



ST. JOHN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
JACKSON HOLE

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2021
ASH WEDNESDAY



WELCOME!

We are delighted to have you with us today.
If you are looking for a church to call home, you are welcome here!

THE WORD OF GOD

OPENING HYMN

“Eternal Lord of love, behold your Church” The Hymnal 149

Unison or harmony



1 E - ter - nal Lord of love, be - hold your Church
2 So dai - ly dy - ing to the way of self,
3 If dead in you, so in you we a - rise,
walk - ing once more the pil - grim way of Lent,
so dai - ly liv - ing to your way of love,
you the first - born of all the faith - ful dead;
led by your cloud by day, by night your fire,
we walk the road, Lord Je - sus, that you trod,
and as through ston - y ground the green shoots break,
moved by your love and toward your pres - ence bent:
know - ing our - selves bap - tized in - to your death:
glo - rious in spring - time dress of leaf and flower,
far off yet here— the goal of all de - sire.
so we are dead and live with you in God.
so in the Fa - ther's glo - ry shall we wake.

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 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 LESSONS

A READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

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 HOLY GOSPEL

MATTHEW 6:1-6,16-21

Deacon 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."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

Jimmy Bartz

A moment of silence will be observed for reflection after the sermon

INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF A HOLY LENT

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 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 their 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.

Silence is kept for a time

IMPOSING OF THE ASHES

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 by your gracious gift that we are given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

The ashes are imposed with the following words

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

PSALM 51

Typically, we read the Psalms responsively. Online, we will read the Psalms in unison as a symbol of our enduring connection.

- 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.**

- 9 Make me hear of joy and gladness,
 that the body you have broken 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 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.**
- 18 **The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.**

LITANY OF PENITENCE

Remaining kneeling, the Celebrant and the People say together

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 and People pray responsively

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.

Celebrant

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desires not the death of sinners, but rather that they may 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.

CLOSING HYMN

“The glory of these forty days” vs. 1, 2, 4, The Hymnal 143



1 The glo - ry of these for - ty days we
2 A - lone and fast - ing Mo - ses saw the
3 So Dan - iel trained his mys - tic sight, de -
4 Then grant us, Lord, like them to be full



1 ce - le - brate with songs of praise; for Christ, through whom all
2 lov - ing God who gave the law; and to E - li - jah,
3 liv - ered from the li - ons' might; and John, the Bride - groom's
4 oft in fast and prayer with thee; our spi - rits strength - en



1 things were made, him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.
2 fast - ing, came the steeds and char - i - ots of flame.
3 friend, be - came the her - ald of Mes - si - ah's name.
4 with thy grace, and give us joy to see thy face.

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE





THANK YOU FOR JOINING US TODAY!

To learn more about St. John's Episcopal Church go to our website, stjohnsjackson.org.

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The Reverend Jimmy Bartz, Rector

The Reverend Brian Nystrom

The Reverend Mary Erickson

The Reverend Suzanne Harris

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Pam Woodson, Parish Life

Robyn Reed, Director of Operations

Haley Deming, Communications Director

Liz Collins, Assistant to the Pastoral Staff

Stephanie Abbey, Administrative Assistant

Tim Schwarz, Sexton

Lonnie Brown, Browse 'N Buy Manager

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