

The Parish Church of St Oswald
Warton

Ash Wednesday



The Eucharist

Wednesday 2nd March 2022

Welcome to St Oswald's Church and our worship this evening

We gather as God's people to celebrate together the Eucharist, within the guidance we continue to follow in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. We do so with a loving concern for each other's safety and well-being.

Please follow the guidance below:

- Hand sanitiser is encouraged on entering and leaving;
- Face coverings are optional when inside the building (except as detailed below);
- Space between households in pews is self-regulated;
- Face coverings are strongly encouraged when coming forward for the Imposition of Ashes;
- The Peace is shared visually, not physically;
- Communion is received in one kind (bread) only;
- Follow the directions of the Welcomers when coming forward for Communion;
- Face coverings are strongly encouraged when coming forward for Communion.

Thank you.

The Gathering

The people are greeted informally.

Hymn Forty days and forty nights

1 Forty days and forty nights
thou wast fasting in the wild;
forty days and forty nights
tempted, and yet undefiled:

2 Sunbeams scorching all the day;
chilly dew-drops nightly shed;
prowling beasts about thy way;
stones thy pillow, earth thy bed.

3 Shall not we thy sorrows share,
and from earthly joys abstain,
fasting with unceasing prayer,
glad with thee to suffer pain?

4 And if Satan, vexing sore,
flesh or spirit should assail,
thou, his vanquisher before,
grant we may not faint nor fail.

5 So shall we have peace divine;
holier gladness ours shall be;
round us too shall angels shine,
such as ministered to thee.

6 Keep, O keep us, Saviour dear,
ever constant by thy side;
that with thee we may appear
at the eternal Eastertide.

George Hunt Smyttan and Francis Pott

The presiding minister says

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

All **Amen.**

The presiding minister greets the people

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

All **and also with you.**

The presiding minister explains the meaning of Lent and invites the people to observe it faithfully.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, since early days Christians have observed with great devotion the time of our Lord's passion and resurrection and prepared for this by a season of penitence and fasting.

By carefully keeping these days, Christians 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.

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

The presiding minister introduces a period of silent prayer with the words

Let us pray for grace to keep Lent faithfully.

Holy God,
our lives are laid open before you:
rescue us from the chaos of sin
and through the death of your Son
bring us healing and make us whole
in Jesus Christ our Lord

All **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

Readings

At the end of each the reader says

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn Lord, teach us how to pray aright

1 Lord, teach us how to pray aright
with reverence and with fear.
though dust and ashes in thy sight,
we may, we must, draw near.

2 We perish if we cease from prayer;
O grant us power to pray.
and when to meet thee we prepare,
Lord, meet us by the way.

3 God of all grace, we bring to thee
a broken, contrite heart;
give what thine eye delights to see,
truth in the inward part;

4 Faith in the only sacrifice
that can for sin atone;
to cast our hopes, to fix our eyes
on Christ, on Christ alone.

5 Patience to watch and wait and weep,
though mercy long delay;
courage our fainting souls to keep,
and trust thee though thou slay.

5 Give these, and then thy will be done;
thus, strengthened with all might,
we, through thy Spirit and thy Son,
shall pray, and pray aright.

James Montgomery

Gospel Reading

An acclamation heralds the reading

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.
The Lord is a great God; O that today you would listen to his voice.
Harden not your hearts. *cf Psalm 95.3, 8*

All Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

When the Gospel is announced the reader says

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

After the sermon we keep a short time of quiet.

The Liturgy of Penitence

Self-Examination and Confession

A minister introduces the liturgy of penitence with the words

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

God the Father,

All **have mercy upon us.**

God the Son,

All **have mercy upon us.**

God the Holy Spirit,

All **have mercy upon us.**

Trinity of love,

All **have mercy upon us.**

All **Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.**

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 **Lord, have mercy.**

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 **Lord, have mercy.**

We confess to you, Lord...

all our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy and impatience of our lives.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people.
All Lord, have mercy.

Our anger at our own frustration
and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves.
All Lord, have mercy.

Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts
and our dishonesty in daily life and work.
All Lord, have mercy.

Our negligence in prayer and worship
and our failure to commend the faith that is in us.
All Lord, have mercy.

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.

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

For our waste and pollution of your creation
and our lack of concern for those who come after us.
All Accept our repentance, Lord.

Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us.
All Favourably hear us, for your mercy is great.

Accomplish in us the work of your salvation,
All that we may show your glory in the world.

By the cross and passion of your Son our Lord,
All bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

Silence is kept.

**All We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy
forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly,
love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God.
Amen.**

The Imposition of Ashes

The presiding minister says

Dear friends in Christ,
I invite you to receive these ashes
as a sign of the spirit of penitence with which we shall keep
this season of Lent,

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.

All Amen.

The ministers and people receive the imposition of ashes, the presiding minister first receiving the imposition from another minister. Please wear a face covering when coming for the imposition.

At the imposition the minister says to each person

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

During the imposition the choir sing the anthem God be in my head.

When all have received the imposition the presiding minister says

The Lord enrich us with his grace,
and nourish us with his blessing;
the Lord defend us in trouble and keep us from all evil;
the Lord accept our prayers,
and absolve us from our offences,
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Saviour.

All **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

The presiding minister introduces the Peace with these words

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

Romans 5.1,2

and then says

The peace of the Lord be always with you

All **and also with you.**

Preparation of the Table

Hymn Jesu, lover of my soul

1 Jesus, lover of my soul,
let me to thy bosom fly,
while the nearer waters roll,
while the tempest still is high;
hide me, O my Saviour, hide,
till the storm of life is past;
safe into the haven guide,
O receive my soul at last!

2 Other refuge have I none;
hangs my helpless soul on thee;
leave, ah, leave me not alone,
still support and comfort me.
All my trust on thee is stayed,
all my help from thee I bring;
cover my defenseless head
with the shadow of thy wing.

3 Thou, O Christ, art all I want;
more than all in thee I find;
raise the fallen, cheer the faint,
heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Just and holy is thy name,
I am all unrighteousness;
false and full of sin I am,
thou art full of truth and grace.

4 Plenteous grace with thee is found,
grace to cover all my sin;
let the healing streams abound;
make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art;
freely let me take of thee;
spring thou up within my heart,
rise to all eternity.

Charles Wesley

The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.

The following prayer is used

Merciful Father,
turn us from sin to faithfulness
and from disobedience to love,
and prepare us to celebrate
the death and resurrection of Christ our Saviour
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

All Amen.

The presiding minister says

The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

The presiding minister praises God for his mighty acts and all respond

**All Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The presiding minister recalls the Last Supper, and the following acclamation is used

Christ is the bread of life:

**All When we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,
until you come in glory.**

The prayer continues and leads into the doxology, to which all respond boldly

...for ever and ever.

All Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Lord Jesus, remember us in your kingdom
and teach us to pray.

**All Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,**

your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

The presiding minister breaks the consecrated bread.

Every time we eat this bread
and drink this cup,

**All we proclaim the Lord's death
until he comes.**

The Agnus Dei is said.

**All Jesus, Lamb of God,
have mercy on us.**

Jesus, bearer of our sin,
have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world,
grant us peace.

Giving of Communion

The presiding minister says the following invitation to communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**All Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

This prayer is said before the distribution

**All We do not presume
to come to this your table, 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 nature 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 our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,
and that we may evermore dwell in him and he in us.
Amen.**

The presiding minister says

The body of Christ keep you in eternal life.

The presiding minister & people receive communion. Please wear a face covering when coming forward to receive communion.

During the administration of communion, anyone who does not wish to receive communion is invited to give thanks for the saving death and resurrection of Jesus and ask him to be with them now.

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits you have given me,
for all the pains and insults you have borne for me.
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.
O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother,
may I know you more clearly,
love you more dearly,
and follow you more nearly,
day by day. Amen.

After the Prayer of St Richard of Chichester

Silence is kept.

The Post Communion is said.

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.

All **Amen.**

The following prayer is said

All **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.**

The Dismissal

Hymn Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us

1 Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us
o'er the world's tempestuous sea;
guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,
for we have no help but thee;
yet possessing every blessing,
if our God our Father be.

2 Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us:
all our weakness thou dost know;
thou didst tread this earth before us,

thou didst feel its keenest woe;
lone and dreary, faint and weary,
through the desert thou didst go.

3 Spirit of our God, descending,
fill our hearts with heavenly joy,
love with every passion blending,
pleasure that can never cloy:
thus provided, pardoned, guided,
nothing can our peace destroy.

James Edmeston

Responsory

This is love, not that we loved God,
All **but that he loved us and sent his Son.**
He is the sacrifice for our sins,
All **that we might live through him.**
If God loves us so much
All **we ought to love one another.**
If we love one another
All **God lives in us.**

cf 1 John 4.12

The Dismissal Gospel

Luke 15.4-7

When the Gospel is announced the reader says

The Lord be with you
All **and also with you.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

At the end

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

The presiding minister pronounces the blessing

May God the Father,
who does not despise the broken spirit,
give to you a contrite heart.

All **Amen.**

May Christ,
who bore our sin in his body on the tree,
heal you by his wounds.

All **Amen.**

May the Holy Spirit,
who leads us into all truth,
speak to you words of pardon and peace

All **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be with you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

The Dismissal

The presiding minister says

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

The ministers and people depart.

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