



A PENITENTIAL CHORAL EUCHARIST

FOR

ASH WEDNESDAY

17th February 2021

7.30pm

A Note about the Ash Wednesday Liturgy

Ashes are an ancient sign of penitence; from the Middle Ages it became the custom to begin Lent by being marked in ash with the sign of the cross. This year, because of the Covid Pandemic and social distancing, a Cross of Ash will be made in the cathedral to represent the mark of ash often received in person.



THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE



HYMN (ICH 547) *during the entrance of clergy:*



**Approach, my soul, the mercy-seat
where Jesus answers prayer;
there humbly fall before his feet,
for none can perish there.**

**Bowed down beneath a load of sin,
by Satan sorely pressed,
by war without, and fears within,
I come to thee for rest.**

**Thy promise is my only pleas,
with this I venture nigh;
thou callest burdened souls to thee,
and such, O Lord, am I.**

**Be thou my shield and hiding-place,
that, sheltered near thy side,
I may my fierce accuser face,
and tell him thou hast died.**

**O wondrous love, to bleed and die,
to bear they cross and shame,
that guilty sinners, such as I,
might plead thy gracious Name!**

Words: John Newton (1725-1807)

Tune: STRACATHRO Melody by Charles Hutcheson (1792-1860) harm. Geoffrey Shaw (1879-1943)

The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit: a broken and contrite heart you will not despise.
Lord, have mercy.

Brothers and sisters in Christ: since early days Christian people have observed with great devotion the time of our Lord's passion and resurrection and prepared for this through the season of Lent by penitence and fasting.

By carefully keeping this season, we take to heart the call to repentance and the assurance of forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel, and so grow in faith and in devotion to our Lord.

I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Lord to observe this season of Lent, by self-examination and turning back to God. This may be giving something up, by taking something up in prayer, fasting, or self-denial; or by reading, times of reflection or by your additional service to others.

*Please remain standing whilst the choir sings the **KYRIE ELEISON:***

Setting: Mass for four voices William Byrd (1543-1623)

Kyrie eleison.
Christe eleison.
Kyrie eleison.

*Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.*

*Please remain standing for the **COLLECT:***

Let us pray for grace to keep Lent faithfully.

Almighty and everlasting God you hate nothing that you have made and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent. Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we may be truly sorry for our sins and obtain from you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



PROCLAIMING AND RECEIVING THE WORD



Please sit for the **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?"'

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please remain seated as the choir sings stand to sing the **GRADUAL HYMN:**

Miserere mei, Deus: secundum magnam
 miserericordiam tuam.
Et secundum multitudinem miserationum
 tuarum, dele iniquitatem meam.
Amplius lava me ab iniquitate mea: et a
 peccato meo munda me.
Quoniam iniquitatem meam ego cognosco:
 et peccatum meum contra me est semper.

*Have mercy on me, O God, according to Thy
great mercy.
According unto the multitude of Thy tender
mercies remove my transgressions.
Wash me thoroughly from my iniquities, and
cleanse me from my sin.
I knowingly confess my transgressions: and my
sin is ever before me.*

Tibi soli peccavi, et malum coram te feci: ut justificeris in sermonibus tuis, et vincas cum judicaris.

Ecce enim in iniquitatibus conceptus sum: et in peccatis concepit me mater mea.

Ecce enim veritatem dilexisti: incerta et occulta sapientiae tuae manifestasti mihi.

Asperges me hysopo, et mundabor: lavabis me, et super nivem dealabor.

Auditui meo dabis gaudium et laetitiam: et exsultabunt ossa humiliata.

Averte faciem tuam a peccatis meis: et omnes iniquitates meas dele.

Cor mundum crea in me, Deus: et spiritum rectum innova in visceribus meis.

Ne proicias me a facie tua: et spiritum sanctum tuum ne auferas a me.

Redde mihi laetitiam salutaris tui: et spiritu principali confirma me.

Docebo iniquos vias tuas: et impii ad te convertentur.

Libera me de sanguinibus, Deus, Deus salutis meae: et exsultabit lingua mea justitiam tuam.

Domine, labia mea aperies: et os meum annuntiabit laudem tuam.

Quoniam si voluisses sacrificium, dedissem utique: holocaustis non delectaberis.

Sacrificium Deo spiritus contribulatus: cor contritum, et humiliatum, Deus, non despicias.

Benigne fac, Domine, in bona voluntate tua Sion: ut aedificentur muri Ierusalem.

Tunc acceptabis sacrificium justitiae, oblationes, et holocausta: tunc imponent super altare tuum vitulos.

Against Thee only have I sinned, and done evil before Thee: that they may be justified in Thy sayings, and might they overcome when I am judged.

But behold, I was formed in iniquity: and in sin did my mother conceive me.

Behold, Thou desirest truth in my innermost being: and shalt make me to understand wisdom secretly.

Thou shalt sprinkle me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, make me whiter than snow.

Open my ears and make me hear of joy and gladness: and my bones that have been humbled shall rejoice.

Turn away Thy face from my sins: and remember not all my misdeeds.

Create in me a clean heart, O God: and make anew a righteous spirit within my body.

Do not cast me away from Thy presence: and take not Thy holy spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.

I will teach those that are unjust Thy ways: and sinners shall be converted unto Thee.

Deliver me from blood, O God, the God of my salvation: and my tongue shall sing of Thy righteousness.

O Lord, open my lips: and my mouth shall spring forth Thy praise.

For Thou desirest no sacrifice, where others would: with burnt offerings Thou wilt not be delighted.

Sacrifices of God are broken spirits: dejected and contrite hearts, O God, Thou wilt not despise.

Deal favorably, O Lord, in Thy good pleasure unto Zion: build Thou the walls of Jerusalem.

Then shalt Thou be pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness, with small and large burnt offerings: then shall they lay calves upon your altar.

Words: Psalm 51

Music: Alessandro Scarlatti (1660-1725)

Please sit for the **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, labours, 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 honour and dishonour, 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.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the **GOSPEL READING:** Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Hear the Gospel of our Saviour Christ, according to Matthew, Chapter 6, beginning at the 1st verse.
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus said to the crowds, “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.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Please sit for the **ADDRESS** by The Dean



THE LITURGY OF PENITENCE



Let us now call to mind our sin and the infinite mercy of God.

Please kneel or sit.

THE COMMANDMENTS

Hear these commandments which God has given to his people, and take them to heart:

I AM THE LORD YOUR GOD: YOU SHALL HAVE NO OTHER GODS BUT ME.

You shall love the Lord you God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind and with all your strength.

YOU SHALL NOT MAKE FOR YOURSELF ANY IDOL.

God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth.

YOU SHALL NOT DISHONOUR THE NAME OF THE LORD YOUR GOD.

You shall worship him with reverence and awe.

REMEMBER THE LORD’S DAY, AND KEEP IT HOLY.

Christ is risen from the dead; set your mind on things that are above, not on things that are on the earth.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and write these your laws in our hearts.

HONOUR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER.

Live as servants of God, honour all people, love our brothers and sisters in Christ.

YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT MURDER.

Be reconciled to your brother and sister: overcome evil with good.

YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY.

Know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit.

YOU SHALL NOT STEAL.

Be honest in all that you do and care for those in need.

YOU SHALL NOT BE A FALSE WITNESS.

Let everyone speak the truth.

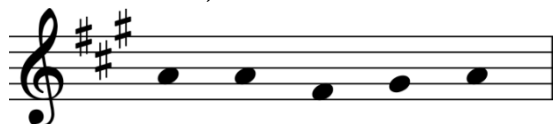
YOU SHALL NOT COVET ANYTHING WHICH BELONGS TO YOUR NEIGHBOUR.

Remember the words of the Lord Jesus: It is more blessed to give than to receive. Love your neighbour as yourself, for love is the fulfilling of the law.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and write all these your laws in our hearts.

During **THE LITANY** the response at the beginning of each section is sung following every petition.

God the Father, creator of heaven and earth,



have mer - cy on us.

God the Son, Redeemer of the world,

God the Holy Spirit, giver of life,

Holy, blessed and glorious Trinity, three persons in one God,

II

Save us, good Lord, from all sin and wickedness, from pride, hypocrisy and conceit, from envy, hatred and malice, and all uncharitableness,



save us, good_ Lord.

From sins of thought, word and deed, from the lusts of the flesh, from the deceits of the world and the snares of the devil,

From fire, storm and flood, from disease, pestilence and want, from war and murder, and from dying unprepared,

From all false doctrine, from hardness of heart, from contempt of your word and commandment, and from the evil of schism,

In times of sorrow and in times of joy, in the hour of death, and in the day of judgement,

III

Save us, Lord Christ, by the mystery of your holy incarnation, by your birth, childhood and obedience, by your baptism, fasting and temptation,



save us, Lord_ Christ.

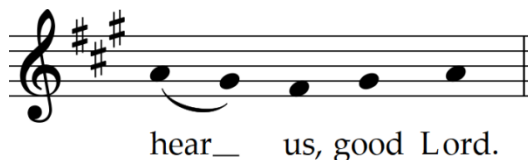
By your ministry in word and work, by your mighty acts of power, and by your preaching of the kingdom,

By your agony and trial, by your cross and passion, and by your precious death and burial,

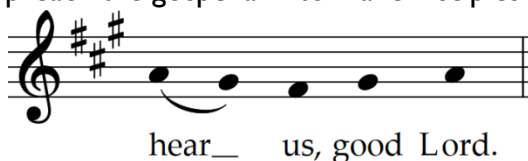
By your mighty resurrection, by your glorious ascension, and by your sending of the Holy Spirit,

IV
FOR THE CHURCH

Hear us, good Lord: govern and direct your holy Church, fill it with love and truth, and grant it that unity which is your will,



Give your Church courage to preach the gospel and to make disciples of all the nations,



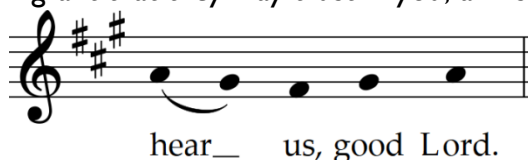
Give knowledge and understanding to bishops, priests, deacons, that by their life and teaching they may proclaim your word,

Give all people grace to receive your word and to bring forth the fruit of the Spirit,

Bring all who have erred and are deceived into the way of truth,

FOR THE STATE

Guard and bless our rulers, and grant that they may trust in you, and seek your honour and glory,



Bless our country, and give grace, wisdom and understanding to all in authority,

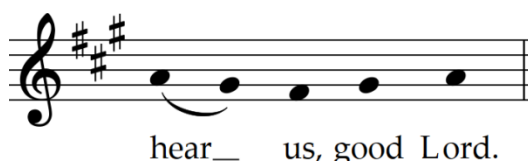
Bless those who administer the law, that they may uphold justice in honesty and truth,

Bless and keep all who maintain peace and safety,

Give to all nations unity, peace and concord,

FOR ALL PEOPLE ACCORDING TO THEIR NEEDS

Strengthen the faithful, comfort and help the faint-hearted, raise up those who fall, and drive out all evil,



Support and encourage all who are in poverty, unemployment or distress, protect those whose work is dangerous, and keep in safety all who travel,

Keep fathers, mothers and children united in their family life, and give them wisdom and strength in times of stress,

Heal the sick, care for the old and lonely, and comfort the bereaved,

Remember the poor who long to hear good news: give us the will to strengthen them through acts of generous love,

Show your pity on victims of strife, on the homeless and the hungry, on prisoners, and on all who live in fear,

Forgive our enemies, persecutors and slanderers, and turn their hearts,

Guide and direct all who influence others through the written or spoken word, and inspire all who serve mankind in science, industry and art,

Bless and keep all your people,

Teach us to use the resources of the earth to your glory, that all may share in your goodness and praise you for your loving kindness,

V

Saviour of the world, forgive our sins, known and unknown, things done, and left undone; grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit that we may amend our lives according to your holy word, and share with all your people the joys of your eternal kingdom.

Jesus, Lamb of God,



have mer - cy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins,



have mer - cy on us.

Jesus, Redeemer of the world,



give _____ us thy peace.

Silence.

Make our hearts clean, O God,
and renew a right spirit within us.

Father eternal, giver of light and grace, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour, in what we have thought, in what we have said and done, through ignorance, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We have wounded your love, and marred your image in us. We are sorry and ashamed, and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past; and lead us out from darkness to walk as children of light. Amen.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A CROSS OF ASHES

The Dean says:

This year, a Cross of Ashes is made to symbolise the spirit of penitence with which we are called to keep this season of Lent.

A Cross of Ash is made.

God our Father, you create us from the dust of the earth: grant that these ashes may be for us a sign of our penitence and a symbol of our mortality, for it is by your grace alone that we receive eternal life in Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

God our Father, the strength of all who put their trust in you, mercifully accept our prayers; and because, in our weakness, we can do nothing good without you, grant us the help of your grace, that in keeping your commandments we may please you, both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please stand for **THE PEACE:**

Being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.



CELEBRATING AT THE LORD'S TABLE



Please remain standing to sing the **OFFERTORY HYMN: ICH 400***



**And now, O Father, mindful of the love
that brought us, once for all, on Calvary's tree,
and having with us him that pleads above,
we here present, we here spread forth to thee
that only offering perfect in thine eyes,
the one true, pure, immortal sacrifice.**

**Look, Father, look on his anointed face,
and only look on us as found in him;
look not on our misusings of thy grace,
our prayer so languid, and our hope so dim:
for lo! between our sins and their reward
we set the passion of thy Son our Lord.**

**And so we come; O draw us to thy feet,
most patient Saviour, who canst love us still;
and by this food, so awful and so sweet,
deliver us from every touch of ill:
in thine own service make us glad and free,
and grant us never more to part with thee.**

Words: William Bright (1824-1901)
Tune: SONG 1 Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)

Please remain standing

Be present, be present, Lord Jesus Christ, our risen high priest: make yourself known in the breaking of bread. **Amen.**

THE TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

Christ our passover has been sacrificed for us
therefore let us celebrate the feast.



The Lord ___ is here. His spi - rit is with ___ us.



Lift _____ up your ___ hearts. ___ We lift them to ___ the Lord. ___



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise. _

Father, almighty and everliving God, at all times and in all places it is right to give you thanks and praise:

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was in every way tempted as we are, yet did not sin; by whose grace we are able to overcome all our temptations:

And so with all your people, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying:

The choir sings the **SANCTUS:**

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.

Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.

*Holy, Holy, Holy,
Lord God of Hosts.*

*Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.*

Blessed are you, Father, the creator and sustainer of all things; you made us in your own image, male and female you created us; even when we turned away from you, you never ceased to care for us, but in your love and mercy you freed us from the slavery of sin, giving your only begotten Son to become man and suffer death on the cross to redeem us: he made there the one complete and all-sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world: he instituted, and in his holy Gospel commanded us to continue, a perpetual memory of his precious death until he comes again.

On the night that he was betrayed he took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup; and when he had given thanks to you, he gave it to them, saying, Drink this, all of you, for this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup we do as Christ your Son commanded: **we remember his passion and death, we celebrate his resurrection and ascension, and we look for the coming of his kingdom.**

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; and as we eat and drink these holy gifts, grant by the power of the life-giving Spirit that we may be made one in your holy Church and partakers of the body and blood of your Son, that he may dwell in us and we in him:

Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, **all honour and glory are yours, Almighty Father, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Please kneel or sit.

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, so we pray,
**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

We do not presume **to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord, whose nature is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him and he in us. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.
We being many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you. Remember that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

*Please remain seated whilst the choir sings the **AGNUS DEI:***

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona
nobis pacem.

*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
grant us peace.*

THE COMMUNION

If you wish to receive communion, please move to the Quire Steps. Communion will be in one kind (wafer bread only). Please wear your face covering while receiving and consume the wafer bread when you have returned to your seat.

*The Choir sings the **ANTHEM:***

Call to remembrance, O Lord,
thy tender mercy and thy loving kindness which hath been ever of old.
O remember not the sins and offences of my youth,
but according to thy mercy think thou on me, O Lord, for thy goodness.

*Words: Psalm 25:5-6
Music: Richard Farrant (1525-80)*

THE GREAT SILENCE

When all have received communion, the presiding minister, other ministers and people keep silence for reflection.



Please stand for the **HYMN: ICH 207***



**Forty days and forty nights
Thou wast fasting in the wild,
Forty days and forty nights
Tempted and yet undefiled.**

**Let us then endurance share,
And awhile from joys abstain,
With thee watching unto prayer,
Strong with thee to suffer pain.**

**Sunbeams scorching all the day,
Chilly dewdrops nightly shed,
Prowling beasts about thy way,
Stones thy pillow, earth thy bed.**

**Keep, O keep us, Saviour dear,
Ever constant by thy side,
That with thee we may appear
At the eternal Eastertide.**

*Words: G.H. Smyttan (1822-70) & Francis Pott (1832-1909) based on Mark 1:12-13
Tune: HEINLEIN (AUS DER TIEFE) Melody in Nurnbergisches Gesangbuch (1676) attrib. Martin Herbst (1654-81)*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us both a sacrifice for sin and also an example of godly life: Give us grace that we may always most thankfully receive these his inestimable gifts, and also daily endeavour ourselves to follow the blessed steps of his most holy life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

THE BLESSING

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

Lord our God, grant us grace to desire you with our whole heart; that so desiring, we may seek and find you; and so finding, may love you; and so loving, may hate those sins from which you have delivered us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The service ends in silence.