fasting in the wild,
Forty days and forty nights
Tempted and yet undefiled.**

**Sunbeams scorching all the day,
Chilly dewdrops nightly shed,
Prowling beasts about thy way,
Stones thy pillow, earth thy bed.**

**Let us thine endurance share,
And awhile from joys abstain,
With thee watching unto prayer,
Strong with thee to suffer pain.**

**And if Satan, vexing sore,
Flesh or spirit should assail,
Thou, his vanquisher before,
Grant we may not faint nor fail.**

**So shall we have peace divine,
Holier gladness ours shall be,
Round us too shall angels shine,
Such as ministered to thee.**



**Keep, O keep us, Saviour dear,
Ever constant by thy side,
That with thee we may appear
At the eternal Eastertide.**

THE GATHERING

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

THE GREETING

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

and also with you

Brothers and sisters in Christ:
since early days Christians have
observed with great devotion the time
of our Lord's passion and resurrection.
It became the custom of the Church to
prepare for this by a season of
penitence and fasting.

At first this season of Lent was observed by those who were preparing for Baptism at Easter and by those who were to be restored to the Church's fellowship from which they had been separated through sin.

In course of time the Church came to recognise that, by a careful keeping of these days, all Christians might take to heart the call to repentance and the assurance of forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel, and so grow in faith and in devotion to our Lord.

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.

KYRIE... *sung by the Contracovids*

**Lord have mercy
Lord have mercy
Lord have mercy**

**Christ have mercy
Christ have mercy
Christ have mercy**

**Lord have mercy
Lord have mercy
Lord have mercy**

THE COLLECT

Let us pray for grace to keep Lent faithfully:

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 forever. **Amen**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Reader: Rev Helen

Psalm 51: 1-18

Have mercy on me, O God, in your great goodness; according to the abundance of your compassion blot out my offences.

**Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness
and cleanse me from my sin.**

For I acknowledge my faults and my sin is ever before me.

**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.

**I have been wicked even from
my birth,
a sinner when my mother
conceived me.**

Behold, you desire truth deep
within me
and shall make me understand
wisdom in the depths of my heart.

**Purge me with hyssop and I shall
be clean;
wash me and I shall be whiter
than snow.**

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

**Turn your face from my sins
and blot out all my misdeeds.**

Make 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 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.**

Deliver me from my guilt, O God,
the God of my salvation,
and my tongue shall sing of your
righteousness.

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

For you desire no sacrifice,
else I would give it;
you take no delight in burnt
offerings.

**The sacrifice of God is a
broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart,
O God, you will not despise.**

GRADUAL HYMN

(NEH 70)

**Lord Jesus, think on me,
And purge away my sin;
From earthborn passions
set me free,
And make me pure within.**

**Lord Jesus, think on me,
With care and woe opprest;
Let me thy loving servant be,
And taste thy promised rest.**

**Lord Jesus, think on me,
Amid the battle's strife;
In all my pain and misery
Be thou my health and life.**

**Lord Jesus, think on me,
Nor let me go astray;
Through darkness and perplexity
Point thou the heavenly way.**

**Lord Jesus, think on me,
When flows the tempest high:
When on doth rush the enemy
O Saviour, be thou nigh.**

**Lord Jesus, think on me,
That, when the flood is past,
I may the eternal brightness see,
And share thy joy at last.**

THE GOSPEL

The Lord be with you
And also with you

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus
Christ according to Matthew

When it is announced:

Glory to you O Lord

St Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21

At the end:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you O Christ

SERMON

THE LITURGY OF PENITENCE

Led by Nancy Fisher

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

God the Father,
have mercy on us

God the Son,
have mercy on us

God the Holy Spirit
have mercy on us

Holy, blessed and glorious Trinity
have mercy on us

From all evil and mischief;
from pride, vanity and hypocrisy;
from envy, hatred and malice;
and from all evil intent.

Good Lord, deliver us

From sloth, worldliness and love
of money;
from hardness of heart and contempt
for your word and your laws,

Good Lord, deliver us

From the sins of body and mind;
From the deceits of the world,
the flesh and the devil,

Good Lord, deliver us

In all times of sorrow;
In all times of joy;
In the hour of death,
and at the day of judgement,

Good Lord, deliver us

By the mystery of your holy
incarnation;
by your birth, childhood and obedience;
by your baptism, fasting and
temptation,

Good Lord, deliver us

By your ministry in word and work;
by your mighty acts of power;
and by your preaching of the kingdom,

Good Lord, deliver us

By your agony and trial;
by your cross and passion;
and by your precious death and burial,

Good Lord, deliver us

By your mighty resurrection;
by your glorious ascension;
and by your sending of the Holy Spirit,

Good Lord, deliver us

Give us true repentance;
forgive us our sins of negligence
and ignorance and our deliberate sins;
and grant us the grace of your Holy
Spirit to amend our lives according to
your holy word.

**Holy God
holy and strong
holy and immortal,
have mercy upon us.**

SILENCE is kept for a time.

THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES AND ABSOLUTION

As a sign of the spirit of
penitence with which we
shall keep this season of
preparation for Easter,
I will receive on behalf of
you all a sign of the cross,
the symbol of salvation.



As Helen receives a sign of the cross:

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

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**

ABSOLUTION

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you
† pardon and deliver you from all
your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all
goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

THE PEACE

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

The peace of the Lord be always
with you
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of
peace.

HYMN

(NEH 376)

**I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'Come unto me and rest;
Lay down, thou weary one,
lay down
Thy head upon my breast:'
I came to Jesus as I was,
Weary, and worn, and sad:
I found in him a resting-place,
And he has made me glad.**

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
 ‘Behold, I freely give
 The living water, thirsty one;
 Stoop down, and drink, and live:’
 I came to Jesus, and I drank
 Of that life-giving stream;
 My thirst was quenched,
 my soul revived,
 And now I live in him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
 ‘I am this dark world’s Light;
 Look unto me, thy morn shall rise,
 And all thy day be bright:’
 I looked to Jesus, and I found
 In him my Star, my Sun;
 And in that light of life I’ll walk
 Till travelling days are done.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER (E)

The Lord is here

His Spirit is with us,

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our
 God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

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

For in these forty days
 you lead us into the desert of
 repentance that through a pilgrimage
 of prayer and discipline we may grow
 in grace and learn to be your people
 once again.

Through fasting, prayer and acts of
 service you bring us back to your
 generous heart.

Through study of your holy word
 you open our eyes to your presence
 in the world and free our hands to
 welcome others into the radiant
 splendour of your love.

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:

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord,
 God of power and might.
 Heav’n and earth are full of
 your glory.
 Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessèd is he, who comes in the
 name of the Lord.**

Hosanna in the highest.

We praise and bless you,
 loving Father,
 through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
 and as we obey his command,
 send your Holy Spirit,
 that broken bread and wine outpoured
 may be for us the body and blood of
 your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had
 supper with his friends
 and, taking bread, he praised you.
 He broke the bread, gave it to them
 and said:

Take, eat; this is my body which is
 given for you;
 do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.

Again he praised you, 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. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross.

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

Jesus Christ is Lord:
Lord, by your cross and resurrection you have set us free. You are the Saviour of the world.

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 all the 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. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

**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

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.
**though we are many, we are
one body,
and we all share in one
bread.**

AGNUS DEI

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins
of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins
of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins
of the world,
grant us peace.**

THE ADMINISTRATION OF HOLY
COMMUNION / SPIRITUAL
COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Almighty God,
You have given your only Son to be
for us both a sacrifice for sin
and also an example of godly life:
give us grace that we may always
most thankfully receive these his
inestimable gifts,
and also daily endeavour to follow
the blessed steps of his most holy
life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

**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.

HYMN

(NEH 439)

**Praise to the holiest in the height,
And in the depth be praise,
In all his words most wonderful,
Most sure in all his ways.**

**O loving wisdom of our God!
When all was sin and shame,
A second Adam to the fight
And to the rescue came.**

**O generous love! that he who
smote
In Man for man the foe,
The double agony in Man
For man should undergo;**

**And in the garden secretly,
And on the cross on high,
Should teach his brethren,
and inspire
To suffer and to die.**

**Praise to the Holiest in the height,
And in the depth be praise,
In all his words most wonderful,
Most sure in all his ways.**

THE BLESSING

The Lord be with you
And also with you

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, come upon you and remain
with you this day and always **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord
In the name of Christ. Amen