



**February 14, 2024**  
**St. George's Church, Glenn Dale Parish**  
**Episcopal Diocese of Washington**

*Welcome to St. George's! We are glad to see you this evening, whether in person or virtually. Zoom participants are welcome to leave your video camera on; at certain points during the service participants in the sanctuary will see the gallery view of those taking part in the service via Zoom*

*The Celebrant enters in silence.*

*Celebrant:* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

**People:** **God's mercy endures forever.**

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

*Celebrant:* Let us pray together:

**Almighty and everlasting God, in humility and repentance we bring to you our failures: we bring the pain we have caused others; we bring the injustices of our society in which we participate; we bring our brokenness and our need for healing. We humbly bring our whole selves to you and ask for the transforming power of your grace. Create in us new hearts, O God. Grant us the courage to accept the path to wholeness you offer, that we may walk with you in newness of life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*The people are seated for the reading.*

**2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10**

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.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 103:8-14**

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless your holy Name.

**You O LORD are merciful and gracious,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

You will not always accuse, nor do you keep your anger forever.

**You have not dealt with us according to our sins,  
nor repaid us according to our iniquities.**

For as the heavens are high above the earth,  
so great is your steadfast love toward those who hold you in awe;

**As far as the east is from the west,  
so far have you put away our sins from us.**

As a father has compassion for his children,  
so do you LORD have compassion for those who stand in awe before you.

**For you know how we were made; you remember that we are but dust.**

### **Gospel Hymn: Wonder, Love and Praise #825 *Bless the Lord, my soul***

Words: Psalm 103. Music: Jacques Berthier (1923) © 1984 Taize, admin. GIA Publications, Inc. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



Bless the Lord my soul and bless God's ho - ly name.



Bless the Lord my soul, Who leads me in-to life.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

### **Matthew 6:1-6,16-21**

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."

*Celebrant:* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**The Sermon: The Rev. Connie Reinhardt**



## The Invitation to the Observance of a Holy Lent

Dear People of God: The first Christians observed with great devotion the season of Lent when we remember Jesus' passion: his arrest, trial, crucifixion and death. During this time and in preparation for the resurrection, the community of Jesus' followers engaged in acts of penitence and fasting. This season of Lent provided a time for converts to the faith to prepare for Holy Baptism. It was also a time when those who, because of their sins, had been separated from the body of the faithful were reconciled 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 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 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, we now kneel before the Lord our maker and redeemer.

*(Silence is kept for a time, all kneeling as you are able or in another posture of reflective prayer)*

### Imposition of Ashes

*The Celebrant prays:*

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 our longing for you, that we may remember that it is only by your gracious gift that we are given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

*All those desiring the imposition of ashes come forward to the altar at this time.*

*The Celebrant will mark a cross on your forehead with the ashes of palm branches burned from the previous season, using these or similar words: "Remember that you come from dust and to dust you shall return."*

*At the conclusion of the imposition of ashes, Psalm 51 is prayed responsively.*



## Psalm 51:1-4, 6-17

O God, give me mercy from your fountain of forgiveness.

**I know your abundant love is enough to wash away my transgressions.**

Because your compassion is so great, take away the guilt of my wrongdoings.

**Forgive the full extent of my rebellious ways, and erase this deep stain on my conscience.**

I feel such pain and anguish within me;

**I cannot get away from the sting of my sin against you, Lord.**

Everything I did, I did right in front of you, for you saw it all.

**Against you, and you above all, have I sinned.**

Everything you say to me is infallibly true, and your judgment conquers me.

**I know that you delight to set your truth deep in my spirit,**

So come into the hidden places of my heart and teach me wisdom.

**Purify my conscience O God; make me clean again.**

Wash me in your love until I am pure in heart.

**Satisfy me in your sweetness, and my song of joy will return.**

The places within me you have crushed will rejoice in your healing touch.

**Hide my sins from your face; erase all my guilt by your saving grace.**

Create a new, clean heart within me; put a new, faithful spirit deep inside me.

**May you never reject me, O God; may you never take from me your sacred Spirit.**

Let my passion for life be restored, tasting joy in every breakthrough you bring to me.

**Hold me close to you with a willing spirit that obeys your word.**

Then I can show to other guilty ones how loving and merciful you are.

**They will find their way back home to you, knowing that you will forgive them.**

Spare my life, O God, and save me, and my heart will gladly sing of your deliverance.

**Lord God, unlock my heart, unlock my lips, and I will joyously praise you.**

For the source of your pleasure is not in my performance

or the sacrifices I might offer to you.

**The fountain of your pleasure is found in the sacrifice of a repentant spirit, O God;**

**You will not refuse a broken and sorrowful heart.**

## The Litany of Penitence

*The Celebrant and People together, saying:*

**Most holy and compassionate God: 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 Celebrant 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 compassion on us, Lord.**

We have been heedless of 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 compassion 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 live 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 accomplish in us the work of your compassion and love;  
**That, having taken this Lenten journey of exile and return, we may be your beloved presence in the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*The Celebrant continues:*

Almighty God, the giver of our Lord Jesus Christ, you grieve the distance between us and desire that we turn back to you so that we might enjoy fullness of life. You have given responsibility to your ministers to declare and pronounce to your people, expressing sorrow for our shortcomings, a return from the exile and bondage of our sins. You assure us that all those who are truly ready to turn back to you and strive to amend our lives are forgiven.

Therefore we ask you, O God, to grant us true repentance. We ask that those things which we do on this day may please you, and that the rest of our life we may seek your light, so that at the last we may come to a holy joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## The Peace

*Celebrant:* The peace of Christ be always with you.

**People:** And also with you.

## Announcements

### The Offertory

Walk in love as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering holy and acceptable to God.

*Although St. George's no longer physically "passes the basket" everyone is invited and encouraged to make a financial offering to express your gratitude to God for the gifts we are given and in support of our mission and ministries. We encourage you to give electronically: you can text stgeodragon to 72356 (Messages and data rates may apply. Message frequency varies. Text HELP to 72356 for help. Text STOP to 72356 to cancel.), use your web browser to go to [www.onrealm.org/StGeorgesChurch/Give](http://www.onrealm.org/StGeorgesChurch/Give), or donate via Zelle to [donations@stgeorgesglenndale.org](mailto:donations@stgeorgesglenndale.org).*

### Offertory Hymn: Gather #643 Ashes

Words and Music: Tim Conry (b. 1951) © New Dawn Music. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



We rise a - gain from ash - es, from the good we've failed to do. We  
We of - fer you our fail - ures, we of - fer you at - tempts, The  
Then rise a - gain from ash - es, let heal - ing come to pain, Though  
Thanks be to the Fa - ther, who made us like him - self.



rise a - gain from ash - es, to cre - ate our - selves a - new. If all our world is  
gifts not ful - ly giv - en, the dreams not ful - ly dreamt. Give our stum - bl - ings di -  
spring has turned to win - ter, and sun - shine turned to rain. The rain we'll use for  
Thanks be to the Son who saved us by his death Thanks be to the



ash - es, then must our lives be true, An of - fer - ing of ash - es, an of - fer - ing to you.  
- rec - tion, give our vi - sions wid - er view, An of - fer - ing of ash - es, an of - fer - ing to you.  
grow - ing, and cre - ate the world a - new From an of - fer - ing of ash - es, an of - fer - ing to you.  
Spir - it, who cre - ates the world a - new From an of - fer - ing of ash - es, an of - fer - ing to you.

## The Great Thanksgiving

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

*Celebrant:* Lift up your hearts.

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

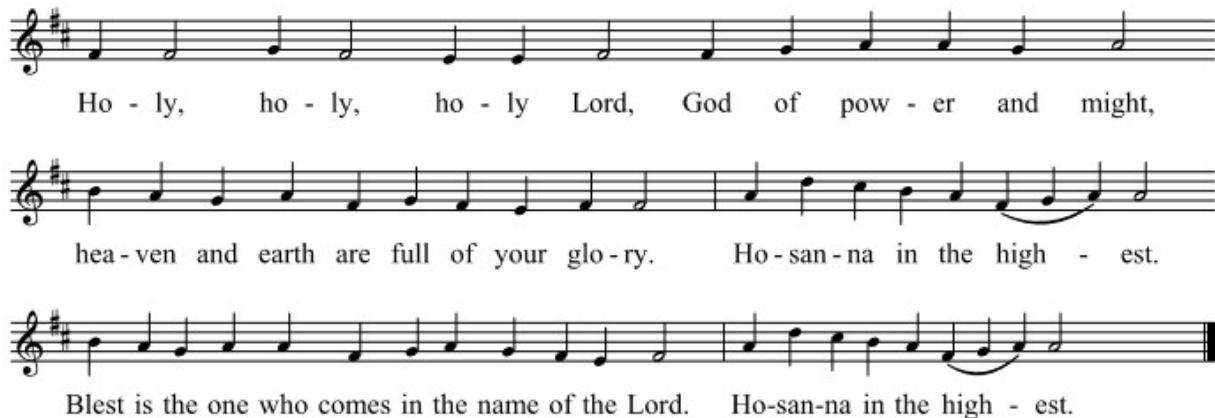
*Celebrant:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People:** **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks, Almighty God, through Jesus Christ your Son. For in these forty days you lead us into the desert of repentance, that through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline, we may grow in grace and learn to be your people once again. Through fasting, prayer, and acts of service you bring us back to your generous heart. Through study of your holy word you open our eyes to your presence in the world and free our hands to welcome others. As we prepare to celebrate the Easter feast with joyful hearts and minds, we bless you for your mercy, and join with saints and angels, evermore praising you and singing:

### **Holy, holy, holy Lord *Sanctus***

Setting: David Hurd (b. 1950) Hymnal 1982 #S 124. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Blest is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The Celebrant continues:*

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

**But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.**

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation.



**Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.**

On the night before he died for us, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. 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.**

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world.

**Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons and all your children, that with your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.**

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

*Celebrant:* And now as 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 bread is broken. After a period of silence, all sing together*

### Fraction Hymn: Hymnal 1982 S 170


Setting: Mode 1; adapted by Mason Martens (b. 1933)

*Antiphon*  
*Cantor, then All*




Who - ev - er eats this bread will live for ev - er.

*Cantor* *Repeat Antiphon*




1. This is the true bread which comes down from hea-ven and gives life to the world.

*Cantor*



2. Who - ev - er believes in me shall not hun - ger or thirst

*Repeat Antiphon*



for the bread which I give for the life of the world is my flesh.

*Celebrant:* Mindful that not all are present physically to receive the sacrament, we pray with those who receive spiritual Holy Communion this day:

**Lord Jesus, in union with your faithful people, we offer to you our praise and thanks. Since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we pray that you come spiritually into our hearts. Strengthen us with your grace, O Lord, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.**

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

## The Communion

*Wherever you are on your journey, whatever you believe or don't believe, know that you are welcome at this table. For this is Christ's table, and all are welcome.*



*If you would prefer not to receive the Eucharist, you are welcome to come up for a blessing –  
cross your hands to your shoulders to indicate this to the priest.*

## **Communion Hymn: LEVAS #124 Give Me A Clean Heart**

Words and Music: Margaret J. Douroux (b. 1941) © 1970 Margaret Douroux. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



Give me a clean heart so I may serve Thee. Lord, fix my heart so that I may be used by



thee. For I'm not wor-thy of all these bless-ings. Give me a clean heart and I'll fol-low thee.



I'm not ask-ing for the rich - es of the land. I'm not ask-ing for the proud to know my  
(Some-times) I am up and some-times I am down. Some-times I am al-most lev - el to the



name. Please give me, Lord, a clean heart, that I may fol-low thee. Give me a clean heart, a  
ground. Please give me, Lord, a clean heart, that I may fol-low thee. Give me a clean heart, a



clean heart and I will fol-low thee. Some-times  
clean heart and I will fol-low thee.

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

*Celebrant:* Let us pray: **Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the 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 O God, 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 forever. Amen.**

## **The Blessing**

As we go forth this season of Lent,  
let us be marked not for sorrow, but for joy;  
let us be marked not with shame, but with grace;  
let us be marked not for thinking ourselves less than what we are,  
but recognizing the gift to the world God calls us to be.  
And may the blessing of God Almighty, God who created us, Christ Jesus who brings us new life,  
and the Holy Spirit who guides and sustains us be with you now and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

## Dismissal Hymn: Hymnal 1982 # 148 *Creator of the earth and skies*

Words: Donald W. Hughes (1911-1967). Music: *Uffingham*, Jeremiah Clarke (1670-1707) Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



Cre - a - tor of the earth and skies, to whom the words of life be - long,  
We have not known you: to the skies our mon - u - ments of fol - ly soar,  
We have not loved you: far and wide the wreck-age of our ha - tred spreads,  
For this, our fool - ish con - fi - dence, our pride of know-ledge and our sin,  
Teach us to know and love you, Lord, and hum - bly fol - low in your way.



grant us your truth to make us wise; grant us your power to make us strong.  
and all our self-wrought mis - er - ies have made us trust our-selves the more.  
and e - vils wrought by hu - man pride re - coil on un - re - pent - ant heads.  
we come to you in pen - i - tence; in us the work of grace be - gin.  
Speak to our souls the quick-ening word, and turn our dark-ness in - to day.

### The Dismissal

*Celebrant:* Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

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