

Ash Wednesday

March 5, 2025
7:00pm Service



*Remember that you are dust
and to dust you shall return*



ST. GEORGE'S
Episcopal Church
Dayton, Ohio

Prelude Fantasia in C minor by J.S. Bach

Standing, sung by all

Entrance Hymn #142 Lord Who Throughout These Forty Days

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People **His mercy endures for ever.**

Sung by all

The Kyrie S91 [*"S" denotes "Service Music" at the front of Hymnal*]

Lord, have mercy upon us. (3x)

Christ have mercy upon us. (3x)

Lord have mercy upon us. (3x)

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

First Lesson Joel 2:1-2,12-17

Seated

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 *Benedic, anima mea*

- 1 Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless his holy Name.
- 2 Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits.
- 3 He forgives all your sins
and heals all your infirmities;

- 4 He redeems your life from the grave and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;
- 5 He satisfies you with good things, and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.
- 6 The Lord executes righteousness and judgment for all who are oppressed.
- 7 He made his ways known to Moses and his works to the children of Israel.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 14 For he himself knows whereof we are made; he remembers that we are but dust.

All **Glory to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit:
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

Second Lesson 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 #439 What wondrous Love, vv. 1-2 *Standing, sung by all*

Gospel Matthew 6:1-6,16-21

Standing

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

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

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."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Gradual Hymn #439 What wondrous Love, v. 3

Sung by all

The Sermon The Rev. Benjamin Phillips

Seated

Invitation to a Holy Lent

Imposition of Ashes

If you would like ashes, approach the rails at the direction of the usher.

Anthem God So Loved the World by J. Stainer

Psalm 51 *Miserere mei, Deus*

Standing, said by all

- 1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
- 2 Wash me through and through from my wickedness and cleanse me from my sin.
- 3 For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.
- 4 Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight.

- 5 And so you are justified when you speak
and upright in your judgment.
- 6 Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth,
a sinner from my mother's womb.
- 7 For behold, you look for truth deep within me,
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.
- 8 Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure;
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.
- 9 Make me hear of joy and gladness,
that the body you have broken may rejoice.
- 10 Hide your face from my sins
and blot out all my iniquities.
- 11 Create in 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 Give me the joy of your saving help again
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.
- 14 I shall teach your ways to the wicked,
and sinners shall return to you.
- 15 Deliver me from death, O God,
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness,
O God of my salvation.
- 16 Open my lips, O Lord,
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.
- 17 Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice;
but you take no delight in burnt-offerings.
- 18 The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

The Litany of Penitence

Kneeling, said by 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, and by what we have left undone.

Leader continues... 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 confess our unfaithfulness, our pride, hypocrisy, impatience, and exploitation of others.

Have mercy on us, Lord.

We confess our anger, our intemperate love of worldly goods, and our dishonesty. We confess our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith within 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.

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.

The Celebrant concludes... We beseech thee, O God, to grant us true repentance and thy Holy Spirit, so that these things which we do on this day may please thee and that the rest of our life may be pure and holy, and that at the last we may come to thy 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.

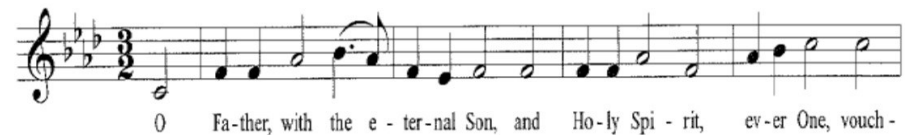
Standing

Announcements

Offertory Anthem There's a Wideness in God's Mercy by B. Moore

The Offering *You may make your offering in the plates passed by the ushers or give online stgeorgesdayton.org or mail offerings, 5520 Far Hills Ave Dayton, OH 45429-2204.*

Presentation Hymn



Celebrant

All things come of thee O Lord;

People

And of thine own have we given thee.

Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you

People **And also with you**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts

People **We lift them up to the Lord**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

People **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant continues the Eucharistic Prayer...

... Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

S114 Sanctus (Willan)

Sung by all

Holy, holy, holy; Lord God of Hosts; heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosannah in the highest.

Celebrant continues the Eucharistic Prayer.

At the conclusion, the people join, Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Said by 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.

The Breaking of the Bread S158

Sung by all

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

Prayer of Humble Access

Said by all

We do not presume to come to this your Table, O 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 property 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 we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. *Amen.*

Directions for receiving Communion

- All Baptized Christians are welcome to receive; if you have not been baptized, you are welcome to cross your arms for a blessing.
- Gluten-free wafers are available, please indicate your need when receiving.
- If you prefer to drink from the chalice, please remain at the rail after receiving your wafer.
- If you prefer to intinct (dip) your wafer, please hold up your wafer and a lay minister with a small intinction cup will come to you.
- If you prefer to receive only the wafer, please return directly to your pew after receiving your wafer.

Communion Anthem Create in Me a Clean Heart by M. Larkin

Prayer after Communion

BCP p. 339, Said by all

Almighty and ever living God, we most heartily thank you for feeding us in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and therefore assuring us of your favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of your Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of your everlasting kingdom. And we humbly ask you, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with your grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as you have prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

Solemn Prayer of Blessing

Closing Hymn #149 Eternal Lord of Love

Standing, sung by all

Dismissal

Deacon says a dismissal

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude I Cry to You Lord Jesus Christ by J.S. Bach
