

Leader: May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

All: Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING: *Joel 2:12-18* *Sit*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: **Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.**

SECOND READING: *2 Corinthians 5:20- 6:2*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Stand*

**All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory!
If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory!**

GOSPEL: *Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18*

SHARED REFLECTION *Sit*

BLESSING AND DISTRIBUTION OF ASHES

Leader: Dear friends in Christ, let us implore God our Father to renew us in spirit as these ashes are placed on our heads as a sign of repentance.

Lord God, you are moved by humility and grant pardon to those who repent.

Listen to our prayers and pour out your blessing on those who are marked by these ashes, that, observing the season of Lent, they may come with hearts made clean to celebrate the paschal mystery of your Son. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

***The ashes are sprinkled with holy water, without saying anything.
The leader address all those present and only once says the***

formula, "Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel." The ashes are then distributed in a COVID safe way.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Stand

RITE OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: On this day we acknowledge our need for repentance and our desire to live this Lent well.

We also realise that God is always with us in our daily lives and for this we should always give thanks.

Let us now stand and offer our praise and thanks to God.

Blessed are you, God and Father: Your patience is untiring, and your love is without fault; you offer us favourable times, and give us days of salvation. Great are you, O Lord our God.

All: Blessed are you, O God, now and for all ages.

Leader: Blessed are you, Jesus Christ, Son of the living God:

You are faithful even to the cross;

you welcome the repentant with kindness and pardon their sins.

Holy are you, Lord Jesus Christ.

All: Blessed are you, O God, now and for all ages.

Leader: Blessed are you, Holy Spirit,

the love who remove all fear from our hearts:

You strengthen us in temptation and give new life.

Strong are you, O Spirit of the Lord.

All: Blessed are you, O God, now and for all ages.

Leader: Great are you, O God; Holy are you, O God;

strong are you, O God, now and for all ages.

All: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: Jesus invites us to call on his Father's name:

Filled with trust in Jesus' power,

we conclude our prayer of praise in his own words:

All: Our Father.....For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

PRAYER FOR PEACE

CONCLUDING RITE

GREETING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

BLESSING

Leader: May the Father bless us, for he has adopted us as his children.

All: Amen.

Leader: May the Son come to help us,
for he has received us as brothers and sisters.

All: Amen.

Leader: May the Spirit be with us, for he has made us his dwelling place.

All: Amen.

Leader: And may almighty God bless you all,
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

DISMISSAL

Leader: Let us go forth in peace, to spend this time of Lent worthily
that we might love and serve the Lord always.

All: Thanks be to God.

FINAL HYMN

Acknowledgements:

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ASSEMBLY OF THE WORD

ASH WEDNESDAY – YEAR C 2022

INTRODUCTORY RITES

GATHERING HYMN & WELCOME

Stand

Leader: Let us commence our prayer on this solemn day with the words of Scripture.

All: Lord, you are merciful to all, and hate nothing you have created.
You overlook the sins of your people to call them to repentance.
You are the Lord our God. *Wisdom 11:24-25,27*

GREETING

Leader: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Leader: Blessed be Jesus Christ, who has shown the greatness of his love,
by dying for us while we were still sinners.
Bless the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

All: Blessed be God forever.

PENITENTIAL RITE

Leader: Let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate
the sacred mysteries. Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: You heal the wounds of our sin and division: Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Leader: You intercede for us with the Father: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.