

*February
18, 2026*



THE

**IMPOSITION OF ASHES
WITH HOLY COMMUNION**

CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

PARISH OF LANCASTER

Diocese of Fredericton – Anglican Church of Canada

Bishop

Priest-in-charge

Church Wardens

Parish Administrator

Organist & Choir Director

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We acknowledge that the land on which
we gather is the traditional unceded
territory of the Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet)
and Mi'kmaq Peoples.

7:00 pm The Imposition of Ashes with Holy Communion

The liturgy is according to *The Book of Alternative Services*

ORDER OF SERVICE

In **Silence** *worship begins.*

Hymn “*Be Still, for the Presence of the Lord*”

MP 50

1 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.

2 Be still, for the glory of the Lord
Is shining all around;
He burns with holy fire,
With splendour 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.

3 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 © 1986 Kingsway's Thankyou Music
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Tune RIVAULX, John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876)*

The Greeting p. 281

The Collect of the Day p. 281

Almighty and everlasting God,
you despise 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 brokenness,
may receive from you, the God of all mercy,
perfect remission and forgiveness;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you, and the Holy Spirit
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

PLEASE BE SEATED.

First Reading Isaiah 58:1-12

A reading from Isaiah.

¹ 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.

² Yet day after day they seek me
and delight to know my ways,
as if they were a nation that practised righteousness
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;
they ask of me righteous judgements,
they delight to draw near to God.

³ '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.

⁴ 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.

⁵ 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?
⁶ 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?
⁷ 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?
⁸ 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 rearguard.
⁹ 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,
¹⁰ 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.
¹¹ 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.
¹² 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.
[NRSV-A]

Hear God's word for God's people.
Thanks be to God.

Psalms 103:8-18

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.
- 15 Our days are like the grass; ***
we flourish like a flower of the field;
- ¹⁶ When the wind goes over it, it is gone, *
 and its place shall know it no more.
- 17 But the merciful goodness of the Lord endures for ever**
on those who fear him, *
and his righteousness on children's children;
- ¹⁸ On those who keep his covenant *
 and remember his commandments and do them.

Second Reading 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

A reading from Second Corinthians.

^{20b} We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

^{6:1} As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. ² 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!

³ We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴ but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵ beatings, imprisonments, riots, labours, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶ by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, ⁷ truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸ in honour and

dishonour, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹ as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰ as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.
[NRSV-A]

Hear God's word for God's people.
Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn *“Lord, Teach Us How to Pray Aright”* **OB 449**

- 1 Lord, teach us how to pray aright
With reverence and with fear;
Though dust and ashes in thy sight,
We may, we must draw near.
- 2 We perish if we cease from prayer;
O grant us power to pray;
And, when to meet thee we prepare,
Lord, meet us by the way.
- 3 God of all grace, we bring to thee
A broken contrite heart;
Give, what thine eye delights to see,
Truth in the inward part;
- 4 Faith in the only sacrifice
That can for sin atone;
To cast our hopes, to fix our eyes,
On Christ, on Christ alone;
- 5 Patience to watch, and wait, and weep,
Though mercy long delay;
Courage and fainting souls to keep,
And trust thee though thou slay;
- 6 Give these, and then thy will be done;
Thus, strengthened with all might,
We, through thy Spirit and thy Son,
Shall pray, and pray aright.

Gospel Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

¹ ‘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.

² ‘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. ³ But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴ so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

⁵ ‘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. ⁶ 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.

¹⁶ ‘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. ¹⁷ But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸ 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.

¹⁹ ‘Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; ²⁰ but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. [NRSV-A]

The Gospel of Christ.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Message Fr Chris Ketch

Congregational Address p. 281

Psalm 51:1-18 p. 282

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving kindness; *
in your great compassion blot out my offences.
Wash me through and through from my wickedness *
and cleanse me from my sin.
For I know my transgressions, *
and my sin is ever before me.
Against you only have I sinned *
and done what is evil in your sight.
And so you are justified when you speak *
and upright in your judgement.
Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, *
a sinner from my mother's womb.
For behold, you look for truth deep within me, *
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.
Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; *
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.
Make me hear of joy and gladness, *
that the body you have broken may rejoice.
Hide your face from my sins *
and blot out all my iniquities.
Create in me a clean heart, O God, *
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence *
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Give me the joy of your saving help again *
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.
I shall teach your ways to the wicked, *
and sinners shall return to you.
Deliver me from death, O God, *
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness,
O God of my salvation.
Open my lips, O Lord, *
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice, *
but you take no delight in burnt-offerings.
The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit; *
a broken and contrite heart, O God,
you will not despise.

Hymn of Reflection *“Have Mercy, Lord, On Us”* CP 605

- 1 Have mercy, Lord, on us,
for you are ever kind;
though we have sinned before you, Lord,
your mercy let us find.
- 2 Lord, wash away our guilt,
and cleanse us from our sin;
for we confess our wrongs, and see
how great our guilt has been.
- 3 The joy your grace can give,
let us again obtain;
and may your Spirit's firm support
our spirits then sustain.

*Text para. Nahum Tate (1652-1715), Nicholas Brady (1659-1726)
Tune ST BRIDE, Samuel Howard, 1710-1782*

The Liturgy of Penitence

p. 283

As a sign of the spirit of penitence with which we shall keep this season of preparation for Easter, I invite you to receive on your head in ash the sign of the cross, the symbol of our salvation.

THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Those who desire to receive ashes, please proceed to the altar rail, where you may kneel or stand, and the ashes will be applied to the forehead. Then return to your seat for continued quiet prayer and reflection. After all who desire ashes have received them and have returned to their seats, the presider leads the congregation in the conclusion of the Liturgy of Penitence.

Accomplish in us, O God, 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.**

Then the presider says,
Almighty God have mercy on you,
forgive you all your sins
through our Lord Jesus Christ,
strengthen you in all goodness,
and by the power of the Holy Spirit
keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

ALL PLEASE STAND, AS YOU'RE ABLE.

The Peace

The presider continues,

Being justified by grace,
through faith we have peace with God
in our Lord Jesus Christ.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
and also with you.

All may express a gesture of Christ's peace towards one another.

HOLY COMMUNION

The Preparation of the Gifts

*The Table is prepared, and the Offering is given and brought to
the Table during the following music.*

Offertory Hymn "Before I take the body of my Lord" CP 610

1 Before I take the body of my Lord,
 before I share His life in bread and wine,

I recognise the sorry things within:
these I lay down.

- 2 The words of hope I often failed to give,
the prayers of kindness buried by my pride,
the signs of care I argued out of sight:
these I lay down.
- 3 The narrowness of vision and of mind,
the need for other folk to serve my will,
and every word and silence meant to hurt:
these I lay down.
- 4 Of those around in whom I meet my Lord,
I ask their pardon and I grant them mine
that every contradiction of Christ's peace
might be laid down
- 5 Lord Jesus Christ, companion at this feast,
I empty now my heart and stretch my hands
and ask to meet you here in bread and wine
which you lay down.

Text John Bell (1949-) & Graham Maule (1956-)
Music LAYING DOWN, John Bell (1949-)

The Prayer over the Gifts p. 286

Eucharistic Prayer #3 p. 198

Proper preface p. 220

The Lord's Prayer p. 211

The Breaking of the Bread #7 p. 213

The Communion

Communion Music

Instrumental – *keyboard*

At the conclusion of the communion, silence may be kept.

Prayer after Communion p. 214

A Closing Responsory

This is love, not that we loved God,
but that he loved us and sent his Son.
 He is the sacrifice for our sins,
that we might live through him.
 If God loves us so much
we ought to love one another.
 If we love one another
God lives in us.

In place of the Blessing the presider then says,

The Solemn Prayer over the People for Ash Wednesday

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.**

Dismissal

p. 215

Go in the peace of God's mercy and grace.
Thanks be to God.

The service ends in silence as first the clergy, other ministers, and choir depart.

Those serving today's worship and learning:

<i>Bulletin preparation</i>	Lori Maker (Parish Office)
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Lori Maker, Carol Patterson
<i>Sound system</i>	Chris Titus
<i>Greeter</i>	TBD
<i>Layreader & First Reader</i>	Paul Desjardins
<i>Second Reader</i>	Heather Masson
<i>Prayer Leader</i>	Layreader
<i>Organist & Choir Director</i>	David Mitchell
<i>Presider & preacher</i>	Chris Ketch
<i>Counters</i>	Terry Ricketts & Janet Brown
<i>Building care</i>	TBD
