



Saint Bartholomew Episcopal Church

A house of prayer for all people

**Ash Wednesday
February 14, 2024
Imposition of Ashes
6:00 p.m.**

THE PEOPLE GATHER

*Hymns referenced with H are located in the blue 1982 Hymnal; hymns referenced with L are located in the Lift Every Voice and Sing hymnal.
Standing or kneeling is as worshippers are able.
It is customary for the people to prepare for worship in quiet and in prayer.*

THE WORD OF GOD

Clergy processes in silence

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: 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 people sit for the readings printed on the insert.

THE LESSONS *(see insert)*

FIRST READING: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

THE GRADUAL PSALM: Psalm 103:8-13 *Benedic, anima mea*

Please refer to the music included in your bulletin.

David LePage will sing the refrain. Everyone will repeat the refrain.

David LePage with chant the verses of the Psalm. Everyone will sing the refrain as indicated.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

The people stand for the singing of the Gospel Hymn and the reading of the Gospel. Verses 1 - 3 are sung before the reading; Verse 4 is sung after the reading of the Gospel.

GOSPEL HYMN

HYMN H-574

“Before Thy Throne”

St. Petersburg

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

THE GOSPEL: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

The Rev. Steve Ashby

The people stand for

THE EXHORTATION TO A HOLY LENT

Celebrant:

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 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.

THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES

The people come forward to the steps to receive the imposition of ashes and then return to their pew, kneeling through Psalm 51 and the Litany of Penitence.

Celebrant:

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.**

The ashes are imposed with the following words:

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

While ashes are being distributed, the people kneel as they are able and recite in unison Psalm 51

PSALM 51 *Miserere mei, Deus*

**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 transgressions, *
and my sin is ever 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 within 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 iniquities.**

**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 bountiful Spirit.**

**14 I shall teach your ways to the wicked, *
and sinners shall return 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 proclaim 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

The celebrant and people together, all kneeling as they are able.

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.

The celebrant continues:

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you for joining us today. If you are a visitor, please consider signing the red guest register on the white podium near the front door.

At the conclusion of this evening’s service, please exit the building through the front door so as not to disturb the group that is meeting in the parish hall.

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 celebrant says:

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 holy 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.**

The Celebrant exits in silence..

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THE LENTEN BANNER

Starting from the lower left corner and moving clockwise:

The grains and the grapes, in remembrance of the Holy Eucharist.

Jesus Christ rode a donkey into Jerusalem, his way paved with palm branches, in fulfillment of Zechariah’s prophecy (Zechariah 9:9).

The three crosses of Golgotha.

The cat of- 9-tails whip, the Crown of Thorns, and finally, the three nails.

HE DIED TO SAVE US ALL. ~~ Kay Boyd

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Celebrant: The Rev. Steve Ashby, Priest-in-Charge

Organist: Aleksandr Leybkind

Lectors: Jo Ann Buckley, Hal Buckley

Sr. Warden: John Charny

Jr. Warden: Vinnie Christie

Treasurer: Jack Rendlesham

Director of Religious Education: Russ Tripi

Parish Administrator: Mark Holland

Classroom Teacher: Kinsey Robinson

The Rev. Stephen N. Ashby, Priest-in-Charge

For Pastoral Emergencies, please contact Fr. Steve:

419-989-5163

rev.steve.ashby@saintbartohio.org

Fr. Steve Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Saint Bartholomew Episcopal Church

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LENT AT ST. BARTHOLOMEW EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Thank you for joining us this evening as we observe the beginning of Lent with the penitential service of Ash Wednesday.

Holy Week Services are scheduled as follows:

Palm Sunday Sunday, March 24, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. (Fr. Steve Ashby)

Maundy Thursday Holy Eucharist Thursday, March 28, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Altar of Repose Following Maundy Thursday serve (approx. 8:00 p.m.), ending noon Good Friday.*

Good Friday Liturgy Friday, March 29, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Easter Vigil Saturday, March 30, 2024 at 8:00 p.m. at Church of the Good Shepherd, 23599 Cedar Rd., Lyndhurst, OH 44122

The Resurrection of Our Lord Easter Sunday, March 31, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.

* A sign-up sheet is posted outside the kitchen shortly; please consider sitting an hour with Jesus.

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Fr. Steve Ashby will lead a 6-week Wednesday Lenten study, starting February 21 on Wednesdays at 6pm. The theme this year is the spirituality of the Lord’s Prayer

The study is free and open to parishioners of St. Bart’s and the Church of the Good Shepherd. No reservations are required.