

FOR WHERE YOUR  
TREASURE IS, THERE WILL  
*your heart be also.*

**Ash Wednesday**  
*February 17, 2021*

**The Holy Eucharist**  
**The Word of God**



**MATTHEW 6:21**

**Prelude**      *'Create In Me'*      **St. John the Baptist Choir**  
*Music & Words: John Leavitt*      *Recorded 2.26.20*

**Processional Hymn** (*Please stand as able*)      *Please see page 8*

#574 | *"Before Thy Throne, O God"*

**The Service of the Word**

*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.  
*People*      *And also with you.*

**The Collect of the Day**

*The Celebrant prays the Collect*

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.

*People*      *Amen.*

**First Reading** (*Please be seated*)

*Reader*      A Reading from Joel:

*Introduction to the First Reading*

*The prophet Joel pictures the day of the Lord as a time of judgment and darkness, but he holds out the hope of mercy if the people will repent. The call goes out for a solemn fast, a time for weeping, the rending of hearts, and a turning back to a compassionate and gracious God.*

*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?

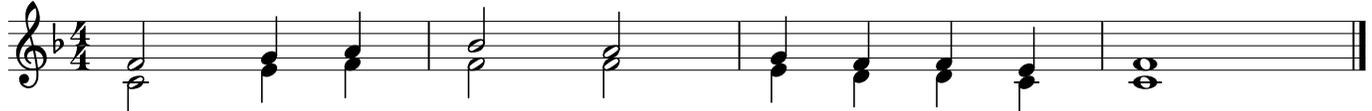
Blow the trumpet in Zion;  
sanctify a fast;  
call a solemn assembly;  
gather the people.  
Sanctify the congregation;  
assemble the aged;  
gather the children,  
even infants at the breast.  
Let the bridegroom leave his room,  
and the bride her canopy.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm of the Day

## Psalm 103



The Lord re - mem - bers that we are but dust.

The LORD if full of compassion and mercy,  
slow to anger and of great kindness.

He will not always accuse us,  
nor will he keep his anger for ever.

He has not dealt with us according to our sins,  
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness. [ANT.]

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

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

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?'"

As a father cares for his children,

So does the LORD care for those who fear him.

For his himself knows whereof we are made;

he remembers that we are but dust. [ANT.]

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## Second Reading

*Reader* A Reading from The Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians:

### *Introduction to the Second Reading*

*St. Paul urges the new disciples to be reconciled to God in this time of deliverance, and he reminds them of all the hardships he has patiently endured for their sake and for the gospel. God's reconciling activity in the death of Christ reaches into the depths of our lives to bring us into a right relationship with God.*

### *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.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew:  
*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

**The Holy Gospel** (*The Gospel is carried into the congregation so that we remember it is our Good News to hear and to share.*)  
*Matthew 6:1-6,16-21*

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, Lord Christ.**

## THE SERMON

**Anthem** – “Ashes” by Tom Conry © 1978 North American Liturgy Resources.

**Vocalist:** Robert Freeman **Accompanist:** Scott Kresge

*Please stand as able and the Celebrant invites the people to the observance of a holy Lent, saying*

Dear People of God: The first Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord'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

**Psalm 51** (*Please read responsively by verse*)

- 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.*

### **Litany of Penitence**

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.

*The Celebrant 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 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.***

*The Priest, stands and, facing the people, says*

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 his 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 to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

### **The Peace** *(Please stand as able)*

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People* ***And also with you.***

## **The Holy Communion**

*Being seated, we begin with a time of offering, giving money as a sign that our life serves God's purposes and showing our gratitude for God's many blessings.*

*Your faithful tithes and offerings are much needed and can be sent to:  
The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist, PO Box 441, Milton, DE 19968 OR  
Securely online through our website - <https://www.stjohnthebaptistmilton.org/give.html>*

### **Offertory Sentence & Interlude**

**Doxology** *(The offering is presented as the Doxology is sung.  
Please stand as able)*

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow;  
Praise him, all crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye  
heaven - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

WORDS: Isaac Watts (1674-1748). Music: Louis Bourgeois, c. 1510-1561.

### **Offertory Hymn**

*Please see page 10*

**#304 | "I Come With Joy"**

### **The Great Thanksgiving**

*Eucharistic Prayer C*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* ***And also with you.***

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

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

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

**Sanctus:** *Holy, holy, holy Lord*

*Hymnal S130*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and mi - ght, Hol - ly, ho - ly,  
11 ho - ly Lord, God of power and mi - ght, heav - en and earth are fu -  
20 ll, fu - ll of your glor - ry Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the  
31 high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes - . in the name of the Lo - rd. Ho -  
41 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The people may kneel as able, or be seated. The Celebrant continues.*

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.*

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

***We celebrate his death and resurrection,  
as we await the day of his coming.***

Lord God of our Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

***Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.***

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. *Amen.*

*Celebrant* And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

*People* ***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,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.***

**The Breaking of the Bread**

*Celebrant* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*People* ***Therefore let us keep the feast.***

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.

**A Prayer for Spiritual Communion**

*Lord Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart and my soul. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you, my Lord and my God! Amen.*

**Distribution Anthem - “Out of the Depths I Cry to You”** Music & Words: Martin Luther. Hymn Tune: *Aus tiefer not*  
**Vocalist: Robert Freeman Accompanist: Scott Kresge**

**Post Communion Prayer** (Please kneel or be seated)

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*People* *Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving kindness to us and to all whom you have made.*

*We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.*

*And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your presence, that as we lament our separation from one another, we may continually show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.*

**Benediction**

**Recessional Hymn** (Please stand as able) Please see page 11

#149 | “Eternal Lord Of Love”

**The Dismissal**

*Celebrant* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude** Voluntary on " *Herzlich tut mich verlangen*" **Johann Pachelbel**

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*The Rev. Thomas M. White, Rector*  
*J. Edwin Stout, Acolyte*  
*Scott Kresge, Organist/Videography/Streaming*  
*Robert Freeman, Cantor/Soloist*  
*Elizabeth Scheer, Videography/Streaming*

Christian Responsibility

574

1 Be - fore thy throne, O God, we kneel: give us a con - science  
 2 Search out our hearts and make us true; help us to give to  
 3 For sins of heed - less word and deed, for pride am - bi - tious  
 4 Let the fierce fires which burn and try, our in - most spi - rits

quick to feel, a rea - dy mind to un - der - stand the  
 all their due. From love of plea - sure, lust of gold, from  
 to suc - ceed, for craft - y trade and sub - tle snare to  
 pu - ri - fy: con - sume the ill; purge out the shame; O

mean - ing of thy chas - tening hand; what - e'er the pain and  
 sins which make the heart grow cold, wean us and train us  
 catch the sim - ple un - a - ware, for lives be - rept of  
 God, be with us in the flame; a new-born peo - ple

shame may be, bring us, O Fa - ther, near - er thee.  
 with thy rod; teach us to know our faults, O God.  
 pur - pose high, for - give, for - give, O Lord, we cry.  
 may we rise, more pure, more true, more no - bly wise.

Words: William Boyd Carpenter (1841-1918), alt.  
 Music: St. Petersburg, Dimitri S. Bortniansky (1751-1825)

## Praise to God

411

1 O bless the Lord, my soul! His grace to thee pro - claim!  
 2 O bless the Lord, my soul! His mer - cies bear in mind!  
 3 He will not al - ways chide; he will with pa - tience wait;  
 4 He par - dons all thy sins, pro - longs thy fee - ble breath;  
 5 He clothes thee with his love, up - holds thee with his truth;

1 And all that is with - in me join to bless his ho - ly Name!  
 2 For - get not all his ben - e - fits! The Lord to thee is kind.  
 3 his wrath is ev - er slow to rise and rea - dy to a - bate.  
 4 he heal-eth thine in - fir - mi - ties and ran - soms thee from death.  
 5 and like the ea - gle he re - news the vi - gor of thy youth.

6 Then bless his holy Name,  
 whose grace hath made thee whole,  
 whose loving-kindness crowns thy days:  
 O bless the Lord, my soul!

Words: James Montgomery (1771-1854); para. of Psalm 103:1-5

Music: *St. Thomas* (Williams), melody Aaron Williams (1731-1776); harm. Lowell Mason (1792-1872)

SM

Holy Eucharist

304

*Unison or harmony*

1 I come with joy to meet my Lord, for -  
 2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to  
 3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each  
 4 And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His  
 5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound, we'll

1 giv - en, loved, and free, in awe and won - der  
 2 find, as all are fed, the new com - mu - ni -  
 3 proud di - vi - sion ends. That love that made us  
 4 pres - ence, al - ways near, is in such friend - ship  
 5 go our dif - ferent ways, and as his peo - ple

1 to re - call his life laid down for me.  
 2 ty of love in Christ's com - mun - ion bread.  
 3 makes us one, and stran - gers now are friends.  
 4 bet - ter known: we see and praise him here.  
 5 in the world we'll live and speak his praise.

Words: Brian A. Wren (b. 1936), alt.

Music: *Land of Rest*, American folk melody; adapt. and harm. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889-1983)

CM

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# Recessional Hymn

"Eternal Lord of Love"

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.

Words: Thomas H. Cain (b. 1931)

Music: *Old 124th*, melody *Pseaumes octante trois de David*, 1551;  
harm. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944)

10 10. 10 10 10