

The Blessing

Grant, 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 Jesus Christ our Lord.
and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy
Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

Go in the peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.



A LITURGY FOR ASH WEDNESDAY- Zoom Church
The First Day of Lent

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Blessed the Lord who forgives all our sins,
whose mercy endures for ever.

Fr Max greets the zoom.congregation

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.



Brothers and Sisters in Christ, from the earliest days of the church, Christians have observed with great devotion the time of our Lord's passion and resurrection. It became the custom of the church to prepare for this by a season of penitence and fasting.

At first this season was observed by those who were preparing for baptism at Easter and by those who, having been excommunicated, were to be restored to the communion of the church. By keeping these days with care and attention Christians might take to heart the call to repentance and the assurance of forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel, and grow in faith and devotion to our Lord.

So, by self-examination and repentance, by prayer and fasting, by self-denial and acts of generosity and by reading and meditating on the word of God, let us keep a holy Lent.

Silence is kept as we ask God to help us use Lent effectively in our Christian journey.

Lord, have mercy

Christ, have mercy

Lord, have mercy

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.

Fr Max says
Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God,
you hate nothing that you have made,
and you 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, now and for ever. Amen.

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Joel 2.1-2,12-17
Ps 51.1-17

The Talk/Discussion



THE RECEIVING OF ASHES

The ashes are placed on the Lord's Table and blessed. The priest then says

Blessed are you, God of all creation.

You are eternal,

we are mortal,

formed from the dust of the earth.

As we receive these ashes, make them a sign for us
of repentance and returning to you.

Breathe into us again the breath of life.

Blessed be God for ever.

Come, receive the sign of ashes.

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours forever and ever. Amen.**

The Lords Prayer -

As our Saviour has taught us, we are confident to say

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.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours

now and for ever. Amen.

Fr Max breaks the bread saying

As this broken bread was once many grains, which have been gathered together and made one bread: So may your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.

Draw near and receive the gifts of God.

We administer the sacrament to each other.

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

God of mercy,

may we who have shared in this holy meal

know your forgiveness in our lives,

bring Your reconciliation to others,

and be a sign of your wholeness in this broken world

Compassionate and loving God, through your Son Jesus Christ you have fed us and have reconciled your people to yourself. Following his example of fasting and prayer, may we obey You with willing hearts and serve one another in holy love.

**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.**

Merciful God, we thank you for these gifts of your creation,
this bread and wine, and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit,
we who eat and drink them may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.

On the night he was betrayed, Jesus took bread; And when he had given
you thanks he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying 'Take and eat.
This is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper he took the cup and again giving you thanks he gave it to
his disciples, saying, Drink from this, all of you This is my blood of the
new covenant shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do
this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Therefore we do as our Saviour has commanded:
Proclaiming his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross,
His mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
And looking for his coming again,
We celebrate, with this bread and this cup,
His one perfect and sufficient sacrifice
For the sins of the whole world.

Renew us by your Holy Spirit,
Unite us in the body of your Son, and bring us with all your people into
the joy of your eternal kingdom;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
With whom, and in whom, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
We worship you Father, in songs of never ending praise:

The ashes are placed on each person's forehead with the words

Turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ.

Each person answers **Amen.**

A LITANY OF PENITENCE

Eternal God, maker of heaven and earth,
have mercy on us.
Incarnate Word, redeemer of the world,
have mercy on us.
Abiding Spirit, giver of light and life,
have mercy on us.
For turning away from your presence,
for disobeying your word and commandments,
forgive us, Lord.
For trusting in our own strength instead of yours,
for betraying your trust and the trust of others,
forgive us, Lord.
For resisting your grace and refusing your blessings,
for holding back from proclaiming our faith in you,
forgive us, Lord.
For damaging this earth and exploiting its creatures,
for neglecting and wasting the gifts you have given us,
forgive us, Lord.
For failing to forgive as we have been forgiven,
for judging others and bearing grudges,
forgive us, Lord.
For skimping on our commitments and relationships,
for failing in hospitality,
forgive us, Lord.
For tolerating oppression, injustice, and wrong,
for keeping silent when we should have spoken up,
forgive us, Lord.



For turning away when others have offered us love,
for closing our hearts when others have needed compassion,

forgive us, Lord.

For all we have done unkindly, unjustly and dishonestly,
for our careless speech and hurtful words,

forgive us, Lord.

Let us pause for awhile and remember before God the things we have done wrong,
those we have wronged, and the things we have omitted to do

We pause for a time to consider our lives in Christ.

**Most merciful God,
we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
and in what we have failed to do:**

we have not loved you with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;

we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.

Father, forgive us.

**Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Fr Max pronounces the absolution

We have turned our hearts to God in repentance
and our sins are laid bare before the cross of Jesus Christ.

In the name of the living God,
your sins are forgiven.

We receive God's mercy

and take hold of our forgiveness.

Lead us, Holy Spirit to walk again in the light of Christ. Amen.



THE GREETING OF PEACE

Christ has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross.

We meet in his name and share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

We face towards the screen and visually offer the greeting of peace.

The Lord be with you

And also with you

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere
mighty Creator, everliving God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who by the power of your Spirit was born of Mary
and lived as one of us.

He was tempted in every way as we are,
yet he did not sin.

By his death on the cross
and rising to new life,

he offered the one true sacrifice for sin
and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.

By his grace we are able
to triumph over every evil,

and to walk in the way of his love.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and saying: