

ASH WEDNESDAY  
FEBRUARY 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021, 12:00PM AND 6:00PM  
THE WORD OF GOD

*Welcome to this live-steamed service from Christ Church Cathedral. This service leaflet contains everything you need to participate. To learn more about Christ Church Cathedral and our current online offerings, please visit [cccindy.org](http://cccindy.org). For pastoral assistance, please call 317-636-4577.*

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Presider:* The Lord be with you.

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

*Presider:* Let us pray.

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. **Amen.**

THE READING: 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 103:8-14 *Said in unison*

- 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.

LEVAS II 147 *Standing*

1. Come, ye dis - con - so - late, wher - e'er ye lan - guish,  
 2. Joy of the des - o - late, light of the stray - ing,  
 3. Here see the bread of life; see wa - ters flow - ing

1. Come to the mer - cy seat, fer - vent - ly kneel:  
 2. Hope of the pen - i - tent, fade - less and pure!  
 3. Forth from the throne of God, pure from a - bove:

1. Here bring your wound - ed hearts, here tell your an - guish;  
 2. Here speaks the com - fort - er, ten - der - ly say - ing,  
 3. Come to the feast of love; come, ev - er know - ing

1. Earth has no sor - row that heav'n can - not heal.  
 2. "Earth has no sor - row that heav'n can - not cure."  
 3. Earth has no sor - row but heav'n can re - move.

THE HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21 *Standing*

*Gospeller:* 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.”

*Gospeller:* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

The Reverend Fatima Yakubu-Madus

*A period of silence follows the sermon.*

THE LENTEN INVITATION

*Presider:* 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.

*Silence is then kept for a time, all kneeling.*

PSALM 51 *Said in unison, kneeling*

- 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

- 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; by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.**
- Presider:* 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.
- People:* **Have mercy on us, Lord.**
- Presider:* 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.
- People:* **Have mercy on us, Lord.**
- Presider:* We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience of our lives,
- People:* **We confess to you, Lord.**
- Presider:* Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people,
- People:* **We confess to you, Lord.**
- Presider:* Our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,
- People:* **We confess to you, Lord.**
- Presider:* Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work,
- People:* **We confess to you, Lord.**
- Presider:* Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,
- People:* **We confess to you, Lord.**
- Presider:* 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,
- People:* **Accept our repentance, Lord.**
- Presider:* For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,
- People:* **Accept our repentance, Lord.**
- Presider:* For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us,
- People:* **Accept our repentance, Lord.**
- Presider:* Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us;
- People:* **Favorably hear us, for your mercy is great.**
- Presider:* Accomplish in us the work of your salvation,
- People:* **That we may show forth your glory in the world.**
- Presider:* By the cross and passion of your Son our Lord,
- People:* **Bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.**
- Presider:* 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

*Presider:* The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

*All greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Offerings are received with gratitude by mail, at Donate at [www.cccindy.org](http://www.cccindy.org) or by texting CCCINDY to 73256.*

#### OFFERTORY SENTENCE

*Presider:* O Lord our God, you are worthy to receive glory and honor and power; because you have created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being.

#### SOLO AT THE OFFERTORY

Johannes Brahms

Denn es gehet dem Menschen wie dem Vieh;  
wie dies stirbt,  
so stirbt er auch;  
und haben alle einerlei Odem;  
und der Mensch hat nichts mehr denn das Vieh:  
denn es ist alles eitel.

Es fährt alles an einen Ort;  
es ist alles von Staub gemacht,  
und wird wieder zu Staub.  
Wer weiß, ob der Geist des Menschen aufwärts fahre,  
und der Odem des Viehes unterwärts  
unter die Erde fahre?

Darum sahe ich, daß nichts bessers ist,  
denn daß der Mensch fröhlich sei in seiner Arbeit,  
denn das ist sein Teil.  
Denn wer will ihn dahin bringen,  
daß er sehe, was nach ihm geschehen wird?

One thing befalleth the beasts and the sons of men;  
The beast must die,  
the man dieth also, yea, both must die;  
To beast and man one breath is given,  
And the man is not above the beast;  
For all things are but vanity.

They go all to the self same place,  
For they all are of the dust,  
and to dust they return.  
Who knoweth if a man's spirit goeth upwards?  
And who knoweth if the spirit of the beast  
goeth downward to the earth?

Therefore I perceive that there is nothing better  
Than that a man should rejoice in his own works,  
For that is his portion.  
For who shall ever show him,  
who shall show him what will happen after him?

*-Ecclesiastes 3:19–22*

#### AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

*Presider:* Let us pray.

*People:* **Gracious God, in union with the faithful across the Church, we thank you for gathering us as your people. We present ourselves to You, along with all who cannot gather around the altar at this time, believing and trusting in Your real presence in the sacrament of Holy Communion. We love you above all things; our soul longs for you. And so, we call to remembrance the many times we have been fed at your table. As we cannot now receive you sacramentally, we implore you to come spiritually into our hearts. We embrace you with all the affection of our soul. May this spiritual Communion be for us an armor of faith and shield of goodwill and liberation. Sustain us, heal us, and encourage us, with your Holy Spirit until we meet again as one Church and one Body. We ask this for your love. Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Presider:* As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say

**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 PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

*Presider:* Grant, most merciful Lord, to your faithful people pardon and peace, that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve you with a quiet mind; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## HYMN 142 *Standing*

1 Lord, who through-out these for - ty days for us didst fast and pray,  
2 As thou with Sa - tan didst con - tend, and didst the vic - tory win,  
3 As thou didst hun - ger bear and thirst, so teach us, gra - cious Lord,  
4 And through these days of pen - i - tence, and through thy Pas - sion - tide,  
5 A - bide with us, that so, this life of suf - fering o - ver - past,

1 teach us with thee to mourn our sins, and close by thee to stay.  
2 O give us strength in thee to fight, in thee to con - quer sin.  
3 to die to self, and chief - ly live by thy most ho - ly word.  
4 yea, ev - er - more, in life and death, Je - sus! with us a - bide.  
5 an Eas - ter of un - end - ing joy we may at - tain at last!

## THE DISMISSAL

*Deacon:* Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

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

*The Ministers and people leave in silence*

Presider: The Very Reverend Gray Lesesne

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## SELF-IMPOSITION OF ASHES

*Through the centuries, ashes have been a sign of mourning and repentance. In your Lenten package, you've received a container of ashes. On this day, as we begin this Holy Season of repentance and renewal, we invite you to use these ashes to make a sign of the cross on your forehead. As you make this sign, you may say these words:*

*"Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." May your own sorrow for your sins be the beginning of a holy Lenten season during which we will turn ever closer to our loving and gracious God.*

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*Widening the Circle of God's Embrace with Heart and Voice*

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