

INTERCESSIONS: *Response* - **Good Lord, deliver us.**

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

#### COMMITMENT TO THE WAY OF THE CROSS [*John Bell*]

|                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| The cross –                          | The Gospel –                           |
| <i>All</i> <b>we shall take it.</b>  | <i>All</i> <b>we shall live it.</b>    |
| The Bread –                          | The Love –                             |
| <i>All</i> <b>we shall break it.</b> | <i>All</i> <b>we shall give it.</b>    |
| The pain –                           | The Light –                            |
| <i>All</i> <b>we shall bear it.</b>  | <i>All</i> <b>we shall cherish it.</b> |
| The joy –                            | The dark –                             |
| <i>All</i> <b>we shall share it.</b> | <i>All</i> <b>God shall perish it.</b> |

#### BLESSING

May the Christ who walked on wounded feet,  
walk with us on the road.

May the Christ who serves with wounded hands,  
stretch out our hands to serve.

May the Christ who loves with a wounded heart,  
open our hearts to love.

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

HYMN *There is a Redeemer*

#### DISMISSAL

Christ was tempted in every way, as we are - yet was without sin.  
Because he himself suffered, he is able to help us when we are  
tempted. *[Hebrews 4: 15 & 2: 18]*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

# Ash Wednesday 2021

#### Introduction

Holy God, you call us to throw off whatever clouds your will.

*All* **We will struggle with Christ against wrong.**

**We will share with Christ his trials.**

**We will embrace with Christ the suffering of the world.**

HYMN: *Praise to the holiest in the height*

#### PENITENCE

Father Creator, we have spoiled and damaged your world,

*All* **God, forgive us.**

Jesus Saviour, we have ignored your teachings and warnings,

*All* **God, forgive us.**

Spirit Sustainer, we have tried to live without you,

*All* **God, forgive us.**

For every sin we have ever thought or done,

*All* **God, forgive us.**

For every thing we have sought outside your love,

*All* **God, forgive us.**

For every wasted moment,

*All* **God, forgive us.**

For every ill intent towards another,

*All* **God, forgive us.**

For every failure of love towards your creation,

*All* **God, forgive us.**

HYMN: *LORD HAVE MERCY ON US*

Absolution

Have mercy on us, O God, in your great goodness;  
according to the abundance of your compassion,  
blot out our offences.

Wash us thoroughly from our wickedness  
and cleanse us from our sins.

Cast us not away from your presence,  
and take not your Holy Spirit from us.

Give us again the joy of your salvation,  
and sustain with your gracious spirit.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Prayer for Lent

God of all seasons, in your pattern of things  
there is a time for keeping and a time for losing,  
a time for building up and a time for pulling down.  
In this holy season of Lent, as we journey with our Lord to the Cross,  
help us to discern in our lives  
what we must lay down and what we must take up,  
what we must end and what we must begin. **Amen.**

Collect for Ash Wednesday

**Almighty and everlasting God,  
you hate nothing that you have made  
and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent:  
create and make in us new and contrite hearts,  
that we, worthily lamenting our sins  
and acknowledging our wretchedness,  
may receive from you, the God of all mercy,  
perfect remission and forgiveness;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

1st Reading: Joel 2: 1-2, 12-17

*At the end:* This is the word of the Lord.

*All:* **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading: Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21

*At the start:* Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Matthew

*All* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end:* This is the Gospel of the Lord.

*All:* **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN

The Affirmation of Faith

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

*All* **Though he was divine,  
he did not cling to equality with God,  
but made himself nothing.  
Taking the form of a slave,  
he was born in human likeness.  
He humbled himself  
and was obedient to death,  
even the death of the cross.  
Therefore God has raised him on high,  
and given him the name above every name:  
that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,  
and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.**

*Philippians 2:6–11*