

# Ash Wednesday

## 14 February 2024

St Mary Magdalene's  
Anglican Church

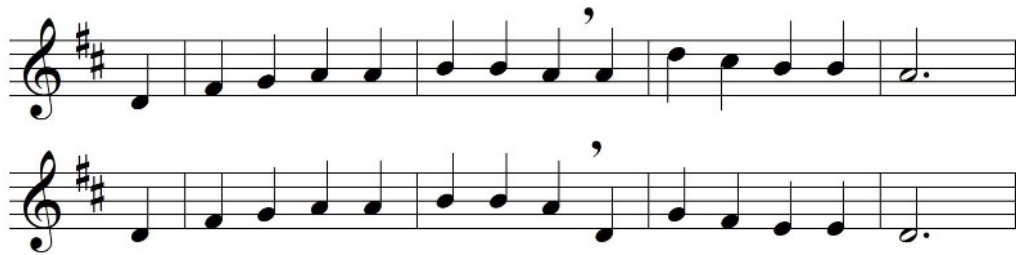
Founded 1886



**Acknowledgement of Country.** As a community, we recognise that the church is built and our worship is offered on the traditional lands of the Kurna people, and close to Tarntanyangga (Victoria Square), which is still an important meeting place for the Kurna people today. We express our gratitude in the sharing of this land; our sorrow for the personal, spiritual and cultural costs of that sharing; and our hope that we may walk together in harmony, in the spirit of Reconciliation.

When the bell rings, all stand and sing the hymn.

TALLIS' ORDINAL



**Lord! Who throughout these forty days,  
For us did fast and pray,  
Teach us with you to mourn our sins,  
And close by you to stay.**

**2 As you did hunger bear, and thirst,  
So teach us, gracious Lord,  
To die to self, and always live  
By your most holy Word.**

**3 And through these days of penitence,  
And through your Passion-tide,  
Forevermore, in life and death,  
Jesus with us abide.**

**4 Abide with us that when this life  
Of suffering is past,  
An Easter of unending joy  
We may attain at last!**

Claudia Frances Hernaman 1838-98

### THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

#### Entrance Antiphon

Wisdom 11.24, 26

The choir sings the Entrance Antiphon.

Your mercy extends to all things, O Lord, and you despise none of the things you have made. You overlook the sins of your people for the sake of repentance. You grant them your pardon, because you are the Lord our God.

## Greeting

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

**Amen.**

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

**And also with you.**

## Penitential Act

The choir sings

Mass for 3 Voices (William Byrd)

Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.

The priest, deacon, or another minister says

Compassion and forgiveness belong to the Lord our God,  
though we have rebelled and wandered far off.

Silence.

Let us then ask for mercy, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

**Merciful God,  
our maker and our judge,  
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.**

The priest says:

Almighty God,  
who has promised forgiveness  
to all who turn to him in faith:  
pardon ✠ you and set you free from all your sins,  
strengthen you in all goodness,  
and keep you in eternal life,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Collect

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 brokenness,  
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 LITURGY OF THE WORD

### First Reading

Joel 2.1-2, 12-17

A reading from the book of the prophet Joel.

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?”’

For the word of the Lord,  
**thanks be to God.**

### Responsorial Psalm

from Psalm 51



℞ Be mer-ci-ful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

- 1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness;  
in your great compassion blot out my offences.
- 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. ℞
- 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.
- 16 Open my lips, O LORD,  
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise. ℞

## Second Reading

2 Corinthians 5.20b – 6.10

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made himself to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For the Lord says, 'At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you.' See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labours, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honour and dishonour, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see – we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

For the word of the Lord,  
**thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

**Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory!**

Harden not your hearts today,  
but listen to the voice of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory!**

## Gospel

Matthew 6.1-6, 16-21

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

✠ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

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

Jesus said to the disciples, "Beware of practising 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.”

For the Gospel of the Lord,  
**praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## Homily

Fr Steven Ogden

Silence may be kept.

## Blessing and Distribution of Ashes

The priest introduces the rite, and the ashes may be made.

Dear friends,  
let us implore God our Father  
to bless and sanctify these ashes,  
which we place on our heads as a sign of repentance.

After a brief prayer in silence, the priest continues,

Lord God,  
you are moved by humility  
and grant pardon to those who repent.  
Listen to our prayers  
and pour out ✠ your blessing  
on those who are marked by these ashes,  
that, observing the season of Lent,  
they may come with hearts made clean  
to celebrate the paschal mystery of your Son.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Then the priest sprinkles ashes on the head of all those present who come forward, saying to each:  
Repent, and believe in the Gospel.

or:

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

Meanwhile, the following or other appropriate antiphons may be said or sung:

### Antiphon 1

cf Joel 2:13

Let us change our raiment for sackcloth and ashes:  
let us fast and mourn before the Lord;  
for our God is merciful to forgive us our sins.

### Antiphon 2

cf Joel 2:17, Esther 4:17

Let the priests, the ministers of the Lord,  
weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say:  
Spare, O Lord, spare thy people, and shut not up, O Lord,  
the mouths of them that praise thee.

Further antiphons may be sung if required. After the distribution of ashes, the priest and any others who have participated wash their hands, then Mass continues with the Prayers of the People.

## Prayers of the People

The priest may say  
Let us pray for the world and for the church.  
The prayers may conclude  
Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers.

**Grant that what we have asked in faith  
we may by your grace receive,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## Greeting of Peace

We are the body of Christ.  
**God's Spirit is with us.**  
The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

## THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory Antiphon

Ps 30.1, 2

I will exalt you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up from the depths: and have not suffered my foes to triumph over me. O Lord my God, I cried to you: and you have made me whole.

During the preparation of the gifts, all sing the hymn

CAITHNESS



**O for a closer walk with God,  
A calm and heavenly frame;  
A light to shine upon the road  
That leads me to the Lamb!**

**2 Return, O holy Dove, return,  
Sweet messenger of rest;  
I hate the sins that made thee mourn,  
And drove thee from my breast.**

**3 The dearest idol I have known,  
Whate'er that idol be,  
Help me to tear it from thy throne,  
And worship only thee.**

**4 So shall my walk be close with God,  
Calm and serene my frame;  
So purer light shall mark the road  
That leads me to the Lamb.**

William Cowper, 1731-1800

When all is prepared, the priest says,  
Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours  
may be acceptable to God, the Father almighty.

**May the Lord accept our sacrifice  
for the praise and glory of God's name,  
for our good, and the good of all God's holy Church.**

### **Prayer over the Offerings**

Merciful God,  
turn us from sin to faithfulness.  
Accept our offering,  
and prepare us to celebrate  
the death and resurrection of Christ our Saviour,  
who is alive and reigns with you now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **The Eucharistic Prayer**

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.**

It is truly right and just,  
our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

You are our God,  
and we are the creatures of your hand.  
You made us from the dust of the earth,  
breathed into us the breath of life,  
and set us in your world to love and serve you.

When we rejected your love and ignored your wisdom,  
you did not reject us.  
You loved us still  
and called us to turn again to you  
in obedience and in love.

And so, with angels and archangels,  
with all the heavenly host,  
we proclaim your glory  
and join their unending chorus of praise:

## Flowing

*mp*  
Ho - - ly, ho - - - ly,  
*mf*  
ho - ly Lord. God of power and might, — heav'n and earth are  
*f*  
full — of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est.  
*mp*  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the  
*f*  
name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

Lord, you are holy indeed,  
and all creation rightly gives you praise.  
All life, all holiness comes from you  
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,  
by the working of the Holy Spirit.  
From age to age you gather a people to yourself,  
so that from the rising of the sun to its setting  
a pure offering may be made  
to the glory of your name.

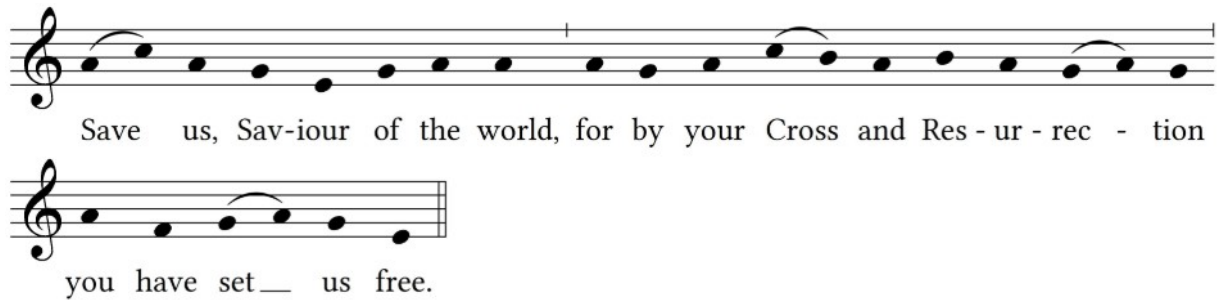
And so, Lord God, in this, the acceptable time,  
we celebrate the lenten days of salvation;  
turning back to you in repentance  
and to one another in reconciliation,  
we humbly pray:  
by the power of your Spirit sanctify these gifts  
we have brought before you,  
that they may become the body and blood  
of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,  
at whose command we celebrate this eucharist.

On the night he was handed over to death,  
he took bread and gave you thanks and praise;  
he broke the bread,  
gave it to his disciples, and said:  
Take this, all of you, and eat it:  
This is my Body, which will be given up for you.



When supper was ended, he took the cup;  
again he gave you thanks and praise,  
gave the cup to his disciples, and said:  
Take this, all of you, and drink from it.  
This is the cup of my Blood,  
the Blood of the new and everlasting covenant.  
It will be shed for you and for all,  
so that sins may be forgiven.  
Do this in memory of me.

Great is the mystery of faith:



Calling to mind, Lord God,  
the death your Son endured for our salvation,  
his glorious resurrection and ascension into heaven,  
and eagerly awaiting the day of his return,  
we offer you in thanksgiving this holy and living sacrifice.

Look with favour on your Church's offering  
and see the Victim by whose sacrifice  
you were pleased to reconcile us to yourself.  
Grant that we who are nourished by the body and blood of your Son  
may be filled with his Holy Spirit  
and become one body, one spirit in Christ.

Let him make us an everlasting gift to you,  
that we may share in the inheritance of your saints,  
with Mary, the virgin Mother of God,  
with the apostles, the martyrs,  
Saint Mary Magdalene, and all your saints,  
on whose constant intercession we rely for help.

Lord, may this sacrifice  
which has made our peace with you  
advance the peace and salvation of all the world.  
Strengthen in faith and love your pilgrim Church on earth:  
your servant our Bishop Geoffrey,  
all bishops, priests, and deacons,  
all ministers of your Church,  
and the entire people your Son has gained for you.

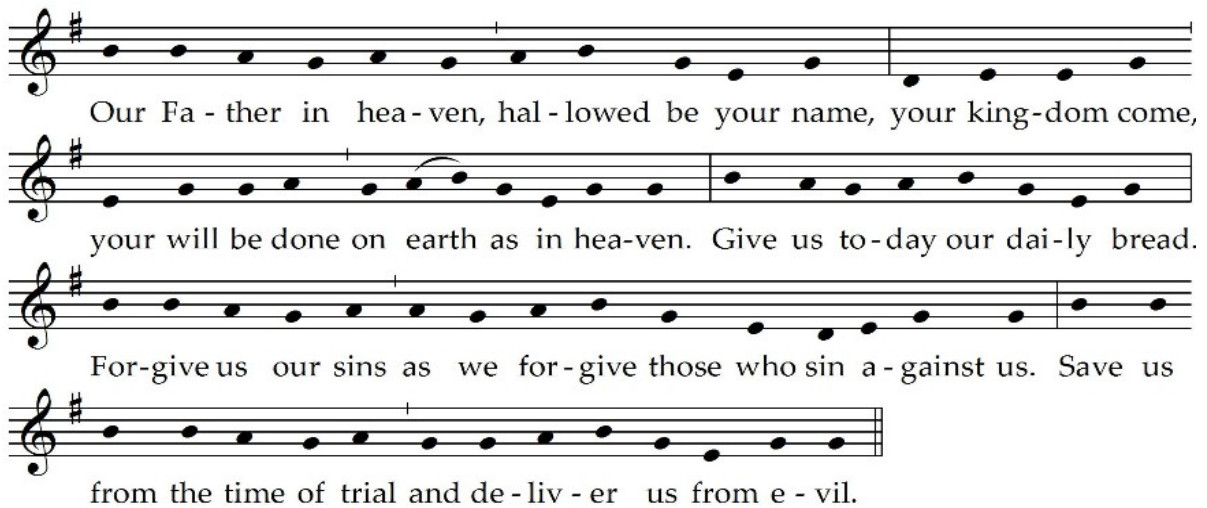
Merciful Father,  
hear the prayers of the family you have gathered here before you,  
and unite to yourself all your children  
now scattered over the face of the earth.

Welcome into your kingdom our departed brothers and sisters  
and all who have left this world in your friendship.  
We hope to enjoy with them your everlasting glory,  
through Christ our Lord,  
through whom you give the world everything that is good.

Through whom, with whom, in whom,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory and honour is yours, almighty Father,  
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

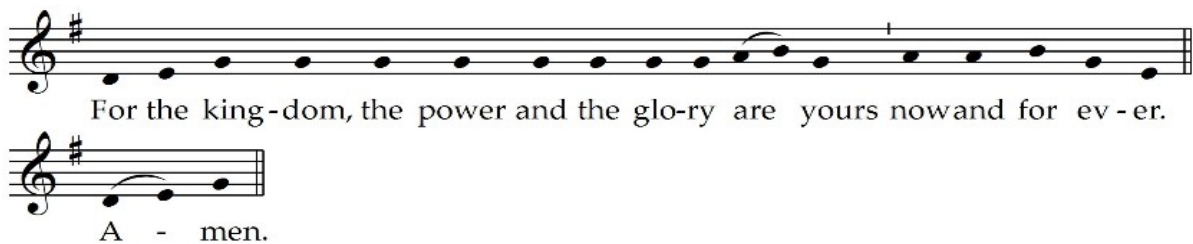
### THE COMMUNION RITE

As our Saviour Christ has taught us we are confident to pray:



Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hal - lowed be your name, your king - dom come,  
your will be done on earth as in hea - ven. Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.  
For - give us our sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us  
from the time of trial and de - liv - er us from e - vil.

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.



For the king - dom, the power and the glo - ry are yours now and for ev - er.  
A - men.

### The Breaking of the Bread

The priest breaks the bread, saying

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.  
We who are many are one body,  
**for we all share in the one bread.**

While the bread is broken Agnus Dei is sung

Je - sus, Lamb of God, have  
mer - cy on us. Je - sus, bear - er of our  
sins, have mer - cy on us. Je - sus, Re -  
de - mer of the world, grant us your peace.

### Invitation to Communion

Behold the Lamb of God,  
behold him who takes away the sins of the world.  
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

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

All receive Holy Communion. Communicants should approach in single file, maintaining physical distance, returning via the side aisles.

Those who are not to receive the Blessed Sacrament are invited to unite themselves with Jesus by making a Spiritual Communion.

### Act of Spiritual Communion

St Alphonsus Liguori

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there, and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

During Communion, the choir sings.

### Communion Antiphon

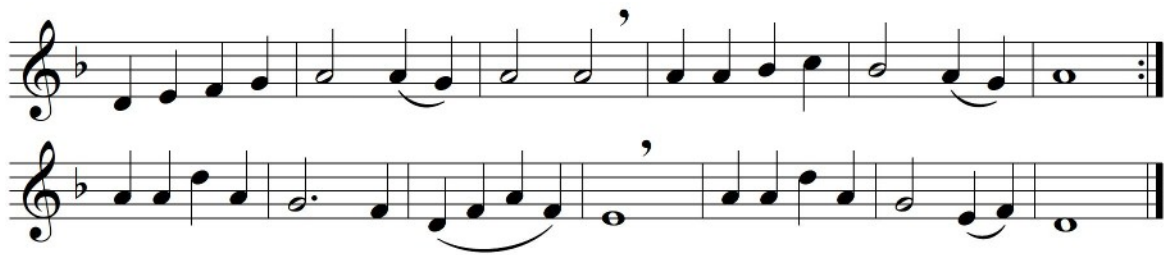
Ps 1.2-3

They who meditate day and night on the law of the Lord, shall bear fruit in due season.

### Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

Faithful God,  
in this holy bread  
you increase our faith and hope and love.  
Lead us in the path of Christ  
who is your Word of life.  
We ask this in his name. **Amen.**



Love will be our Lenten calling,  
 love to shake and shatter sin,  
 waking every closed, cold spirit,  
 stirring new life deep within,  
 till the quickened heart remembers  
 what our Easter birth can mean.

2 Peace will be our Lenten living  
 as we turn for home again,  
 longing for the words of pardon,  
 stripping off old grief and pain,  
 till we stand, restored and joyful,  
 with the Church on Easter day.

3 Truth will be our Lenten learning:  
 hear the Crucified One call!  
 Shadowed by the Saviour's passion,  
 images and idols fall,  
 and, in Easter's holy splendour,  
 God alone is all in all.

Elizabeth J. Smith b.1956

#### THE CONCLUDING RITES

#### Prayer over the People and Blessing

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

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. **Amen.**

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

The priest, deacon, or another minister says

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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