



Ash Wednesday
17 February 2021

12 PM & 7 PM Rite for Ash Wednesday



The Cathedral
Church of **Saint John**
the **Divine**

125
YEARS

THE RITE FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

The Reverend Canon Patrick Malloy, *Officiant*
The Reverend Paul Anthony Daniels II
The Reverend Canon Steven Lee, *Preacher*
The Cathedral Choir

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Auf meinen lieben Gott Georg Böhm (1661–1733)

GATHERING

The people gather informally on the Cathedral steps and on the sidewalk. Physical distance is maintained.

OPENING HYMN

Sung by All.

1 E - ter - nal Lord of love, be - hold your Church walk - ing once
 2 So dai - ly dy - ing to the way of self, so dai - ly
 3 If dead in you, so in you we a - rise, you the first -

more the pil - grim way of Lent, led by your cloud by
 liv - ing to your way of love, we walk the road, Lord
 born of all the faith - ful dead; and as through ston - y

day, by night your fire, moved by your love and toward your pres - ence
 Je - sus, that you trod, know - ing our - selves bap - tized in - to your
 ground the green shoots break, glo - rious in spring - time dress of leaf and

bent: far off yet here— the goal of all de - sire.
 death: so we are dead and live with you in God.
 flower, so in the Fa - ther's glo - ry shall we wake.

Words: Thomas H. Cain

Music: *Old 124th; Day's Psalter, 1563; Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, Geneva, 1551, ed. Louis Bourgeois; Genevan Psalter, 1551*

SALUTATION AND WELCOME

The Sub-Dean greets the people, and informally welcomes them.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Sub-Dean Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, 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 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.

People Amen.

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 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 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! (40:21–31)

Lector Here ends the reading.

THE SERMON

The Reverend Canon Steven Lee

Canon Pastor and Vicar, Congregation of Saint Saviour

ANTHEM

*Balm in Gilead*African-American Spiritual,
arr. William L. Dawson (1899–1990)

THERE is a balm in Gilead,
To make the wounded whole,
There is a balm in Gilead,
To heal the sin-sick soul.

Sometimes I feel discouraged,
And think my work's in vain,
But then the Holy Spirit
Revives my soul again.

If you cannot sing like angels,
If you cannot preach like Paul,
You can tell the love of Jesus,
And say "He died for all."

African-American Spiritual

EXHORTATION TO A HOLY LENT

The Sub-Dean reads the exhortation.

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 [bow down, our heads and our bodies,] before the Lord, our maker and redeemer.

The various ministers bow, and a time is left for the people to bow and to be silent.

THE LITANY OF PENITENCE

Father Daniels says to the people

Hear the words of our Savior as recorded in the Gospel
According to Mark:

THE first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.” (12:29–31)

In silence, let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

An extended period of silence is kept.

Father Daniels says

I pray now in the name of us all.

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.

After a brief pause, he says to the people

Let us all say, Have mercy on us, Lord.

The people respond

Have mercy on us, Lord.

Father Daniels continues

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.
And so we say: Have mercy on us, Lord.

The people respond

Have mercy on us, Lord.

He continues, with the people responding each time in the same way:

We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience of our lives. And so we say: *Have mercy on us, Lord.*

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people. And so we say: *Have mercy on us, Lord.*

Our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves. And so we say: *Have mercy on us, Lord.*

Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work. And so we say: *Have mercy on us, Lord.*

Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us. And so we say: *Have mercy on us, 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. And so we say: *Have mercy on us, Lord.*

For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us. And so we say: *Have mercy on us, Lord.*

For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us. And so we say: *Have mercy on us, Lord.*

Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us; Accomplish in us the work of your salvation, That we may show forth your glory in the world.

A period of silence is kept.

The Litany concludes, Father Daniels saying

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

The Sub-Dean 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.

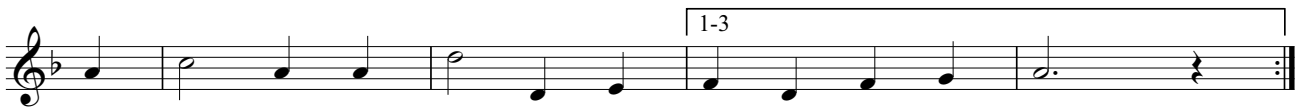
CLOSING HYMN



1 What does the Lord re - quire for praise and of - fer - ing?
 2 Ru - lers of earth, give ear! Should you not jus - tice show?
 3 Still down the a - ges ring the pro - phet's stern com - mands.
 4 How shall my soul ful - fill God's law so hard and high?



What sac - ri - fice de - sire, or trib - ute bid you bring?
 Will God your plead - ing hear, while crime and cruel - ty grow?
 To mer - chant, work - er, king he brings God's high de - mands.
 Let Christ en - due our will with grace to for - ti - fy.



Do just - ly; love mer - cy; walk hum - bly with your God.
 Do just - ly; love mer - cy; walk hum - bly with your God.
 Do just - ly; love mer - cy; walk hum - bly with your God.
 Then just - ly, in mer - cy we'll (hum - bly walk with God.)



hum - bly walk with God.

Words: Albert F. Bayly (1901–1984), alt.

Music: *Sharpthorne*, Erik Routley (1917–1982)

THE DISMISSAL

The Sub-Dean dismisses the people.

The people depart informally.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Erbarm' dich mein, o Herre Gott, BWV 721 Johann Sebastian Bach

(1685–1750)

Thanks to Jie Yi, Christopher Cloudus, and Goura Rivera for producing the hymn videos.

ONLINE SERVICES**MONDAY–SATURDAY**

8:30 AM Morning Prayer

5:30 PM Evening Prayer

WEDNESDAY

8:30 PM Compline

SUNDAY

11 AM Liturgy of the Word

UPCOMING EVENTS**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18**

6 PM

The American Poets Corner: Induction of Audre Lorde. The Cathedral will celebrate the life and works of Audre Lorde, the 2020 inductee to the American Poets Corner, with a virtual ceremony on Thursday, February 18 at 6 PM via Zoom. Readers and participants will include members of Lorde's family and fellow poets including Dante Micheaux, Rachel Eliza Griffiths, Martha Collins, Cathedral Poet in Residence Marie Howe, United States Poet Laureate Joy Harjo, and more to be announced. Lorde's writings, both deeply personal and committed to a liberatory political vision, openly discuss her lesbianism, Blackness, motherhood, cancer diagnoses, and many other facets of her life, inviting readers to draw upon their own personal journeys to add to the shared fight for justice and community. Visit stjohndivine.org for more info and to register.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

7 PM

Great Music in a Great Space: David Briggs. The Cathedral welcomes back Artist in Residence David Briggs for this streamed performance, featuring works by Strauss, Wagner, and Liszt. The ticketed concert will be preceded by a free virtual pre-concert lecture on Facebook at 6 PM, presented as part of the Cathedral's weekly *Tuesdays at 6* organ recital series. Ticket holders will receive a private link to access the concert, which can be streamed beginning at 7 PM on February 23. The performance will be available to watch on demand until March 22, 2021. For tickets and more information, visit stjohndivine.org.

CLERGY

The Right Reverend Andrew ML Dietsche, D.D.
Bishop of New York

The Right Reverend Allen K. Shin
Bishop Suffragan of New York

The Right Reverend Mary D Glasspool
Bishop Assistant of New York

The Right Reverend Clifton Daniel III, D.D.
Dean of the Cathedral

The Reverend Canon Patrick Malloy, Ph.D.
Sub-Dean and Canon for Liturgy and the Arts

The Reverend Canon Steven Lee, M.Div.
Canon Pastor and Vicar, Congregation of Saint Saviour

The Reverend Pamela Cooper-White, Ph.D., Assisting Priest

The Reverend Paul Anthony Daniels II, M.Div., Assisting Priest

The Reverend Deacon Kenton J. Curtis, M.S.W., Deacon

LITURGICAL STAFF

Kent Tritle, M.M., Director of Cathedral Music

Raymond Nagem, D.M.A., Associate Director of Music

Bryan L. Zaros, M.M., Associate Choirmaster

Peter Ennis, Chief Sacristan

Douglass Hunt, Organ Curator

Samuel Kuffuor-Afryie, B.M., Organ Scholar

Christina Kay, M.M., Music Administrator

Jie Yi, D.M.A., Music Administrator

CATHEDRAL PRODUCTIONS STAFF

Christian Mardones, Director, Cathedral Productions

Issac Lopez, Productions Coordinator

Matthew Jacome, Head Carpenter

Melissa Mizell, Lighting Designer

Kate Conover, Head Electrician

Kelly Wilson, Audio Tech

ONGOING PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES**THE CATHEDRAL REGATHERS**

Whether in person or on our website, there are many ways to join the Cathedral community and stay in touch. The Cathedral is now open 9:30 AM – 3 PM Mondays – Fridays and 9:30 AM – 5 PM Saturdays – Sundays. Admission for sightseeing is \$5. All those seeking individual prayer, reflection, meditation, or Columbarium visits will be welcomed without charge. Our online community resources and programs, including streaming worship services, messages from the Dean, virtual tours, music recitals, and children's activities, and contact information for Cathedral clergy, are just a few clicks away at stjohndivine.org.

**CATHEDRAL COMMUNITY CARES (CCC)
SUNDAY SOUP KITCHEN**

During this time, the CCC Soup Kitchen remains open each Sunday, serving bagged meals to those in need. For more information or to volunteer, contact Thomas Perry at tperry@stjohndivine.org. Your support and contributions are greatly appreciated as we continue to serve our most vulnerable community members.

THE CONGREGATION OF SAINT SAVIOUR

Chartered in 1992, the Congregation of Saint Saviour is a 400-member strong community of believers who support the Cathedral with our time, talent, and money. We serve as lay ministers, ushers, vergers, readers, acolytes, choir members, and outreach volunteers. Although the Cathedral remains closed to large gatherings, we have created a vibrant online community with opportunities for worship, Bible study, and fellowship. To learn more about 'the heart of the Cathedral,' visit www.saintsaviour.org, or reach out to our Canon Pastor, Steven Lee, at slee@stjohndivine.org.

IMMIGRATION AND SANCTUARY RESOURCES

The Cathedral is a house of worship for all, regardless of immigration status. If you, or members of your family, community or parish, need assistance navigating life as an immigrant of any legal status, we hope to connect you with the resources you need. For information on upcoming programs and more resources from the city and Diocese, visit stjohndivine.org.

SERMONS ARCHIVE NOW ONLINE

Visit the Cathedral's website to stream or download audio from past 11 AM Sunday Choral Eucharist sermons and listen on the go. Visit stjohndivine.org/spiritual/sermons-archive/ to listen and download.

**The Cathedral Church of
Saint John the Divine**

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