



ASH WEDNESDAY

February 17, 2021 | 7:00 PM

“Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return.”

HOLY EUCHARIST & IMPOSITION OF ASHES

While we're unable to be in church together, we gather today as the church, the Body of Christ. Wherever you are, we hope you'll participate fully in our worship through singing, prayer, hearing the Good News of Jesus Christ, and receiving spiritual communion. May God richly bless you as you bless us!

WELCOME INTO THE SILENCE

“Lent serves as our annual invitation to come closer to God. It provides a time to look at our lives and ourselves, not so we may criticize ourselves more harshly but so we can identify the obstructions that keep us from... feeling the presence of the divine in our every day. How do we hide from God, and why? Lent gives us a chance to look at such obstructions and to move them gently away so that we can come closer to the Love that gives us life... Thus Lent offers a gift of time and a promise of closeness...” From A Clearing Season: Reflections for Lent

All stand as able at the sound of the tower bell.

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Priest Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.
People **God's mercy endures for ever.**
Priest Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing you have made and 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 sinfulness, 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 WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 58:1-12

READER: A Reading from the Book of Isaiah

Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God. “Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?” Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? 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 them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the

needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. 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 live in.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

Silence is marked by the ringing of a bell.

THE RESPONSE (remain seated, read responsively)

Psalm 103:8-14

- 8 The LORD is full of compassion and mercy, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.
- 9 He will not always accuse us, *
nor 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 is his mercy great upon those who fear him.
- 12 As far as the east is from the west, *
so far has he removed our sins from us.
- 13 As a father cares for his children, *
so does the LORD care for those who fear him.
- 14 For he himself knows whereof we are made; *
he remembers that we are but dust.

THE SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

READER: A Reading from the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him 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 he 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, labors, 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 honor and dishonor, 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.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

Silence is marked by the ringing of a bell.

1 For - ty days and for - ty nights thou wast fast - ing in the wild;
 2 Should not we thy sor - row share and from world - ly joys ab - stain,
 3 Then if Sa - tan on us press, Je - sus, Sa - vior, hear our call!
 4 So shall we have peace di - vine: ho - lier glad - ness ours shall be;
 5 Keep, O keep us, Sa - vior dear, ev - er con - stant by thy side;

1 for - ty days and for - ty nights tempt - ed, and yet un - de - filed.
 2 fast - ing with un - ceas - ing prayer, strong with thee to suf - fer pain?
 3 Vic - tor in the wil - der - ness, grant we may not faint nor fall!
 4 round us, too, shall an - gels shine, such as min - is - tered to thee.
 5 that with thee we may ap - pear at the e - ter - nal Eas - ter - tide.

Words: George Hunt Smytton (1822-1870), alt.

Music: *Aus der Tiefe rufe ich*, melody alt. Martin Herbst (1654-1681), alt.; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889)

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "Beware of practicing 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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Silence is marked by the ringing of a bell.

After the sermon and silence, the Priest 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. Thereby, 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 which all Christians continually have to renew their 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 self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word. And, to make a right beginning of repentance, and as a mark of our mortal nature, let us now kneel before the Lord, our maker and redeemer.

Silence is then kept for a time.

Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth: Grant that these ashes may be to us a sign of our mortality and penitence, that we may remember that it is only by your gracious gift that we are given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

The ashes are imposed with the following words

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

1. Have mer - cy, Lord, on us, For
 2. Lord, wash a - way our guilt, And
 3. A - gainst you, Lord, a - lone, And
 4. Blot out our man - y sins, Re -
 5. The joy your grace can give Let

you are ev - er kind; Though we have sinned be -
 cleanse us from our sin; For we con - fess our
 on - ly in your sight Have we trans-gressed; we
 move them from your view; Clean hearts cre - ate for
 us a - gain ob - tain, And may your Spir - it's

fore you, Lord, Your mer - cy let us find.
 wrongs, and see How great our guilt has been.
 stand con-demned: Your word is just and right.
 us, O God; Our spir - its now re - new.
 strong sup - port Our con - trite hearts sus - tain.

Text: Psalm 51; Nahum Tate, 1652-1715, and Nicholas Brady, 1659-1726, alt.
 Tune: SOUTHWELL, SM; William Daman, *The Psalmes of David*, 1579, alt.

Silence is marked by the ringing of a bell.

LITANY OF PENITENCE

The Priest and People together

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.**

The Priest continues

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.

Have mercy on us, Lord.

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.

Have mercy on us, Lord.

We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience of our lives,

We confess to you, Lord.

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people,

We confess to you, Lord.

Our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,

We confess to you, Lord.

Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work,

We confess to you, Lord.

Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,

We confess to you, Lord.

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,

Accept our repentance, Lord.

For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,

Accept our repentance, Lord.

For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us,

Accept our repentance, Lord.

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

Accomplish in us the work of your salvation,
That we may show forth your glory in the world.

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

The Priest says

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desires not the death of sinners, but rather that they may turn from their wickedness and live, has given power and commandment to his ministers to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the absolution and remission of their sins. He pardons and absolves all those who truly repent, and with sincere hearts believe his holy Gospel.

Therefore we beseech him to grant us true repentance and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him which we do on this day, and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure and holy, so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Priest The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People And also with you.

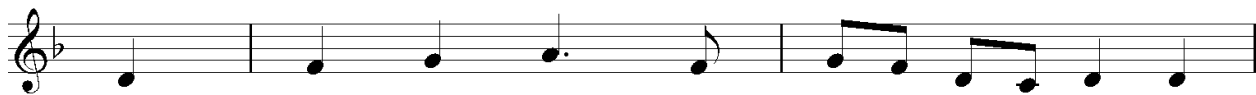
THE HOLY COMMUNION

[You may make an offering by clicking here.](#)

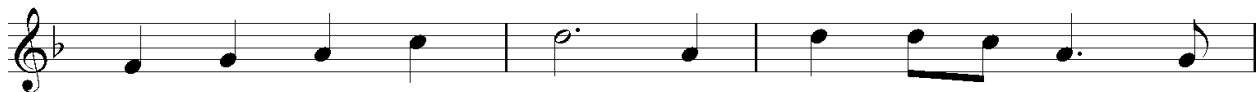
HYMN

“Forgive our sins as we forgive”

(HYMNAL 674)



1 “For - give our sins as we for - give” you
2 How can your par - don reach and bless the
3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals the
4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls, and



taught us, Lord, to pray; but you a - lone can
un - for - giv - ing heart that broods on wrongs and
truth we dim - ly knew, how small the debts men
bid re - sent - ment cease; then, re - con - ciled to



grant us grace to live the words we say.
will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?
owe to us, how great our debt to you.
God and man, our lives will spread your peace.

Words: Rosamond E. Herklots (b. 1905) Copyright © by permission of Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Used with permission.
Music: *Detroit*, from *Supplement to Kentucky Harmony*, 1820; harm. Margaret W. Mealy (b. 1922)

PRESENTATION ANTHEM

Priest All things come from you, O Lord,
People and of your own have we given you.

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 God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

HOLY, HOLY

Plainsong, Mass 18; adapt. Mason Martens

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
power and might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: 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 for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

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.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to 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 BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Priest breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

ACCLAMATION AFTER THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Sung responsively.

Anaphora chant; Mass 18; adapt. Mason Martens

V. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:
R. have mer - cy on us. V. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: R. have mer - cy on us. V. Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sins of the world: R. grant us peace.

Let us pray.

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

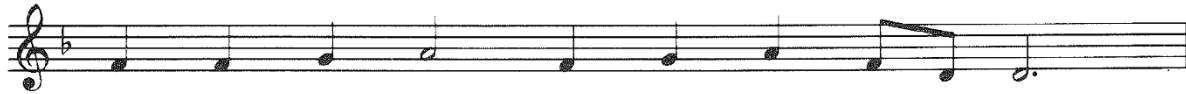
The Priest says

The gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

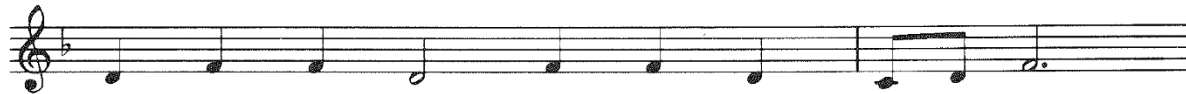
HYMN

O Bread of life, for sinners broken

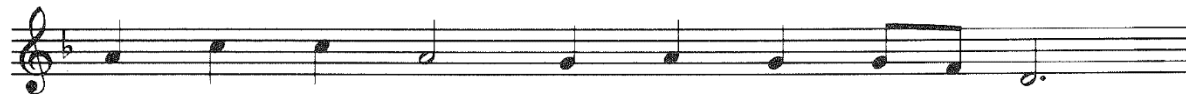
(HYMNAL 342)



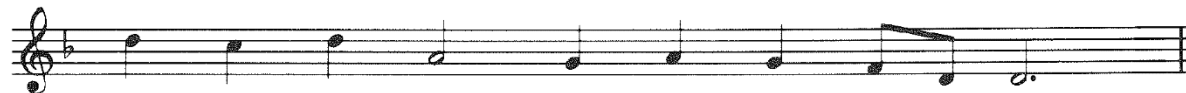
1 O Bread of life, for sin - ners bro - ken,
2 For all we seek your grace sus - tain - ing;
3 Now may your life to us de - scend - ing



of God's own love his dear - est tok - en,
your love shines though your strength is wan - ing,
en - ter our lives, all veils thus rend - ing,



we hear the words so gen - tly spo - ken,
thus by your death our life ob - tain - ing.
Em - man - u - el, our joy un - end - ing.



“Do this for me in my re - mem - brance.”
“Come un - to me, you hea - vy la - den.”
“I am with you, this day and ev - er.”

Words: Timothy T'ing Fang Lew (1892-1947); tr. Frank W. Price (1895-1974), alt.
Music: *Sheng En*, melody Su Yin-Lan (20th cent.)

99. 99

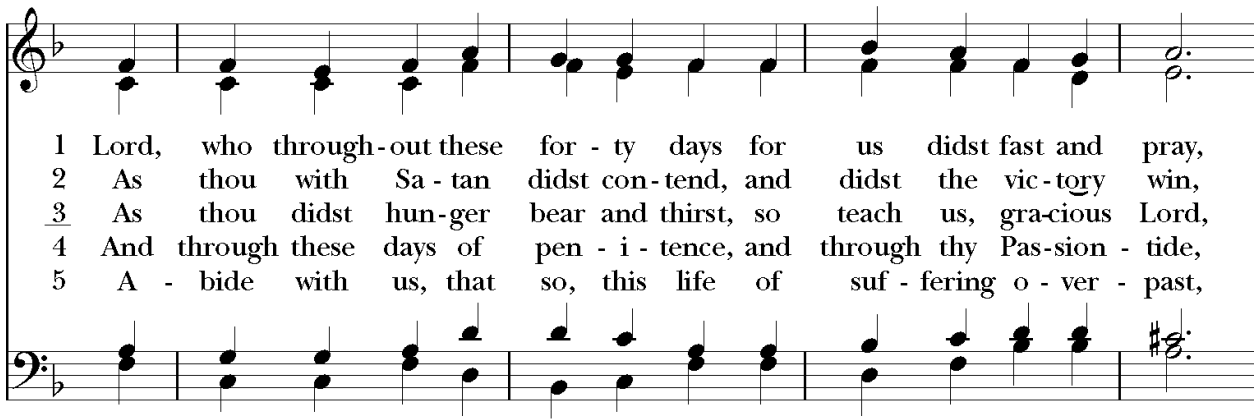
THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Priest and People

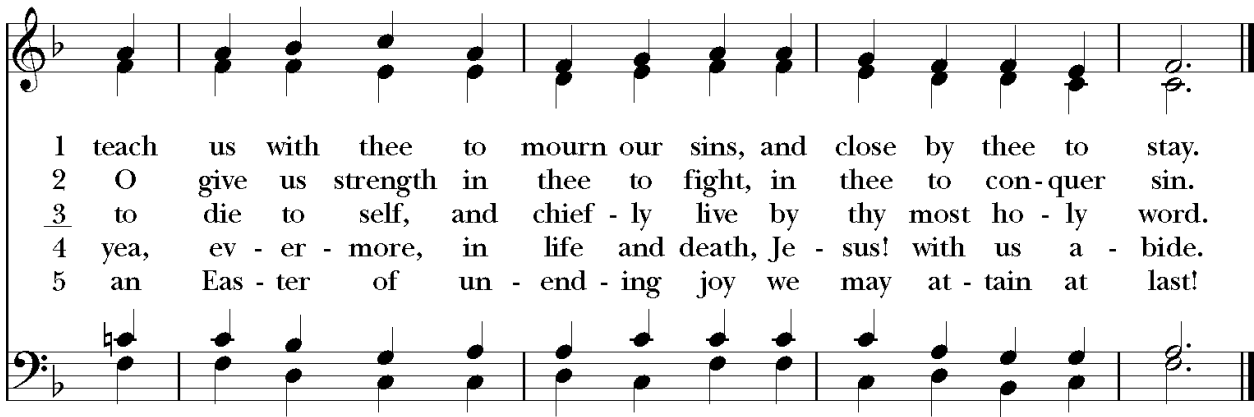
Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

Grant, most 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 Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



1 Lord, who through-out these for - ty days for us didst fast and pray,
 2 As thou with Sa - tan didst con - tend, and didst the vic - tory win,
 3 As thou didst hun - ger bear and thirst, so teach us, gra - cious Lord,
 4 And through these days of pen - i - tence, and through thy Pas - sion - tide,
 5 A - bid with us, that so, this life of suf - fer - ing o - ver - past,



1 teach us with thee to mourn our sins, and close by thee to stay.
 2 O give us strength in thee to fight, in thee to con - quer sin.
 3 to die to self, and chief - ly live by thy most ho - ly word.
 4 yea, ev - er - more, in life and death, Je - sus! with us a - bid.
 5 an Eas - ter of un - end - ing joy we may at - tain at last!

Words: Claudia Frances Hernaman (1838-1898) Music: *St. Flavian*, melody from *Day's Psalter*, 1562; adapt. and harm. Richard Redhead (1820-1901)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

PROCESSION

Bells

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

Priest & Preacher
Deacon
Organist
Song Leader
Lectors
Video Production

The Rev. Karen Haig
The Rev. Dan Fowler
Paul Roy
Kathryn Houchen
Julie Dougherty, Michael Ditmore
The Rev. Jim Friedrich