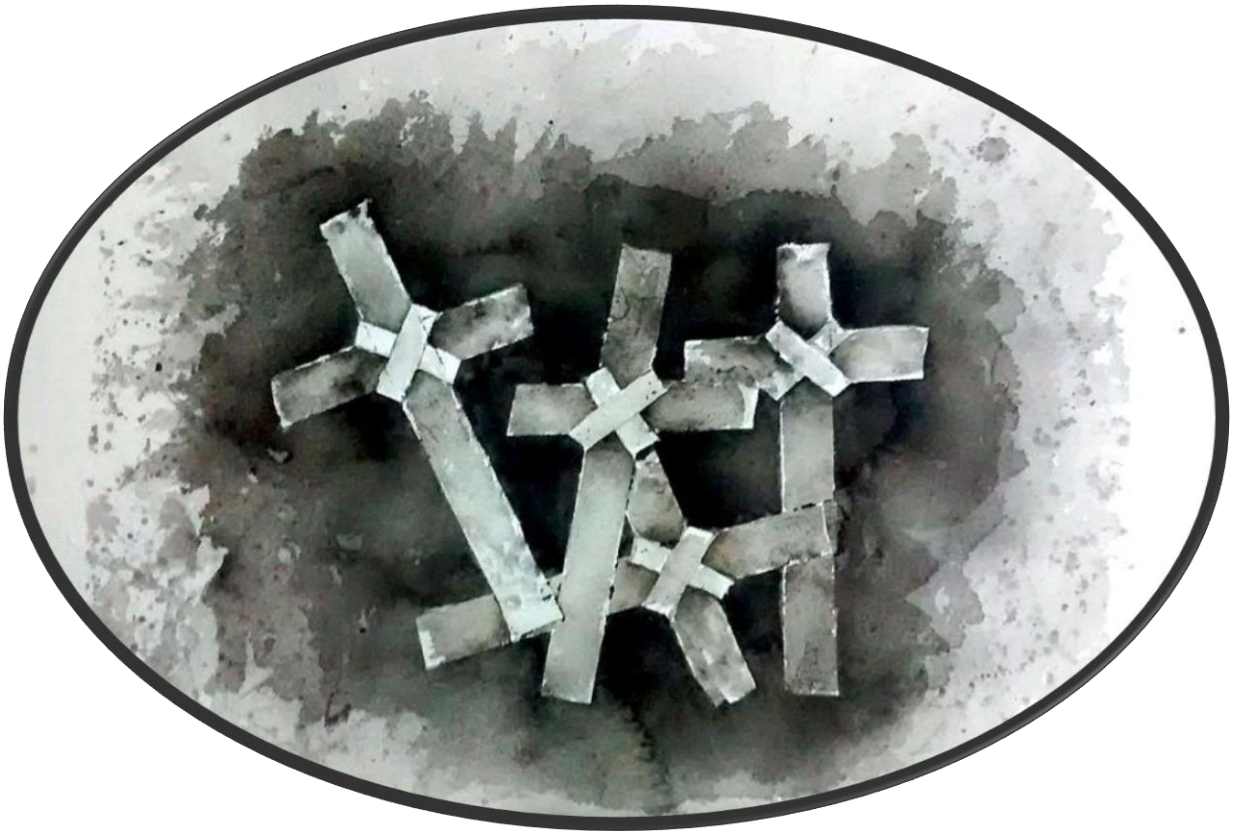


# Ash Wednesday

Wednesday February 22, 2023 6 PM



Church of the Holy Nativity, Honolulu, HI  
5286 Kalaniana'ole Highway Honolulu, HI 96821  
[www.holynativityhawaii.org](http://www.holynativityhawaii.org)

*The ministers enter in silence. The Celebrant begins the liturgy with the Collect of the Day.*

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 Lessons**

### **First Reading: 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?"

**Psalm 103:8-14** (*Spoken in Unison*)

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.

**Second Reading: 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.

## The Gospel

### Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

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."

## The Sermon

The Reverend Jennifer Latham

*After the Sermon, all stand, and the Celebrant 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. 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.

*Silence is then kept for a time, all kneeling or seated, as is most comfortable for continuing prayer.*

## **The Imposition of Ashes**

*The Celebrant says the following prayer*

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.*

*Persons wishing to have ashes imposed upon their forehead come forward to the front of the church.*

*The ashes are imposed with the following words*

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

## **Psalm 51**

**Book of Common Prayer, p. 266**

## **The Litany of Penitence**

**Book of Common Prayer, p. 267**

## **The Peace**

*The Celebrant offers the greeting of Peace to the congregations.*

<i>Celebrant</i>	The peace of the Lord be always with you.
<i>People</i>	And also with you.



## **The Offertory Hymn #574 (verses 1,3, and 4) “Before the Throne O God We Kneel”**

*The choir will lead, please join in.*

## **The Holy Communion**

### **The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharist Prayer A**

**Book of Common Prayer p. 361**

*You may receive the sacrament in one (bread) or both (bread and wine) kinds. Please come forward to receive the bread first. Then turn toward the Eucharistic Minister if you wish to receive wine from the chalice. (Please take a sip, but do not “intinct” or “dip.”). Receiving the bread only is considered a full communion in our church. If you wish to come forward to receive a blessing, cross your hands over your chest as you approach.*

## The Post-Communion Prayer

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, 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 for ever. Amen.

## Lenten Prayer over the People

Offered by the Celebrant

## Closing Hymn #475 (verses 1,2, and4) “God Himself is in Us”

*The choir will lead, please join in.*

The ministers depart in silence.

Members of the congregation are welcome to remain in quiet prayer until ready to depart.

---

*Thank you to members of our Altar Guild who have prepared our church for Lent.*

## Worship Team for the Evening Service

**Thank you, all!**

**Clergy:** The Reverends Libby Berman, Jennifer Latham, and Robert Steele

**Eucharistic minister:** Kim Garner

**Readers:** Lila Johnson & Alison Kittle

**Usher:** Rich Miller **Intercessor:** Rafael Lopez

**Acolyte:** Nicholas Livingston

**Technical team:** Alex Pickens, and Thomas Campello

**Altar Guild:** Livingston Team

**Music Director:** Chris Suzuki **Organist:** Lorraine Yamamoto

Please join us for the **FIRST SUNDAY in LENT** February 26, 2023 at 9AM  
(in person & online)