

Ash Wednesday Service

March 2, 2022

7:00 p.m.



Image from Jackson Community Church

The Episcopal Church of the Ascension

205 W. Cherokee Avenue
Cartersville, Georgia 30120
770-382-2626

www.ascensioncartersville.org

*Welcome to The Episcopal Church of the Ascension.
Here "we challenge ourselves and the world to love
like Jesus as we worship joyfully,
serve compassionately and grow spiritually."*

The people may make the sign of the cross (optional) when this sign † appears throughout the order of the service.

Imposition of Ashes and Holy Eucharist

Rite II

The Organ Voluntary

Prelude in D Minor

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Please stand, as you are able, at the ringing of the bell.

On this day, the entrance procession will be in silence.

After a moment of prayer, the Celebrant will begin the liturgy.

The Salutation

Celebrant †Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People **His mercy endures for ever.**

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant 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 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. **Amen.**

The people sit.

The First Lesson

Joel 2:1-2,12-17

Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy mountain!

Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the Lord is coming, it is near--a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness!

Like blackness spread upon the mountains a great and powerful army comes; their like has never been from of old, nor will be again after them in ages to come.

Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing.

Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing.

Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him, a grain offering and a drink offering for the Lord, your God?

Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly; gather the people. Sanctify the congregation; assemble the aged; gather the children, even infants at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her canopy.

Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep. Let them say, "Spare your people, O Lord, and do not make your heritage a mockery, a byword among the nations. Why should it be said among the peoples, 'Where is their God?'"

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Response

Benedic, anima mea

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 ac-/cuse 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 Lesson

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.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Sequence

Hymn 141

So giebst du nun

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Wilt thou forgive that sin, where I begun,
which is my sin, though it were done before?
Wilt thou forgive those sins through which I run,
and do run still, though still I do deplore?
When thou hast done, thou hast not done,
for I have more. | a year or two, but wallowed in a score?
When thou hast done, thou hast not done,
for I have more. |
| 2 | Wilt thou forgive that sin, by which I won
others to sin, and made my sin their door?
Wilt thou forgive that sin which I did shun | 3 I have a sin of fear that when I've spun
my last thread, I shall perish on the shore;
swear by thyself, that at my death thy Son
shall shine as he shines now, and heretofore.
And having done that, thou hast done,
I fear no more. |

The Gospel

Matthew 6:1-6,16-21

Celebrant †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."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Homily

The Rev. Terri Brice

The Invitation to a Holy Lent

The people stand.

Celebrant 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.

The Blessing and Imposition of Ashes

The people kneel.

Celebrant 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.**

Those desiring to receive the imposition of ashes may come forward and stand at the steps at the front of the nave.

The ashes are imposed with the following words

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

The following Psalm is then sung

Psalm 51

Miserere mei, Deus



Tone II.1

- 1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving- / kindness;*
in your great compassion blot out my / offenses.
- 2 Wash me through and through from my / wickedness*
and cleanse me / from my sin.
- 3 For I know my trans- / gressions, *
and my sin is ever / before me.
- 4 Against you only have I / sinned, *
and done what is e- / vil in your sight.
- 5 And so you are justified / when you speak *
and upright / in your judgment.

- 6 Indeed, I have been wicked from my / birth, *
a sinner from my / mother's womb.
- 7 For behold, you look for truth deep with- / in me, *
and will make me understand wis- / dom secretly.
- 8 Purge me from my sin, and I / shall be pure; *
wash me, and I shall be / clean indeed.
- 9 Make me hear of joy and / gladness, *
that the body you have bro- / ken may rejoice.
- 10 Hide your face from my / sins *
and blot out all my / iniquities.
- 11 Create in me a clean / heart, O God, *
and renew a right spirit / within me.
- 12 Cast me not away from your / presence *
and take not your holy Spi- / rit from me.
- 13 Give me the joy of your saving / help again *
and sustain me with your boun- / tiful Spirit.
- 14 I shall teach your ways to the / wicked, *
and sinners shall re- / turn to you.
- 15 Deliver me from death, O / God, *
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness, O God of / my
salvation.
- 16 Open my lips, O / Lord, *
and my mouth shall pro- / claim your praise.
- 17 Had you desired it, I would have offered / sacrifice; *
but you take no delight in / burnt-offerings.
- 18 The sacrifice of God is a troubled / spirit; *
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will / not despise.

Litany of Penitence

The Celebrant and People together, all kneeling

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 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 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 Bishop, if present, or the Priest, stands and, facing the people, 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

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

Parish Notices

The Offertory Anthem

Lord, For Thy Tender Mercy's Sake

Richard Farrant (1530-1580)

The Presentation

Hymn 143

Erhalt uns, Herr

(verses 1-4)

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| 1 | The glory of these forty days
we celebrate with songs of praise;
for Christ, through whom all things were made,
himself has fasted and has prayed. | 3 | So Daniel trained his mystic sight,
delivered from the lions' might;
and John, the Bridegroom's friend, became
the herald of Messiah's name. |
| 2 | Alone and fasting Moses saw
the loving God who gave the law;
and to Elijah, fasting, came
the steeds and chariots of flame. | 4 | Then grant us, Lord, like them to be
full oft in fast and prayer with thee;
our spirits strengthen with thy grace,
and give us joy to see thy face. |

The Holy Communion

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 him thanks and praise.**

The Celebrant proceeds

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

You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

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:

Celebrant and People

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

Setting: *From A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (1937-2010)

The Celebrant continues

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:

Celebrant and People

**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.**

Celebrant 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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

The Fraction Anthem: Lamb of God

Celebrant and People



Setting: Richard Proulx (1937-2010)

Celebrant Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: have mer-cy on us. *The Gifts* of God for
God. Take Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world: grant us— peace. *the People of* them in
 remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

**Instructions for receiving Holy Communion are printed at the end of the order of service.*

The bread and wine are given to the communicants with these words

Celebrant The Body and Blood of Christ.
Communicant Amen.

Hymns during Communion

Hymn 697

Song 67

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 My God, accept my heart this day,
and make it always thine,
that I from thee no more may stray,
no more from thee decline.</p> <p>2 Before the cross of him who died,
behold, I prostrate fall;
let every sin be crucified,
and Christ be all in all.</p> | <p>3 Anoint me with thy heavenly grace
and seal me for thine own,
that I may see thy glorious face,
and worship near thy throne.</p> <p>4 Let every thought and work and word,
to thee be ever given;
then life shall be thy service, Lord,
and death the gate of heaven.</p> |
|--|---|

WLP 825

Bless the Lord my soul

Bless the Lord my soul and bless God's holy name.
 Bless the Lord my soul, who leads me into life.

If you are worshipping with us virtually, please pray the Prayer for Spiritual Communion.

In union, blessed Jesus, with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day, and remembering particularly my own parish and those worshipping at home, I long to offer you praise and thanksgiving, for creation and all the blessings of this life, for the redemption won for us by your life, death, and resurrection, for the means of

grace and the hope of glory. And particularly for the blessings given me... I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and since I cannot at this time receive communion, I pray you to come into my heart.

†I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you; let me serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen.

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant 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 Solemn Prayer Over the People

In Lent, in place of a seasonal blessing, a solemn Prayer over the People is used, as follows:

Celebrant Let us pray.

The people kneel and the Celebrant says

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.**

The Hymn in Procession

Hymn 149

Old 124th

- 1 Eternal Lord, of love behold your Church
walking once more the pilgrim way of Lent,
led by your cloud by day, by night your fire,
moved by your love and toward your presence bent:
far off yet here – the goal of all desire.
- 2 So daily dying to the way of self,
so daily living in your way of love,
we walk the road, Lord Jesus, that you trod,
knowing ourselves baptized into your death:
so we are dead and live with you in God.

3 If dead in you, so in you, we arise,
you the firstborn of all the faithful dead;
and as through stony ground the green shoots break,
glorious in springtime dress of leaf and flower,
so in the Father's glory shall we wake.

The Dismissal

The Closing Voluntary

Toccata in E Minor

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1705)

The order of service from the Book of Common Prayer, 1979
according to the use of the Episcopal Church.

** In this season of COVID precautions, we offer the sacraments in both kinds – bread and wine. Please come to the altar rail and hold out your hands to receive communion. The Celebrant will dip the wafer into the wine and then place the sacrament in your palm. Please consume the wafer as quickly as possible. If you wish to receive a blessing instead, please cross your arms over your chest as a signal to the Celebrant.*

Calendar of Events

March 3, 2022 – Lenten Lunch @ Sam Jones UMC, 12:00 – 1:30 pm

March 6, 2022 – The First Sunday of Lent

- 9:00am Family Service with Holy Eucharist
- 10:00am Christian Formation for all ages
- 11:00am Holy Eucharist with Choir
- 12:15pm Fellowship in the Parish Hall

March 9, 2022 – Lenten Wednesday

- 5:00pm St. Cecilia's Choir (Children) Rehearsal
- 5:30pm Stations of the Cross
- 6:00pm Lenten Soup & Salad/Sandwich Supper
- 6:30pm Formation activities for all ages
- 7:00pm Canterbury Choir (Adult) Rehearsal

March 10, 2022 – Lenten Lunch @ Ascension, 12:00 – 1:30 pm

March 13, 2022 – The Second Sunday of Lent

- 2:00am Daylight Savings Time begins – Spring forward
- 9:00am Family Service with Holy Eucharist
- 10:00am Christian Formation for all ages
- 11:00am Holy Eucharist with Choir
- 12:15pm Fellowship in the Parish Hall

March 16, 2022 – Lenten Wednesday

- 5:00pm St. Cecilia's Choir (Children) Rehearsal
- 5:30pm Stations of the Cross
- 6:00pm Lenten Soup & Salad/Sandwich Supper
- 6:30pm Formation activities for all ages
- 7:00pm Canterbury Choir (Adult) Rehearsal

March 17, 2022 – Lenten Lunch @ Trinity UMC, 12:00 – 1:30 pm

March 20, 2022 – The Third Sunday of Lent

- 9:00am Family Service with Holy Eucharist
- 10:00am Christian Formation for all ages
- 11:00am Holy Eucharist with Choir
- 12:15pm Fellowship in the Parish Hall

March 23, 2022 – Lenten Wednesday

- 5:00pm St. Cecilia's Choir (Children) Rehearsal
- 5:30pm Stations of the Cross
- 6:00pm Lenten Soup & Salad/Sandwich Supper
- 6:30pm Formation activities for all ages
- 7:00pm Canterbury Choir (Adult) Rehearsal

March 24, 2022 – Lenten Lunch @ Faith UMC, 12:00 – 1:30 pm

March 27, 2022 – The Fourth Sunday of Lent

- 9:00am Family Service with Holy Eucharist
- 10:00am Christian Formation for all ages
- 11:00am Holy Eucharist with Choir
- 12:15pm Fellowship in the Parish Hall

March 30, 2022 – Lenten Wednesday

- 5:00pm St. Cecilia's Choir (Children) Rehearsal
- 5:30pm Stations of the Cross
- 6:00pm Lenten Soup & Salad/Sandwich Supper
- 6:30pm Formation activities for all ages
- 7:00pm Canterbury Choir (Adult) Rehearsal

March 31, 2022 – Lenten Lunch @ Heritage Baptist, 12:00 – 1:30 pm