

Wednesday Morning Prayer for Lent

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Remembering a saint or feast day, as appropriate.

Bell x 3

Gratitude

We begin by naming that for which we are grateful. A closing prayer might be offered.

The Penitential Rite

One of the following may be said:

- If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1.8-9
- To the Lord our God belong mercy and forgiveness, for we have rebelled against him, and have not obeyed the voice of the Lord our God by following his laws, which he set before us by his servants the prophets. Daniel 9.9-10
- If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. Mark 8.34

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbour.

Bell. Silence is kept. Bell.

**God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore and strengthen us
through our Saviour Jesus Christ,
so that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy upon us,
pardon and deliver us from all our sins,
confirm and strengthen us in all goodness,
and keep us in eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

[chanted or spoken]

Lord, open our lips

and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Hear our voice, O Lord, according to your faithful love,

according to your judgement give us life.

Blessed are you, God of compassion and mercy,
to you be praise and glory for ever.

In the bleakness of our sin,

your light breaks forth like the dawn

and your healing springs up for deliverance.

As we rejoice in the gift of your saving help,

sustain us with your bountiful Spirit

and open our lips to sing your praise.

Blessed be God: Source of all being, eternal Word and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God for ever.

A poem may be read or a song may be sung.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

The Psalm

The Psalm of the day is read or chanted.

At the end of the Psalm one of the following may be said or sung.

...Glory to You, Source of all being, eternal Word and Holy Spirit:

as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen.

The Acclamation *is sung together:*

Restore us again

God of our salvation

Revive us again

in your unfailing love x2

Paul Zach & Liz Vice / CCLI

The Reading

A Reading – often the daily gospel – is taken from the Daily Office Lectionary

At the end of the reading:

...The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Or. ...The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Bell. Silence is kept. Bell.

The community shares on how God's Spirit is speaking to us through the texts.

The Cantic. *May be spoken or chanted*

A Song of Humility (Hosea 6.1-6)

Come let us return to the Lord *
who has torn us and will heal us.
God has stricken us *
and will bind up our wounds.
After two days, God will revive us, *
and on the third day will raise us up,
so that we may live in the presence of the Lord.
Let us strive to know the Lord, *
whose appearing is as sure as the sunrise.
God will come to us like the showers, *
like the spring rains that water the earth.
'O Ephraim, how shall I deal with you? *
How shall I deal with you, O Judah?
'Your love for me is like the morning mist, *
like the dew that goes early away.
Therefore, I have hewn them by the prophets, *
and my judgement goes forth as the light.
For loyalty is my desire and not sacrifice, *
and the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings
...Glory to You, Source of all being, eternal Word and Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen.

Affirmation of Faith

One of the following Affirmations of Faith may be said or sung:

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ,
God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand
of the Father,
and he will come again
to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,
+the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Or Hear, O Israel
Hear, O Israel,
the Lord our God, the Lord is one.
Love the Lord your God
with all your heart,
with all your soul,
with all your mind,
and with all your strength.
This is the first and the great
commandment.
The second is like it:
Love your neighbour as yourself.
There is no commandment greater than
these.

Or A New Creed (UCC)

We are not alone,

we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

who has created and is creating,

who has come in Jesus,

the Word made flesh,

to reconcile and make new,

who works in us and others

by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:

to celebrate God's presence,

to live with respect in Creation,

to love and serve others,

to seek justice and resist evil,

to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,

our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,

God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

THE PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

The Litany

Let us offer our intercessions, petitions and thanksgivings, saying,

'God of our ancestors, hear our prayer.'

For the one holy catholic and apostolic Church throughout the world,

God of our ancestors, hear our prayer.

For the mission of the Church,

that in faithful witness it may preach the gospel

to the ends of the earth,

God of our ancestors, hear our prayer.

For those preparing for baptism

and for their teachers and sponsors,

God of our ancestors, hear our prayer.

For peace in the world,

that a spirit of respect and reconciliation

may grow among nations and peoples,

God of our ancestors, hear our prayer.

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick and all who suffer;

for refugees, prisoners and all in danger;

that they may be relieved and protected,

God of our ancestors, hear our prayer.

For all whom we have injured or offended,

God of our ancestors, hear our prayer.

For grace to amend our lives and to further your reign,

God of our ancestors, hear our prayer.

Additional intercessions, petitions and thanksgivings may be offered in silence or aloud.

Collects

From Ash Wednesday until the Second Sunday in Lent

God of wilderness and water, your Son was baptized and tempted as we are. Guide us

through this season, so that we may not avoid struggle, but open ourselves to blessing,

through the cleansing depths of repentance and the heaven-rending words of the Spirit.

Amen.

The Week of the Second Sunday in Lent

Artist of souls, you sculpted a people for yourself out of the rocks of wilderness and fasting. Help us as we take up your invitation to prayer and simplicity, so that the discipline of these forty days may sharpen our hunger for the feast of your holy friendship and whet our thirst for the living water you offer through Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Week of the Third Sunday in Lent

God of the covenant, in the glory of the cross your Son embraced the power of death and broke its hold over your people. In this time of repentance, draw all people to yourself, so that we who confess Jesus as Lord may put aside the deeds of death and accept the life of your kingdom. Amen.

The Week of the Fourth Sunday in Lent

God of the living, through baptism we pass from the shadow of death to the light of the resurrection. Remain with us and give us hope so that, rejoicing in the gift of the Spirit who gives life to our mortal flesh, we may be clothed with the garment of immortality, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Trusting in the compassion of God and gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray as our Saviour taught us:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

THE SENDING FORTH OF THE COMMUNITY

The Dismissal

is said or chanted

Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

May God our Redeemer show us compassion and love. **Amen.**

Bell x 3