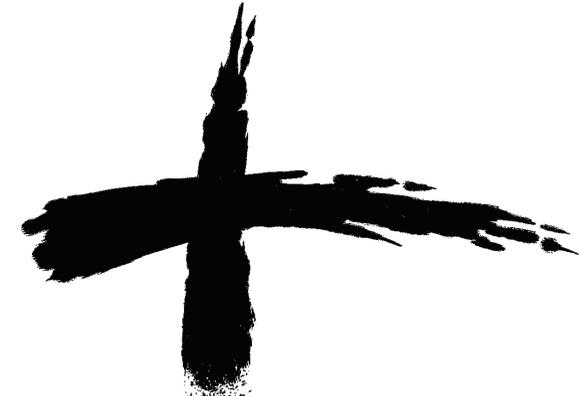




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# ASH WEDNESDAY

March 5, 2014

**A Service of Holy Eucharist  
with Imposition of Ashes**

**SAINT STEPHEN-IN-THE-FIELDS**

# Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes

Wednesday, March 5, 2014 – Ash Wednesday

*The service begins on page 185 of the green Book of Alternative Services (BAS). Hymns and service music are found in the burgundy Hymnal 1982 (items marked "S" are in the front portion of the book).*

## GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Processional hymn 141: *Wilt thou forgive?*

SO GIEBST DU NUN

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Trisagion (*Hymnal S102*)

Collect of the Day

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LITURGY OF THE WORD (*A period of silence is observed after each reading and the homily.*)

First Reading: Isaiah 58.1-12 (*please be seated*)

Reader The word of the Lord.      **Response**      Thanks be to God.

Psalm 103.8-18

8      THE LORD is full of compassion and mer-cy, /  
slow to anger and of great kind-ness.

9      He will not always ac-cuse us, / nor will he keep his an-ger for ev-er.

10     He has not dealt with us according to our sins, /  
nor rewarded us according to our wick-ed-ness.

11     For as the heavens are high a-bove 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 re-moved our sins from us.

13     As a father cares for his child-ren, / 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.

15     Our days are like the grass; / we flourish like a flow-er of the field;

16     When the wind goes over it, it is gone, / and its place shall know it no more.

17     But the merciful goodness of the Lord endures for ever on those who fear him, /  
and his righteousness on child-ren's child-ren;

18     On those who keep his cov-e-nant /  
and remember his command-ments and do them.

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 5.20 – 6.10

Reader The word of the Lord.      **Response**      Thanks be to God.

## Breaking of the Bread 7

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### Agnus Dei (Hymnal S161)

#### Communion

*All baptized persons are welcome to receive communion.*

*If you wish to receive a blessing rather than communion, please cross your arms over your chest when the communion ministers approach. Feel free either to stand or to kneel – we ask that you not lean on the rail.*

#### Communion hymn 318: Here, O my Lord

NYACK

*Please stand, as able, for the prayer after communion.*

#### Prayer after Communion

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#### Doxology

Celebrant: Glory to God,

**All: whose power, working in us,  
can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.  
Glory to God from generation to generation,  
in the church and in Christ Jesus,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

#### Blessing

#### Closing hymn 144: Lord Jesus, Sun of righteousness

CORNHILL

#### Dismissal

Celebrant: Go forth in peace, to love and serve the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God.**

#### Gospel: Matthew 6.1-6, 16-21 (please stand, as able)

Reader The Lord be with you.

**Response And also with you.**

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

**Response Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

*...following the Gospel:*

Reader The Gospel of Christ.

**Response Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Homily: Rev'd Mtr Maggie Helwig

#### PENITENTIAL LITANY AND IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Celebrant: Dear friends in Christ, every year at the time of the Christian Passover we celebrate our redemption through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Lent is a time to prepare for this celebration and to renew our life in the paschal mystery.

We begin this holy season by remembering our need for repentance, and for the mercy and forgiveness proclaimed in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

We begin our journey to Easter with the sign of ashes, an ancient sign, speaking of the frailty and uncertainty of human life, and marking the penitence of the community as a whole.

I invite you therefore, in the name of the Lord, to observe a holy Lent by self-examination, penitence, prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, and by reading and meditating on the word of God.

Let us kneel before our Creator and Redeemer.

*Silence is then kept for reflection.*

#### Psalm 51.1-12

1 HAVE MER-cy on me, O God, according to your loving-kind-ness; /  
in your great compassion blot out my of-fens-es.

2 Wash me through and through from my wick-edness / and cleanse me from my<sup>^</sup>sin.

3 For I know my trans-gress-ions, / and my sin is ev-er be-fore me.

4 Against you only have I sinned / and done what is e-vil in your<sup>^</sup>sight.

5 And so you are justified when you speak / and upright in your judge-ment.

6 Indeed, I have been wicked from my<sup>^</sup>birth, / a sinner from my mo-ther's<sup>^</sup>womb.

7 For behold, you look for truth deep with-in me, /  
and will make me understand wis-dom se-cret-ly.  
8 **Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; / wash me, and I shall be clean in deed.**  
9 Make me hear of joy and glad-ness, / that the body you have bro-ken may re-joice.  
10 **Hide your face from my sins / and blot out all my in-i-qui-ties.**  
11 Create in me a clean heart, O God, / and renew a right spi-rit with-in me.  
12 **Cast me not away from your pre-sence / and take not your holy Spi-rit from me.**

**All: Holy and merciful Father, we confess to you, 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.**

Celebrant: We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength.  
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.  
We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.

**All: Have mercy on us, Lord.**

Celebrant: 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: Have mercy on us, Lord.**

Celebrant: We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness:  
the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience of our lives,

**All: We confess to you, Lord.**

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

**All: We confess to you, Lord.**

Celebrant: Our anger at our own frustration,  
and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,

**All: We confess to you, Lord.**

Celebrant: Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts,  
and our dishonesty in daily life and work,

**All: We confess to you, Lord.**

Celebrant: Our negligence in prayer and worship,  
and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,

**All: We confess to you, Lord.**

Celebrant: 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.**

Celebrant: For all false judgements, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbours,  
and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,  
**All: Accept our repentance, Lord.**

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

**All: Accept our repentance, Lord.**

Celebrant: Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us;  
**All: Hear us, Lord, for your mercy is great.**

Celebrant: Almighty God, from the dust of the earth you have created us.  
May these ashes be for us a sign of our mortality and penitence,  
and a reminder that only by your gracious gift are we given eternal life;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

**All: Amen.**

*Those who desire to receive ashes come forward, and the ashes are applied to the forehead of each person (standing or kneeling) with the following words.*

Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

*After all who desire ashes have received them, the celebrant leads the congregation in the conclusion of the confession, all kneeling.*

Celebrant: Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,

**All: That we may show forth your glory in the world.**

Celebrant: By the cross and passion of your Son, our Lord,

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

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins  
through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness,  
and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

**All: Amen.**

Peace

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## CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

**Offertory hymn 142: Lord, who throughout these forty days**

ST FLAVIAN

**Prayer over the Gifts**

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**Eucharistic Prayer 3, Preface of Lent**

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**Sanctus (Hymnal S124)**

**Lord's Prayer (BAS, p. 918)**

McNeil Robinson