

THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. ANDREW
Ash Wednesday - Noon
February 17, 2021



Prelude Improvisation on “Lux Benigna” (*Lead, kindly Light*)

Leohone Magno

Silence

Opening Sentences and Collect

Bishop Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins
People ***His mercy endures forever.***

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

A Reading from the book of the Prophet Isaiah (58:1-12)

Shout loudly; don't hold back;
raise your voice like a trumpet!
Announce to my people their crime,
to the house of Jacob their sins.
They seek me day after day,
desiring knowledge of my ways
like a nation that acted righteously,
that didn't abandon their God.
They ask me for righteous judgments,
wanting to be close to God.
“Why do we fast and you don't see;
why afflict ourselves and you don't notice?”
Yet on your fast day you do whatever you want,
and oppress all your workers.
You quarrel and brawl, and then you fast;
you hit each other violently with your fists.
You shouldn't fast as you are doing today
if you want to make your voice heard on high.
Is this the kind of fast I choose,
a day of self-affliction,

of bending one's head like a reed
and of lying down in mourning clothing and ashes?
Is this what you call a fast,
 a day acceptable to the Lord?
Isn't this the fast I choose:
 releasing wicked restraints, untying the ropes of a yoke,
 setting free the mistreated,
 and breaking every yoke?
Isn't it sharing your bread with the hungry
 and bringing the homeless poor into your house,
 covering the naked when you see them,
 and not hiding from your own family?
Then your light will break out like the dawn,
 and you will be healed quickly.
Your own righteousness will walk before you,
 and the Lord's glory will be your rear guard.
Then you will call, and the Lord will answer;
 you will cry for help, and God will say, "I'm here."
If you remove the yoke from among you,
 the finger-pointing, the wicked speech;
 if you open your heart to the hungry,
 and provide abundantly for those who are afflicted,
 your light will shine in the darkness,
 and your gloom will be like the noon.
The Lord will guide you continually
 and provide for you, even in parched places.
 He will rescue your bones.
You will be like a watered garden,
 like a spring of water that won't run dry.
They will rebuild ancient ruins on your account;
 the foundations of generations past you will restore.
You will be called Mender of Broken Walls,
 Restorer of Livable Streets.

Here ends the Reading.

Hymn 141 *The Hymnal 1982* – “Wilt thou forgive that sin, where I begun”

So giebst du nun

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.

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
a year or two, but wallowed in a score?
When thou hast done, thou hast not done,
for I have more.

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.

A Reading from the Gospel of Matthew (6:1-21)

Jesus said, "Be careful that you don't practice your religion in front of people to draw their attention. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven. Whenever you give to the poor, don't blow your trumpet as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets so that they may get praise from people. I assure you, that's the only reward they'll get. But when you give to the poor, don't let your left hand know what your right hand is doing so that you may give to the poor in secret. Your Father who sees what you do in secret will reward you. When you pray, don't be like hypocrites. They love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners so that people will see them. I assure you, that's the only reward they'll get. But when you pray, go to your room, shut the door, and pray to your Father who is present in that secret place. Your Father who sees what you do in secret will reward you. When you pray, don't pour out a flood of empty words, as the Gentiles do. They think that by saying many words they'll be heard. Don't be like them, because your Father knows what you need before you ask. Pray like this:

Our Father who is in heaven,
uphold the holiness of your name.
Bring in your kingdom
so that your will is done on earth as it's done in heaven.
Give us the bread we need for today.
Forgive us for the ways we have wronged you,
just as we also forgive those who have wronged us.
And don't lead us into temptation,
but rescue us from the evil one.

If you forgive others their sins, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you don't forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your sins. And when you fast, don't put on a sad face like the hypocrites. They distort their faces so people will know they are fasting. I assure you that they have their reward. When you fast, brush your hair and wash your face. Then you won't look like you are fasting to people, but only to your Father who is present in that secret place. Your Father who sees in secret will reward you. Stop collecting treasures for your own benefit on earth, where moth and rust eat them and where thieves break in and steal them. Instead, collect treasures for yourselves in heaven, where moth and rust don't eat them and where thieves don't break in and steal them. Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Here ends the Reading.

The Sermon

Bishop Robert L. Fitzpatrick

A Poem for your private reflection: "A Hymn to God the Father" by John Donne

Wilt thou forgive that sin where I begun,
Which was my sin, though it were done before?
Wilt thou forgive that sin, 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.

Wilt thou forgive that sin which I have won
Others to sin, and made my sin their door?
Wilt thou forgive that sin which I did shun
A year or two, but wallow'd in, a score?
When thou hast done, thou hast not done,
For I have more.

I have a sin of fear, that when I have spun
My last thread, I shall perish on the shore;
But 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.

Invitation to 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, 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.

Psalm 51



- 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 ev -/er 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 with -/ in 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 in -/iquities.

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 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

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.

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 continues

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.**

Hymn 142 *The Hymnal 1982* – “Lord, who throughout these forty days”

St. Flavian

Lord, who throughout these forty days
for us didst fast and pray,
teach us with thee to mourn our sins,
and close by thee to stay.

As thou with Satan didst contend,
and didst the victory win,
O give us strength in thee to fight,
in thee to conquer sin.

As thou didst hunger bear and thirst,
so teach us, gracious Lord,
to die to self, and chiefly live
by thy most holy word.

And through these days of penitence,
and through thy Passontide,
yea, evermore, in life and death,
Jesus! with us abide.
Abide with us, that so, this life
of suffering overpast,
an Easter of unending joy
we may attain at last!

The Dismissal

Minister Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Participants in today's service:

The Rt. Rev. Robert L. Fitzpatrick, Bishop of Hawai'i

The Rev. Keleane Hee, Vicar for Pastoral Care

The Rev. Heather Patton-Graham, Vicar for Formation, and Chaplain, St. Andrew's Schools

Organist and Director of Music

Leohone Magno

Orvis Music Scholar

Ken Smith