

February 22, 2023 – Ash Wednesday - *Book of Alternative Services*

We acknowledge that we meet and work in Treaty 1 Land. We appreciate the Gifts of Resources from the Creator coming from Treaty 2 and 3 Land. Treaty 1, 2 & 3 Land are the traditional lands of the Anishinaabe, Cree, Dakota, Dene, Sioux and Oji-Cree people and the homeland of the Metis Nation. We are grateful for their stewardship of this land and their hospitality which allows us to live, work and serve God the Creator here.

Welcome Celebrant The Rev Wilson Akinwale

Acknowledgement - Cassandra

Brief Silence: then follows the Collect of the Day Cassandra

Almighty and everlasting God, you despise 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 brokenness, 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.*

Proclamation of The Word

First Reading Joel 2:1-2, 12-17
Joann

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church
People Refrain The Lord remembers that we are but dust.

Psalm 51:1-17 Cassandra

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.

Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.

You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.

Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.

Deliver me from bloodshed, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance.

O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.

For you have no delight in sacrifice; if I were to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased.

The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise. **Amen.**

Second Reading - 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10 Joann

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

People Refrain The Lord remembers that we are but dust.

The Gospel - Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21 - **The Rev Wilson Akinwale**

Celebrant The Lord be with you

People And also with you

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

People Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

Celebrant The Gospel of Christ

People Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Short Reflection - **The Rev Wilson Akinwale**

All Stand

Celebrant

Dear friends in Christ,
every year at the time of the Christian Passover
we celebrate our redemption
through the death and resurrection
of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Lent is a time to prepare for this celebration
and to renew our life in the paschal mystery.
We begin this holy season
by remembering our need for repentance,
and for the mercy and forgiveness
proclaimed in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Celebrant We begin our journey to Easter with the sign of ashes, an ancient sign, speaking of the frailty and uncertainty of human life, and marking the penitence of the community as a whole.

Celebrant continues,

I invite you therefore, in the name of the Lord, to observe a holy Lent by self-examination, penitence, prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, and by reading and meditating on the word of God. Let us kneel before our Creator and Redeemer.

Silence for a short reflection.

Litany of Penitence

The celebrant and people say together,

**Most holy and merciful Father,
we confess to you, 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 continues,
We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength.
We have not loved our neighbours 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 judgements, for uncharitable thoughts toward our
neighbours, 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.

For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after
us,
Hear us, Lord, for your mercy is great.

Imposition of ashes - The Rev Wilson Akinwale

Almighty God,
from the dust of the earth you have created us.
May these ashes be for us a sign of our mortality and penitence,
and a reminder that only by your gracious gift
are we given eternal life;

through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

(As applicable - Those present who desire to receive ashes come forward, those at home watching apply your ashes)

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

Prayer of Confession Kneeling

Celebrant Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,
People That we may show forth your glory in the world.

Celebrant By the cross and passion of your Son, our Lord,
People Bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us all our sins
through our Lord Jesus Christ,
strengthen us in all goodness,
and by the power of the Holy Spirit
keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

Collect #1 Cassandra

God of wilderness and water, your Son was baptized and tempted as we are. Guide us through this season, so that we may not avoid struggle, but open ourselves to blessing, through the cleansing depths of repentance and the heaven-rending words of the Spirit. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn - #465 (CP) - Here In This Place New Light Is Streaming

Collect #2 Cassandra

Almighty God, on the holy mount you revealed to chosen witnesses your well-beloved Son, wonderfully transfigured: mercifully deliver us from the darkness of this world, and change us into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Dismissal - **The Rev Wilson Akinwale**

Now as Christ people, let go into the world to observe, to do justly and to walk humbly with our God by serving all people during this season of lent.

Thanks be to God. Amen.