

# All Saints' Episcopal Church

## Ash Wednesday

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

7:30 p.m. ✦ Wednesday, February 17, 2021

Welcome to worship at All Saints'.

Ash Wednesday is the first of the forty days of Lent, named for the custom of placing blessed ashes on the foreheads of worshippers, a sign of penitence and a reminder of mortality. The Old Testament frequently mentions the use of ashes as an expression of humiliation and sorrow. Ashes for use on Ash Wednesday are made from burned palms from Palm Sunday services. Ashes are imposed on the penitent's forehead with the words, "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return" (Book of Common Prayer, p.265). The imposition of ashes on Ash Wednesday is optional.

Ash Wednesday is a day for fasting in the church year.



## The Liturgy of Ash Wednesday

### Prelude Music |

Chorale Prelude on *Erhalt uns, Herr, bei deinem Wort* BuxWV 185

("Preserve us, Lord, with your word")

Dieterich Buxtehude (c. 1637/39–1707)

Dr. Kirk M. Rich, *organ*

"Be Thou My Vision"

trad. Irish arr. Rhett Barnwell

Julie Koenig, *harp*

Dr. Kirk M. Rich, *organ*

**Introit** | "O Lord, increase my faith"

Henry Loosemore (d. 1670)

*The All Saints' Adult Choir*

O Lord, increase my faith,  
strengthen me,  
and confirm me in thy true faith.  
Endue me with wisdom,  
charity, and patience  
in all my adversity  
Sweet Jesu, say Amen.

I invite you, therefore,  
in the name of the Church,  
to the observance of a holy Lent.



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## Welcome and Announcements |

### Opening Sentences |

*Officiant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.  
*People* God's mercy endures forever.  
*Officiant* The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,  
*People* Full of grace and truth, and we beheld his glory.

### Collect of the Day |

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* And also with you.  
*Officiant* 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 First Lesson | Isaiah 58:1–12

Rebecca Parker

Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God.

“Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?” Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,

*Reader* The word of the Lord.  
*People* Thanks be to God.

and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; 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:

*Reader* The word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

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.

Hymn Meditation | Wonder, Love, and Praise 825

“Bless the Lord, my soul”

Taizé

Julie Koenig, *harp*

Dr. Kirk M. Rich, *organ*

Bless the Lord my soul and bless God's ho - ly name.

Bless the Lord my soul, who leads me in - to life.

## The Gospel | Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21

*Reader* A reading from the Gospel of Matthew.

‘Beware of practising 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

*Reader* The word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

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.

## Sermon |

The Rev. Natosha Reid Rice

*A period of silent prayer follows the sermon.*

## Musical Meditation |

“On Eagle’s Wings”

Michael Joncas (b. 1951)  
arr. David Ice

Julie Koenig, *harp*

## 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.

## Imposition of Ashes |

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.

*Those who desire may impose ashes on themselves or on the members of their family. The ashes are imposed with the following words: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."*

## Musical Meditation |

Harp Prelude on Mozart's *Ave Verum Corpus*

Albert Schaefer  
arr. Samuel Milligan

Julie Koenig, *harp*

Dr. Kirk M. Rich, *organ*

## Litany of Penitence |

The Rev. Sarah C. Stewart, The Rev. Zachary C. Nyein

**People** 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.

*Intercessor* 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.

**People** Have mercy on us, Lord.

*Intercessor* 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.

**People** Have mercy on us, Lord.

*Intercessor* We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience of our lives,

**People** We confess to you, Lord.

*Intercessor* Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people,  
**People** We confess to you, Lord.

*Intercessor* Our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,

**People** We confess to you, Lord.

*Intercessor* Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work,

**People** We confess to you, Lord.

*Intercessor* Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,

**People** We confess to you, Lord.

*Intercessor* 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,  
**People** Accept our repentance, Lord.

*Intercessor* For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,  
**People** Accept our repentance, Lord.

*Intercessor* For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us,  
**People** Accept our repentance, Lord.

*Intercessor* Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us;  
**People** Favorably hear us, for your mercy is great.

*Intercessor* Accomplish in us the work of your salvation,  
**People** That we may show forth your glory in the world.

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

*Intercessor* 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.**

**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 upon you this day and forever more. **Amen.**

**Dismissal** | *Officiant* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**People** Thanks be to God.



“The glory of these forty days”

*Erbalt uns, Herr*

*The All Saints' Adult Choir*

1. The glo - ry of these for - ty days we  
 2. A - lone and fast - ing Mo - ses saw the  
 3. So Da - niel trained his mys - tic sight, de -  
 4. Then grant us, Lord, like them to be full  
 5. O Fa - ther, Son, and Spi - rit blest, to  
 cel - e brate with songs of praise; for Christ, through whom all  
 lov - ing God who gave the law; and to E - li - jah,  
 liv - ered from the li - ons' might; and John, the Bride - groom's  
 oft in fast and prayer with thee; our spi - rits strength - en  
 thee be ev - ery prayer ad - dressed, who art in three - fold  
 things were made, him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.  
 fast - ing came the steeds and char - i - ots of flame.  
 friend, be - came the her - ald of Mes - si - ah's name.  
 with thy grace, and give us joy to see thy face.  
 Name a - dored, from age to age, the on - ly Lord.

**Voluntary** | Choral paraphrase on “Attende Domine”

Jeanne Demessieux (1921–1968)

Dr. Kirk M. Rich, organ



## Worship Notes

The Worship Committee and staff welcome your feedback; please email  
[worship@allsaintsatlanta.org](mailto:worship@allsaintsatlanta.org).

### Music for Wednesday, February 17, 2021

**Be Thou My Vision**, traditional Irish melody, arr. Rhett Barnwell, © 1917 Seraphim Music, Atlanta; **Bless the Lord, my soul**, Words: Psalm 103, Music: Jacques Berthier (1923–1994); Copyright: Music: © 1984 Taizé, admin. GIA Publications Inc.; **On Eagle's Wings**, Michael Joncas (b. 1951), arr. David Ice, © 1979, New Dawn Music, Vanderbilt Editions by Vanderbilt Music Co., Inc.; **Harp Prelude on Mozart's Ave Verum Corpus**, Albert Schaefer, arr. Samuel Milligan, © 1994 Lyon & Healy Harps, Inc., Chicago, IL 60607, All Rights Reserved; **The glory of these forty days**, Words: Latin, 6th cent.; tr. Maurice F. Bell (1862–1947), alt., Music: *Erhalt uns, Herr*, melody from *Geistliche Leier*, 1543; harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750); Copyright: Words: By permission of Oxford University Press; **Choral paraphrase on "Attende Domine"**, Jeanne Demessieux (1921–1968) © 1995 Summy-Birchard Music, a division of Summy-Birchard, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Printed in USA. International Copyright Secured.

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### Announcements

#### We want you to have the Most Up-to-Date Information

Things are changing quickly during this pandemic. For the most current announcements on upcoming events, service opportunities, and worship services, please visit

[allsaintsatlanta.org/news-and-publications](https://allsaintsatlanta.org/news-and-publications).

Please continue to monitor our website for the latest news and answers to frequently asked questions regarding our COVID-19 policies and protocols:

[allsaintsatlanta.org/covid-19](https://allsaintsatlanta.org/covid-19).





# All Saints' Episcopal Church

is a parish in the Diocese of Atlanta

The Rt. Rev. Robert C. Wright, *Bishop*

The Rt. Rev. Don A. Wimberly, *Assisting Bishop*

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The Rev. Dr. Simon J. Mainwaring

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The Rev. Karen P. Evans, *Priest Associate for Pastoral Care*

The Rev. Dr. Denni Moss, *Priest Associate for Pastoral Care*

The Rev. Zachary C. Nyein, *Associate Rector*

The Rev. Natosha Reid Rice, *Minister for Public Life*

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## Affiliated Clergy

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## Our Weekly Worship Schedule

### SUNDAYS

10:00 a.m. Liturgy of the Word

### MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY

12:05 p.m. Noonday Prayer

### THURSDAYS

8:00 p.m. Compline Prayer

For information on viewing our online worship services, please visit us at [allsaintsatlanta.org/worship-life-events/worship-at-all-saints/](https://allsaintsatlanta.org/worship-life-events/worship-at-all-saints/).