



Light of Christ Anglican Church

P.O. Box 609
9500 Northumberland Highway
Heathsville, Virginia 22473
804-580-4555 www.lightofchristva.org

March 2, 2022



Welcome!

Our Mission: To know Christ and to make Him known to others.

Our Vision: To be a leader in equipping the Saints of the Northern Neck for Ministry

Christians Working Together to Spread the Gospel

ASH WEDNESDAY

March 2, 2022

The people stand.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

Priest: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: His mercy endures for ever.

The priest invites the people to the observance of a holy Lent, saying

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. In this manner, 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 that 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 alms-giving; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word.

And to make a right beginning, let us now pray for grace, that we may faithfully keep this Lent.

The priest and people kneel. A period of silent prayer follows.

The priest then says

Let us pray.

Priest: 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.

People: Amen.

The people sit.

First Reading: Joel 2:1–2, 12–17

Reader: ¹ Blow a trumpet in Zion; sound an alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the LORD is coming; it is near, ² a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness! Like blackness there is spread upon the mountains a great and powerful people; their like has never been before, nor will be again after them through the years of all generations. ¹² "Yet even now," declares the LORD, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; ¹³ and rend your hearts and not your garments." Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster.

¹⁴ 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? ¹⁵ Blow the trumpet in Zion; consecrate a fast; call a solemn assembly; ¹⁶ gather the people. Consecrate the congregation; assemble the elders; gather the children, even nursing infants. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her chamber. ¹⁷ Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep and say, "Spare your people, O LORD, and make not your heritage a reproach, a byword among the nations. Why should they say among the peoples, 'Where is their God?'"

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Psalm: Psalm 103:8–14 *Benedic, anima mea*

- 8 The LORD is full of compassion and mercy, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.
- 9 He will not always accuse 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.

Reader and People: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:20–6:10

Reader: ²⁰ We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. ¹ Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. ² For he says, “In a favorable time I listened to you, and in a day of salvation I have helped you.” Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. ³ We put no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴ but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities,

⁵ beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶ by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; ⁷ by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸ through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹ as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰ as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The people stand to sing, and remain standing for the Gospel.

Hymn: When I Survey the Wondrous Cross vs. 1 & 3

Isaac Watts | LM Hamburg | Lowell Mason
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1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross where the young
3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet sor - row and
Prince of Glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
love flow min - gled down! Did e'er such love and
count but loss, and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 6:1–6, 16–8

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Priest: ¹ “Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven. ² “Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ³ But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴ so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. ⁵ “And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ⁶ But when 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. ¹⁶ “And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ¹⁷ But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, ¹⁸ that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. ¹⁹ “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, ²⁰ but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The people sit.

Sermon: The Rev. Michael Moffitt

Following today's service, the sermon will be available on the church website: www.lightofchristva.org.

Penitential Psalm and Imposition of Ashes

Priest: Let us now call to mind our sin and the infinite mercy of God.

Almighty God, you have created us from the dust of the earth: bless these ashes, we pray, that they may be for us a symbol of our mortality and a sign of our penitence, that we may remember that it is by your grace alone that we receive the gift of eternal life in Jesus Christ our Savior.

People: Amen.

The people file up to the front of the church as invited to do so by the ushers.

The ashes are imposed with the following words by the priest:

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

Following the imposition of ashes, the priest and people, kneeling, say the following psalm together:

Psalm 51 *Miserere mei, Deus*

- 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 transgressions, *
and my sin is ever before me.
- 4 Against you only have I sinned *
and done what is evil 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 within me, *
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.
- 8 Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; *
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.
- 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 Spirit from me.
- 13 Give me the joy of your saving help again *
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.
- 14 I shall teach your ways to the wicked, *
and sinners shall return 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 proclaim your praise.
- 17 Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice, *
but you take no delight in burnt-offerings.

Confession and Litany of Penitence

The people kneel or sit in reverence.

Priest and People: 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. 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.

Priest: Lord, have mercy upon us:

People: For we have sinned against you.

The priest alone continues, and the people respond.

For all our unfaithfulness and disobedience; for the pride, vanity, and hypocrisy of our lives;

Lord, have mercy upon us:

People: For we have sinned against you.

For our self-pity and impatience, and our envy of those we think more fortunate than ourselves;

Lord, have mercy upon us:

People: For we have sinned against you.

For our unrighteous anger, bitterness, and resentment;

Lord, have mercy upon us:

People: For we have sinned against you.

For our sexual impurity, our exploitation of other people, and our failure to give of ourselves in love;

Lord, have mercy upon us:

People: For we have sinned against you.

For our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our intemperate pursuit of worldly goods and comforts;
Lord, have mercy upon us:

People: For we have sinned against you.

For our dishonesty in daily life and work, our ingratitude for your gifts, and our failure to heed your call.
Lord, have mercy upon us:

People: For we have sinned against you.

For our blindness to human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty;
Lord have mercy upon us:

People: For we have sinned against you.

For our wastefulness and misuse of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us;
Lord, have mercy upon us:

People: For we have sinned against you.

For all false judgments, for prejudice and contempt of others, and for all uncharitable thoughts and actions toward
our neighbors; Lord, have mercy upon us:

People: For we have sinned against you.

For our negligence in prayer and worship, for our presumption and abuse of your means of grace;
Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: For we have sinned against you.

For seeking the praise of others rather than the approval of God.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: For we have sinned against you.

For our failure to commend the faith that is in us;
Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: For we have sinned against you.

Priest and People: Show favor to your people, O Lord, who turn to you in weeping, fasting, and prayer. For you are a merciful God, full of compassion, long-suffering, and abounding in steadfast love. You spare us when we deserve punishment, and in your wrath you remember mercy. Spare your people, good Lord, spare us; in the multitude of your mercies, look upon us and forgive us; through the merits and meditation of your blessed Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Absolution

The priest alone stands and, facing the people, says

Priest: Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, desires not the death of sinners, but that they may turn from their wickedness and live. He has empowered and commanded his ministers to pronounce to his people, being penitent, the absolution and remission of their sins. He now pardons and absolves all who truly repent and with sincere hearts believe his holy Gospel. For this reason, we beseech him to grant us true repentance and his Holy Spirit, that our present deeds may please him, the rest of our lives may be pure and holy, and that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

The Comfortable Words

Priest: Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. 1 Timothy 1:15

If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. 1 John 2:1-2

The Peace

The people stand and greet each other with God's peace.

Priest: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And with your spirit.

The Holy Communion

The Doxology: *The people stand and sing:*

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Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heaven-ly host: praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost.

The Great Thanksgiving

The people remain standing.

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

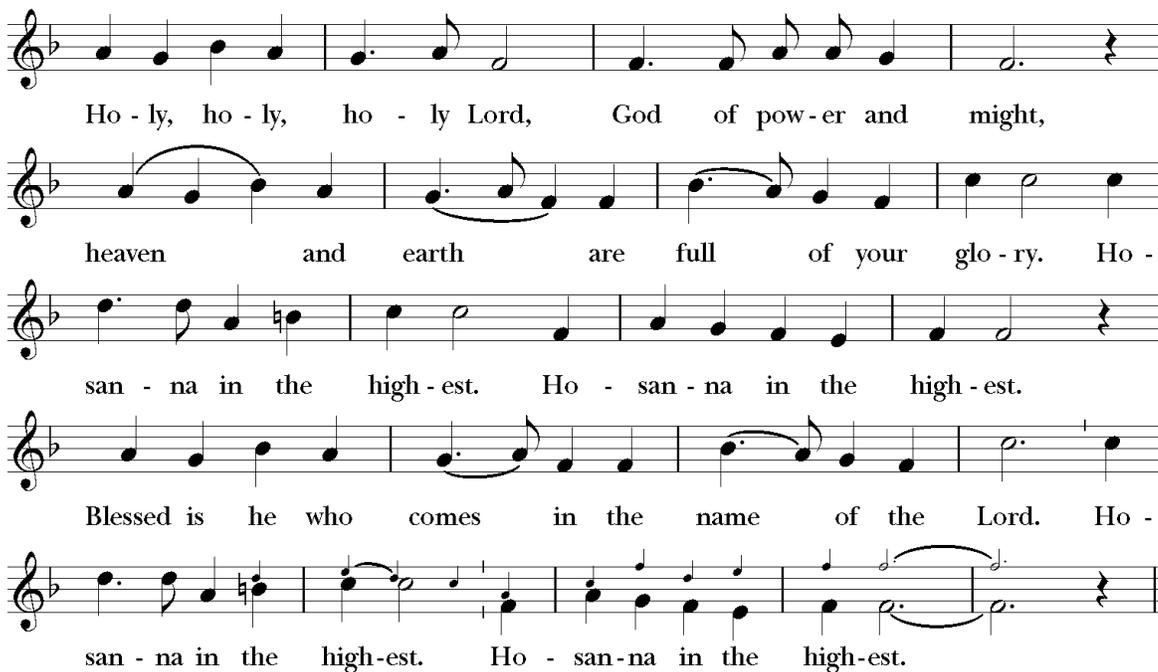
Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Priest: 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 Pascal 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:

Sanctus: Holy, holy, holy, Lord

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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.

The people kneel or sit reverently.

Priest: 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:

Priest and People: **Christ has died.**
 Christ is risen.
 Christ will come again.

Priest: 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 forever.

People: Amen.

Priest: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

People and Priest: 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,
forever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The priest breaks the consecrated Bread and says

Priest: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast.

Priest: The Gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Communion of the People

If you are a baptized Christian, we welcome you to Holy Communion at Light of Christ Anglican Church. Both the bread and the wine are offered at Communion. The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these:

Eucharist Minister: The Body of Christ, the Bread of heaven.

Communicant: Amen.

Eucharist Minister: The Blood of Christ, the Cup of salvation.

Communicant: Amen.

The Post Communion Prayer

Priest: Let us pray.

Priest and People: Heavenly Father, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious 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, Father, 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

Priest: The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The people stand and sing.

Hymn: Blessed Be the Lord God Almighty (Sing Twice)

Fa - ther in heav - en, how we love You; We
 lift Your name in all the earth. May Your
 king - dom be es - tab - lished in our prais - es, As Your
 peo - ple de - clare Your might - y works. Bless - ed be the
 Lord God Al - might - y, Who was, and is and is to
 come. Bless - ed be the Lord God Al - might - y, Who
 reigns for - ev - er - more. Bless - ed be the more.

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Closing Hymn: Beneath the Cross of Jesus vs. 1-3



1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I fain would take my stand,
 2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus mine eyes at times can see
 3 I take, O cross, thy sha-dow for my a - bid - ing place;



the sha - dow of a might - y rock with - in a wea - ry land,
 the ve - ry dy - ing form of one who suf - fered there for me;
 I ask no o - ther sun - shine than the sun - shine of his face;



a home with - in the wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,
 and from my smit - ten heart with tears two won - ders I con - fess:
 con - tent to let my pride go by, to know no gain nor loss,



from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat, and the bur - den of the day.
 the — won - ders of re - deem - ing love, and — my un - wor - thi - ness.
 my — sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my — glo - ry all the cross.

Elizabeth Cecilia Clephane | *St. Christopher*, Frederick Charles Maker
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The Priest dismisses the people.

People: Thanks be to God.

IN THE LORD'S SERVICE

Celebrant: The Rev. Michael Moffitt

Acolyte: Ed Feddeman

Lesson Reader: Joan Blackstone

Altar Guild: Anna Brennan

Vestry Person on Duty: George Beckett

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