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# CHRIST THE KING ANGLICAN CHURCH



**Ash Wednesday Holy Eucharist &  
Imposition of Ashes**

**February 18, 2026**

**7:00 am 12:00 pm 7:00 pm**

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## Concerning the Service

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent: a time of penitence, fasting and prayer, in preparation for the great Feast of the Resurrection.

The season of Lent began in the early days of the Church as a time of preparation for those seeking to be baptized at the Easter Vigil. The forty days refer to our Lord's time of fasting in the wilderness; and since Sundays are never fast days, Ash Wednesday is the beginning of the Lenten Fast.

*The People stand, and the Celebrant says*

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People* **His mercy endures forever.**

*The Celebrant invites the People to the observance of a holy Lent, saying*

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. In this manner, 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 that all Christians continually have to renew our 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 alms-giving; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word.

And to make a right beginning, let us now pray for grace, that we may faithfully keep this Lent.

*The Celebrant and People kneel, if able. A period of silent prayer follows.*

*The Celebrant then says*

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing 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, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The next part of our service will focus on God's Word, found in the Bible. After each lesson, the reader will end by declaring, "The Word of the Lord." We are invited to respond with the words, "Thanks be to God."

*The People sit*

**The First Lesson** Isaiah 58:1-12

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

"Cry aloud; do not hold back;  
lift up your voice like a trumpet;  
declare to my people their transgression,  
to the house of Jacob their sins.

<sup>2</sup> Yet they seek me daily  
and delight to know my ways,  
as if they were a nation that did righteousness  
and did not forsake the judgment of their God;  
they ask of me righteous judgments;  
they delight to draw near to God.

<sup>3</sup> "Why have we fasted, and you see it not?  
Why have we humbled ourselves, and you take no knowledge of it?"  
Behold, in the day of your fast you seek your own pleasure,  
and oppress all your workers.

<sup>4</sup> Behold, you fast only to quarrel and to fight  
and to hit with a wicked fist.  
Fasting like yours this day  
will not make your voice to be heard on high.

<sup>5</sup> Is such the fast that I choose,  
a day for a person to humble himself?  
Is it to bow down his head like a reed,  
and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him?  
Will you call this a fast,  
and a day acceptable to the Lord?

<sup>6</sup> "Is not this the fast that I choose:  
to loose the bonds of wickedness,  
to undo the straps of the yoke,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
and to break every yoke?"

<sup>7</sup> Is it not to share your bread with the hungry  
and bring the homeless poor into your house;  
when you see the naked, to cover him,  
and not to hide yourself from your own flesh?

<sup>8</sup> Then shall your light break forth like the dawn,  
and your healing shall spring up speedily;  
your righteousness shall go before you;  
the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.

<sup>9</sup> Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;  
you shall cry, and he will say, 'Here I am.'  
If you take away the yoke from your midst,  
the pointing of the finger, and speaking wickedness,

<sup>10</sup> if you pour yourself out for the hungry  
and satisfy the desire of the afflicted,  
then shall your light rise in the darkness  
and your gloom be as the noonday.

<sup>11</sup> And the Lord will guide you continually  
and satisfy your desire in scorched places  
and make your bones strong;  
and you shall be like a watered garden,  
like a spring of water,  
whose waters do not fail.

<sup>12</sup> And your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;  
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;  
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,  
the restorer of streets to dwell in.

The Word of the Lord.

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

*The People stand*

**The Psalm** Psalm 103:8-14

Please stand and join me in reading Psalm 103 by responding with the text in bold.

8 The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, \*  
**long-suffering and of great goodness.**

9 He will not always chide us, \*  
**neither 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 great is his mercy also toward those who fear him.**
- 12 As far as the east is from the west, \*  
**so far has he set our sins from us.**
- 13 As a father pities his own children, \*  
**so is the Lord merciful to those who fear him.**
- 14 For he knows whereof we are made; \*  
**he remembers that we are but dust.**

*The People sit*

## **The Second Lesson**      2 Corinthians 5:20-6:10

A reading from Paul's second letter to the Corinthians.

<sup>20</sup> Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup> For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

<sup>1</sup> Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. <sup>2</sup> For he says,

“In a favorable time I listened to you,  
and in a day of salvation I have helped you.”

Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. <sup>3</sup> We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, <sup>4</sup> but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, <sup>5</sup> beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; <sup>6</sup> by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; <sup>7</sup> by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; <sup>8</sup> through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; <sup>9</sup> as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; <sup>10</sup> as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.

The Word of the Lord.

*People*    **Thanks be to God.**

The Deacon reads the Gospel from the midst of the congregation to demonstrate how Jesus came down from heaven to live among his people. It reminds us that we are called to take his good news of hope out to the world. At least as early as the third century, Alleluias were sung in anticipation of the reading of the Gospel. During the season of Lent these Alleluias are omitted.

*The People stand*

## **The Gospel**

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Matthew

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, <sup>1</sup> “Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven.

<sup>2</sup> “Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. <sup>3</sup> But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, <sup>4</sup> so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

<sup>5</sup> “And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. <sup>6</sup> But when 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.

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<sup>16</sup> “And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. <sup>17</sup> But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, <sup>18</sup> that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

<sup>19</sup> “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, <sup>20</sup> but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup> For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*The People sit*

**The Sermon: The Rev. Cn. Eric Zolner**

Throughout the Old Testament, ashes are used as a sign of sorrow and repentance, and Christians have traditionally used ashes to indicate sorrow for our own sin, and as a reminder that the wages of sin is death (Romans 6:23). Like Adam and Eve, we have disobeyed and rebelled against God, and are under the same judgment, “you are dust, and to dust you shall return” (Genesis 3:19b).

But as we are marked with ashes in the same manner that we were signed with the cross in Baptism, we are also reminded of the life we share in Jesus Christ, the second Adam (Romans 5:17, 6:4). It is in this sure hope that we begin the journey of these forty days, that by hearing and answering our Savior’s call to repent, we may enter fully into the joyful celebration of his resurrection.

## Penitential Psalm and Imposition of Ashes

*The Celebrant says*

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

Almighty God, you have created us from the dust of the earth: grant that these ashes may be for us a symbol of our mortality and a sign of our penitence, that we may remember that it is by your grace alone that we receive the gift of eternal life in Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

*The People come forward for the imposition of ashes.*

*Then ashes are imposed with the following words*

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

## Psalm 51

*All kneel if able*

- 1 Have mercy on me, O God, after your great goodness; \*  
**according to the multitude of your mercies wipe away my offenses.**
- 2 **Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness \***  
**and cleanse me from my sin.**
- 3 **For I acknowledge my faults, \***  
**and my sin is ever before me.**
- 4 **Against you only have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight \***  
**that you might be justified in your saying, and clear in your judgment**
- 5 **But behold, I was brought forth in wickedness \***  
**and in sin my mother conceived me.**
- 6 **For behold, you desire truth in the inward parts, \***  
**and shall make me understand wisdom secretly.**

- 7 You shall purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; \*  
you shall wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
- 8 You shall make me hear of joy and gladness, \*  
that the bones which you have broken may rejoice.
- 9 Turn your face from my sins \*  
and blot out all my misdeeds.
- 10 Make me a clean heart, O God, \*  
and renew a right spirit within me.
- 11 Cast me not away from your presence \*  
and take not your holy Spirit from me.
- 12 O give me the comfort of your help again \*  
and sustain me with your willing Spirit.
- 13 Then shall I teach your ways unto the wicked, \*  
and sinners shall return unto you.
- 14 Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God, you who are the God of my salvation; \*  
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness.
- 15 You shall open my lips, O Lord, \*  
and my mouth shall show forth your praise.
- 16 For you desire no sacrifice, else I would give it to you; \*  
but you delight not in burnt-offerings.
- 17 The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit; \*  
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you shall not despise.

As an act of contrition we will now confess our sins to God and pray together the Litany of Penitence. A litany is a series of petitions, usually recited by the clergy and responded to in a recurring formula by the people. We then receive the absolution from the priest, which is the assurance that God has forgiven us.

## Confession and Litany of Penitence

*The Deacon says*

Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

*Silence may follow. The Celebrant and People together, all kneeling if able*

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.**

**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.  
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.**

*Deacon* Lord, have mercy upon us:

*People* **For we have sinned against you.**

*The Deacon alone continues, and the People respond*

For all our unfaithfulness and disobedience;  
for the pride, vanity, and hypocrisy of our lives;

Lord, have mercy upon us:

*People* **For we have sinned against you.**

For our self-pity and impatience,  
and our envy of those we think more fortunate than ourselves;

Lord, have mercy upon us:

*People* **For we have sinned against you.**

For our unrighteous anger, bitterness and resentment;  
for all lies, gossip, and slander against our neighbors.

Lord, have mercy upon us:

*People* **For we have sinned against you.**

For our sexual impurity, our exploitation of other people,  
and our failure to give of ourselves in love;

Lord, have mercy upon us:

*People* **For we have sinned against you.**

For our self-indulgent appetites and ways,  
and our intemperate pursuit of worldly goods and comforts;

Lord, have mercy upon us:

*People* **For we have sinned against you.**

For our dishonesty in daily life and work,  
our ingratitude for your gifts, and our failure to heed your call.

Lord, have mercy upon us:

*People* **For we have sinned against you.**

For our blindness to human need and suffering,  
and our indifference to injustice and cruelty;

Lord, have mercy upon us:

*People* **For we have sinned against you.**

For our wastefulness and misuse of your creation,  
and our lack of concern for those who come after us;

Lord, have mercy upon us:

*People* **For we have sinned against you.**

For all false judgments, for prejudice and contempt of others,  
and for all uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors;

Lord, have mercy upon us:

*People* **For we have sinned against you.**

For our negligence in prayer and worship;  
for our presumption and abuse of your means of grace;

Lord, have mercy upon us:

*People* **For we have sinned against you.**

For seeking the praise of others rather than the approval of God;

Lord, have mercy upon us:

*People* **For we have sinned against you.**

For our failure to commend the faith that is in us;

Lord, have mercy upon us:

*People* **For we have sinned against you.**

*All then pray*

**Show favor to your people, O Lord, who turn to you in weeping, fasting, and prayer. For you are a merciful God, full of compassion, long-suffering, and abounding in steadfast love. You spare when we deserve punishment, and in your wrath you remember mercy. Spare your people, good Lord, spare us; in the multitude of your mercies, look upon us and forgive us; through the merits and mediation of your blessed Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## The Absolution

*The Priest alone stands and says*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The People stand*

## The Comfortable Words

*The Celebrant may then say one or more of the following sentences, first saying*

Please stand and hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. *Matthew 11:28*

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. *John 3:16*

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. *1 Timothy 1:15*

If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world. *1 John 2:1-2*

We greet each other with the peace of Christ by shaking hands with those around us and saying to each other, "Peace be with you."

## The Peace

*The Celebrant then says to the People*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And with your spirit.**

## The Offertory Sentence

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich. *2 Corinthians 8:9*

*The People stand while the offerings are presented. The following may be said.*

*Celebrant* Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for everything in heaven and on earth is yours; yours is the Kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as Head above all. All things come from you, O Lord,

*People* **And of your own have we given you.**

*1 Chronicles 29:11, 14*

The focus of our worship will now shift to the Holy Communion. A special prayer dating back to the early Church will be said over the bread and the wine so that they might become for us the spiritual Body and Blood of Jesus. We invite everyone to join us in responding with the bold text.

## **The Sursum Corda**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with your spirit.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them up to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant*

It is right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

## **The Sanctus**

*Celebrant and People*

**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 Prayer of Consecration**

*The Celebrant continues*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had sinned against you and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent your only Son Jesus Christ into the world for our salvation. By the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary he became flesh and dwelt among us. In obedience to your will, he stretched out his arms upon the Cross and offered himself once for all, that by his suffering and death we might be saved. By his resurrection he broke the bonds of death, trampling Hell and Satan under his feet. As our great high priest, he ascended to your right hand in glory, that we might come with confidence before the throne of grace.

On the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it,\* and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take, eat; this is my Body, which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me.”

Likewise, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, “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: Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.”

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Word and Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Sanctify us also, that we may worthily receive this holy Sacrament, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us and we in him. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us with all your saints into the joy of your heavenly kingdom, where we shall see our Lord face to face.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ:

**By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. Amen.**

## **The Lord’s Prayer**

*The Celebrant then says*

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

*Celebrant and People together 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 of Humble Access

We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant 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 character 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 Agnus Dei

*Celebrant* Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

*People* **have mercy on us.**

*Celebrant* Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

*People* **have mercy on us.**

*Celebrant* Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

*People* **grant us your peace.**

Please be seated until the usher invites your row to come forward.

All baptized Christians who come to faith and repentance in Jesus Christ are invited to receive Holy Communion. If this does not describe you, we invite you to come forward with your arms crossed over your chest to receive a blessing from the priest.

For those receiving communion, you will be offered the Bread first and then the Wine. You may dip the Bread into the small chalice before consuming it or drink directly from the large chalice after consuming the Bread. Once you have received you may return to your seat via the center aisle.

Our service concludes with a final prayer and a blessing from the priest. The Deacon then dismisses us, charging us to take what we have received and bring it into the world. During the season of Lent, the "Alleluias" are omitted from the dismissal.

*The People stand*

## **The Post Communion Prayer**

*The Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious **Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ**; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal **Kingdom**. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of **Christ our Lord**. To him, to you, and to the **Holy Spirit**, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen**.

*Celebrant and People pray together*

O Lord our God, **grant us grace to desire you with our whole heart:**

**that desiring you, we may seek you;**

**and that seeking you, we may find you;**

**and that finding you, we may love you;**

**and that loving you, we may hate those sins from which you have delivered us;**  
**through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **The Blessing**

*The Priest gives this blessing*

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son 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**.

## **The Dismissal**

*Deacon* Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

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

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## **Lenten Evensong - Wednesday evenings in Lent**

Join us at 7:00 pm each Wednesday in Lent for this ancient sung prayer service.

The service will be preceded by a brown bag dinner fellowship at 6:00 and a video teaching series with N.T. Wright at 6:30.

# CHRIST THE KING ANGLICAN CHURCH

A member parish of the Diocese of Western Anglicans and the Province of the Anglican Church in North America

## **WE ARE ROOTED, RELEVANT AND RELATIONAL.**

Our Vision is to glorify God by being a holy and joyful family, devoted to growing in Christ and sharing his message of salvation. Our Mission is to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ by boldly following where the Lord leads us in worship, fellowship, teaching, healing, and serving the needs of others in the power of the Holy Spirit.

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## Connect with us!



### **Credits:**

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