Holy Eucharist and Agape in Lent





Introduction to the Season

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and lasts until Easter Day. These forty days echo the time of testing that Jesus experienced in the wilderness following baptism. It is a time when we are invited to examine ourselves before God; repent of sin and failure; and strengthened by God amend our lives. Traditionally, Lent is a time of prayer, fasting, and study of scripture.

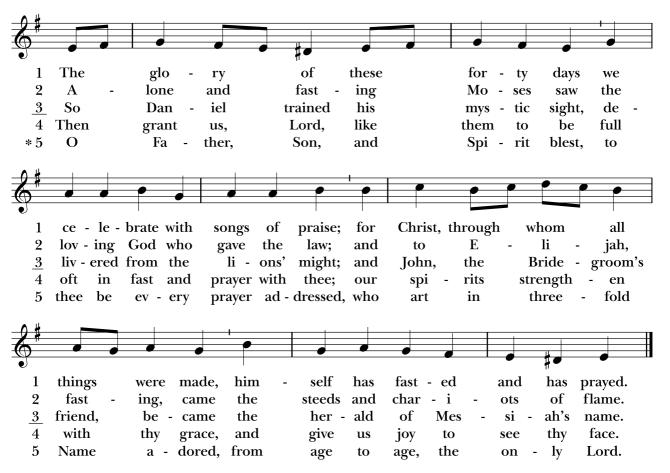
In the liturgy of Ash Wednesday, the Book of Common Prayer states: "The first Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord's passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the church to prepare for them by a season of penitence and fasting. The season of Lent provided a time in 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."

The Book of Common Prayer, pp. 264-5.

Introit

Opening Hymn The glory of these forty days

H.143



Words: Latin, 6th cent.; tr. Maurice F. Bell (1862-1947), alt. By permission of Oxford University Press. Music: *Erhalt uns, Herr*, melody from *Geistliche Leider*, 1543; harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750).

The congregations joins in praying all texts printed in bold.

Presider Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People God's mercy endures for ever.

Confession of Sin

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our. sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. — 1 John 1: 8,9

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence

God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves,
and in the world you have created.
We denounce the evil that enslaves us,
repent of the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.

The Bishop, when present, or the Priest, stands and says

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

Amen.

Kyrie Eleison

The Hymnal 1982, Service Music, #89





Music: James McGregor (b. 1930), after *Verbum caro factum est*, Hans Leo Hassler (1564-1612). Copyright © 1976 James McGregor.

The Presider prays the Collect of the Day

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Sunday-school children and leaders are invited to come forward for a blessing before leaving for class.

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us." When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, you shall make this response before the Lord your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me." You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

After the reading

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

- 1 He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High, * abides under the shadow of the Almighty.
- 2 He shall say to the Lord,
 "You are my refuge and my stronghold, *
 my God in whom I put my trust."
- 9 Because you have made the Lord your refuge, * and the Most High your habitation,
- 10 There shall no evil happen to you, * neither shall any plague come near your dwelling.
- 11 For he shall give his angels charge over you, * to keep you in all your ways.
- 12 They shall bear you in their hands, *
 lest you dash your foot against a stone.
- 13 You shall tread upon the lion and adder; *
 you shall trample the young lion and the serpent
 under your feet.
- 14 Because he is bound to me in love, therefore will I deliver him; * I will protect him, because he knows my Name.
- 15 He shall call upon me, and I will answer him; *
 I am with him in trouble;
 I will rescue him and bring him to honor.
- 16 With long life will I satisfy him, * and show him my salvation.

The Second Reading

From a New Testament Epistle

Romans 10:8b-13

"The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart"

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God

raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

After the reading

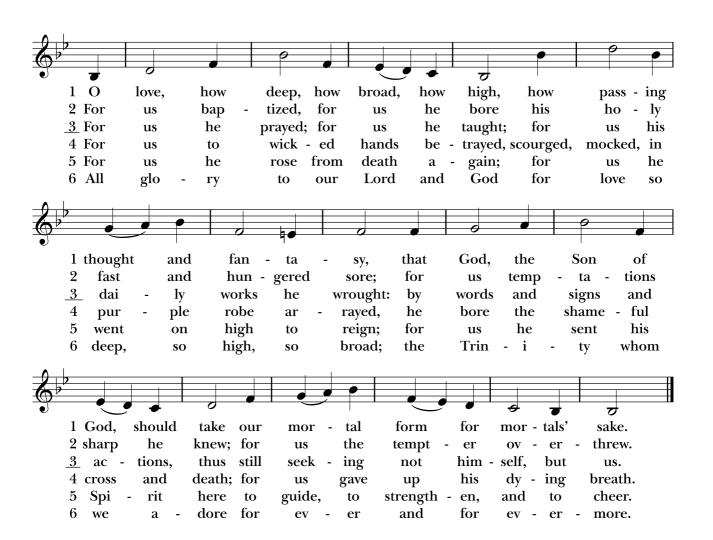
The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn O love, how deep, how broad, how high

H.448 (verses1,2,3,6)

(We sing verses 1 & 2 before the Gospel and verses 3 & 6 after)



Words: Latin, 15th cent.; tr. Benjamin Webb (1819-1885), alt. Music: *Deus tuorum militum*, from *Antiphoner*, 1753; adapt. *The English Hymnal*, 1906, alt.; harm. after Basil Harwood (1859-1949).

The Gospel

Luke 4:1-13

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke Glory to you, Lord Christ.

After his baptism, Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'" Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"

Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,

to protect you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone." Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

After the reading

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

Deacon Richard Cole

A time of Silence is kept

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

The Peace

Once we were far off, but now, in union with Christ Jesus, we have been brought near through the shedding of Christ's blood, for He is our peace.

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



The Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence

Presider Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving

and make good your vows to the Most High. -Psalm 50:14

Offertory Music

A period of silence is kept.

The Agape Prayer

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the universe. You create the fruit of the vine and bring forth food from the earth; bless this wine, bread, and fruit that we now share in our homes, and gather your Church in every place into the kingdom of your Son. To you be glory and power for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.
Presider Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Psachal Feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:





Music: James McGregor (b. 1930), after *Verbum caro factum est*, Hans Leo Hassler (1564-1612). Copyright © 1976 James McGregor.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Silence

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Presider Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast.

The Choir sings an Agnus Dei - Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us (Levas 270)

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you,

and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Communion Music

During the administration of Holy Communion music will be played. Please follow the directions of the ushers: as regards the wine, there are 3 options: 1) to receive the Chalice from the Eucharistic Minister; 2) to take a small glass which contains red alcoholic wine; 3) to take a small glass which contains white non-alcoholic wine. Please return the glass to the empty receptacle on the credence table on the pulpit side of the church. Thank you.

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us

After Communion, the Presider says

Let us pray.

Presider and People

with the spiritual food of the most precious body and blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom.

And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Recessional Hymn In Christ there is no east, no west

H. 529

Dismissal

Presider Let us bless the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

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