

**ST. JOHN'S AND
CHRIST CHURCH**



**ASH WEDNESDAY
SERVICE 2018**

Processional Hymn: *Be still for the presence of the Lord* MP 50

Be still for the presence of the Lord
The Holy One is here
Come bow before Him now
With reverence and fear
In Him no sin is found
We stand on holy ground
Be still for the presence of the Lord
The Holy One is here

Be still for the glory of the Lord
Is shining all around
He burns with holy fire
With splendor He is crowned
How awesome is the sight
Our radiant King of Light
Be still for the glory of the Lord
Is shining all around

Be still for the power of the Lord
Is moving in this place
He comes to cleanse and heal
To minister His grace
No work too hard for Him
In faith receive from Him
Be still for the power of the Lord
Is moving in this place
David J Evans

Accept, O God, our sacrifice of praise.
**Amen. Accept our thanks for all you have done.
Our hands were empty, and you filled them.**

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn: There Is a Redeemer MP 673

There is a redeemer,
Jesus, God's own Son,
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah,
Holy One.

*Thank you oh my father,
For giving us Your Son,
And leaving Your Spirit,
'Til the work on Earth is done.*

Jesus my redeemer,
Name above all names,
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah,
Oh, for sinners slain.

*Thank you oh my father,
For giving us Your Son,
And leaving Your Spirit,
'Til the work on Earth is done.*

When I stand in Glory,
I will see His face,
And there I'll serve my King forever,
In that Holy Place.

*Thank you oh my father,
For giving us Your Son,
And leaving Your Spirit,
'Til the work on Earth is done.*
Keith Green

THE DISMISSAL

Go now to love and serve the Lord. Go in peace.
Amen. We go in the name of Christ

Welcome (Please remain standing)

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

Amen

Grace and peace to you from God.

God fill you with truth and joy.

Let us remain standing as we pray for grace to keep Lent faithfully.

Silence

Almighty and merciful God,
you hate nothing that you have made
and forgive the sins of all who are penitent;
create in us new and contrite hearts,
so that when we turn to you and confess our sins
we may receive your full and perfect forgiveness;
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Proclamation (Please be seated)

Old Testament Lesson: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

Psalm: Psalm 51

Have mercy on me O God in your great kindness:
in the fullness of your mercy blot out my offences.
Wash away all my guilt:
and cleanse me from my sin.

Create in me a clean heart, O God.

For I acknowledge my faults:
and my sin is always before me.
Against you only have I sinned
and done evil in your sight.

Create in me a clean heart, O God.

Create in me a clean heart O God:
and renew a right spirit within me.

Do not cast me away from your presence:
do not take your holy spirit from me.

Create in me a clean heart, O God.

Give me the joy of your help again:
and strengthen me with a willing spirit.
O Lord open my lips:
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Create in me a clean heart, O God.

Gospel: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

The Homily

The Liturgy of Penitence (Please stand)

E te whanau a te Karaiti/ Dear friends in Christ, every year we celebrate Christ's death and resurrection. Lent is a time to prepare for this celebration. In order that our Lent may be a time of renewal and growth we begin this season by remembering our need for repentance and for the forgiveness of God proclaimed by Jesus Christ.

I invite you, therefore, in the name of Christ, to observe a holy Lent by self-examination and repentance, by prayer, fasting, self-denial, and giving to those in need, and by reading and meditating on the word of God.

Let us kneel and in silence call to mind our sin and the infinite mercy of God.

Silence

We have not loved you with all our heart, and soul, and mind, and strength.

We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.

We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

Lord have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

We have been deaf to your call to serve.

We have been unfaithful, proud, and hypocritical.

Christ have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

We have been self-centred, and have taken advantage of others.

Lord have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

Therefore loving God,
recalling your great goodness to us in Christ,
we celebrate our redemption with this bread of life
and this cup of salvation.

Send your Holy Spirit
that these gifts of bread and wine which we receive
may be to us the body and blood of Christ,
and that we, filled with the Spirit's grace and power,
may be renewed for the service of your kingdom.

United in Christ with all who stand before you
in earth and heaven,
we worship you, O God,
in songs of everlasting praise.

**Blessing, honour and glory be yours,
here and everywhere
now and forever.
Amen.**

Christ's body was broken for us on the cross.
Christ is the bread of life.

His blood was shed for our forgiveness.
Christ is risen from the dead.

The Invitation

Come God's people,
come to receive Christ's heavenly food.

Prayer After Communion

Blessed be God who calls us together.

Praise to God who makes us one people.

Blessed be God who has forgiven our sin.

Praise to God who gives hope and freedom.

Blessed be God whose Word is proclaimed.

Praise to God who is revealed as love.

Blessed be God who alone has called us.

Therefore we offer all that we are and all that we shall become.

The Great Thanksgiving (Please remain standing)

The priest says

The Lord is here.

God's Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to offer thanks and praise.

It is right indeed, everliving God,
to give you thanks and praise through Christ your only Son.

You are the source of all life and goodness;
through your eternal Word
you have created all things from the beginning.

When we sinned and turned away
you called us back to yourself
and gave your Son to share our human nature.

He made the one perfect sacrifice for the sin of the world
Therefore we proclaim your great and glorious name
saying,

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might;

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

On the night before he died, he took bread;
when he had given you thanks,
he broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said:
Take, eat, this is my body
which is given for you;
do this to remember me.

After supper he took the cup;
when he had given you thanks,
he gave it to them and said:
Drink this, all of you,
for this is my blood of the new covenant
which is shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins;
do this as often as you drink it,
to remember me.

We have been envious of those more fortunate than ourselves.

Christ have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

We have loved worldly goods and comforts too much.

We have been dishonest in daily life and work.

Lord have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

We have neglected prayer and worship, and have failed to commend the
faith that is in us.

Christ have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

We have been blind to human need and suffering, and indifferent to
injustice and cruelty.

Lord have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

We have thought uncharitably about others, and we have been
prejudiced towards those who differ from us.

Christ have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

We have wasted and polluted your creation, and lacked concern for
those who come after us.

Lord have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

Merciful God,
we have sinned
in what we have thought and said,

in the wrong we have done
and in the good we have not done.

We have sinned in ignorance:
we have sinned in weakness:

we have sinned through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry.

We repent and turn to you.

Forgive us, for our Saviour Christ's sake,
and renew our lives to the glory of your name. Amen.

The Imposition of Ashes

Let us pray.

Loving God,
you create us from the dust of the earth;
may these ashes be for us a sign
of our penitence and our mortality,
and a reminder that only by the cross
do we receive eternal life
in Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

Those who desire to receive ashes please go forward.

The Absolution

Through the cross of Christ,
God have mercy on you,
pardon you and set you free.
Know that you are forgiven
and be at peace.

God strengthen you in all goodness
and keep you in life eternal.
Amen.

The Prayers of the People.

Lord, hear our prayer
and let our cry come to you.

Let us pray for the forgiveness of our sins as Jesus taught us.
**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 sin, 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 forever.
Amen.**

The Peace (Please stand)

Blessed be Christ the Prince of Peace
who breaks down the walls that divide.

The peace of God be always with you.
Praise to Christ who unites us in peace.

O Jesus, I have promised
to serve you to the end:
be now and ever near me,
my Master and my friend;
I shall not fear the battle
if you are by my side,
nor wander from the pathway
if you will be my guide.

O let me feel you near me!
The world is ever near;

I see the sights that dazzle,
the tempting sounds I hear;
my foes are ever near me,
around me and within;
but Jesus, draw still nearer,
and shield my soul from sin.

O let me hear you speaking
in accents clear and still,
above the storms of passion,
the murmurs of self-will;
O speak to reassure me,
to hasten or control;
and speak to make me listen,
thou guardian of my soul.

O Jesus, you have promised
to all who follow you,
that where you are in glory
there shall your servant be;
and, Jesus I have promised
to serve you to the end;
O give me grace to follow,
my Master and my friend.,

O let me see your footmarks,
and in them place mine own;

My hope to follow truly
is in your strength alone.
O guide me, call me, draw me,
uphold me to the end;
and then in heaven receive me,
my Saviour and my Friend.

J E Bode