## St Mary's Church Acocks Green

# SAID SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

### Ash Wednesday 2021

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#### THE GATHERING

In the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit

All: Amen

The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you

Brothers and sisters in Christ, since early days Christians have observed with great devotion the time of our Lord's passion and resurrection and prepared for this by a season of penitence and fasting.

By carefully keeping these days, Christians 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 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.

All: Holy God,

holy and strong, holy and immortal, have mercy upon us.

THE COLLECT All: Amen

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD The Readings

This is the word of the Lord

**All:** Thanks be to God

The Gospel

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to ...

All: Glory to you, O Lord

This is the Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you, O Christ

**SERMON** 

#### LITURGY OF PENITENCE

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

God the Father,

*All*: have mercy upon us.

God the Son,

*All*: have mercy upon us.

God the Holy Spirit,

*All*: have mercy upon us.

Holy, blessed and glorious Trinity,

*All*: have mercy upon us.

After each bidding we use the response:

All: Good Lord, deliver us

Ending with:

All: Holy God,

holy and strong, holy and immortal, have mercy upon us. Make our hearts clean, O God;

All: and renew a right spirit within us.

Father eternal, giver of light and grace, All: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.

If you have ash prepared, please hold up its container now.

#### THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Dear friends in Christ,
I invite you to receive these ashes
as a sign of the spirit of penitence
with which we shall keep this season of Lent.

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.

All: Amen.

At the imposition of ashes, the following is said:

#### Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return. Turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ.

(As you say this, dip your finger in the moistened ash, and make the sign of the Cross on your forehead.)

The Lord enrich you with his grace, and nourish you with his blessing; the Lord defend you in trouble and keep you from all evil; the Lord accept your prayers, and absolve you from your offences, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Saviour.

All: Amen.

#### THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

#### THE PEACE

The priest introduces the peace using suitable words.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

*All*: and also with you

#### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Yours Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour, and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

All: All things come from you, and of your own do we give you.

#### THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord is here

All: His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give thanks and praise.

Almighty God, good Father to us all, your face is turned towards your world. In love you gave us Jesus your Son to rescue us from sin and death. Your Word goes out to call us home to the city where angels sing your praise. We join with them in heaven's song:

All:
Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Father of all, we give you thanks for every gift that comes from heaven. To the darkness Jesus came as your light.

With signs of faith and words of hope he touched untouchables with love and washed the guilty clean.

The crowds came out to see your Son, yet at the end they turned on him.

On the night he was betrayed he came to table with his friends to celebrate the freedom of your people.

Jesus blessed you, Father, for the food; he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said: This is my body, given for you all. Do this in remembrance of me.

Jesus then gave thanks for the wine; he took the cup, gave it and said: This is my blood, shed for you all for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me. Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup we celebrate the cross on which he died to set us free.

Defying death he rose again and is alive with you to plead for us and all the world.

Send your Spirit on us now that by these gifts we may feed on Christ with opened eyes and hearts on fire. May we and all who share this food offer ourselves to live for you and be welcomed at your feast in heaven where all creation worships you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

All: Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

All:

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

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, the power and the glory, for ever and ever.
Amen

#### **BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All: Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

#### THE AGNUS DEI

All: 1./2. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

3. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

The body of Christ keep you in eternal life

All: Amen

The Lord Jesus Bless and keep you always

All: Amen

#### PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

All: Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits you have given me, for all the pains and insults you have borne for me. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I ask you to come spiritually into my heart. O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may I know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day. Amen.

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

All: God of our pilgrimage,
you have fed us with the bread of heaven.
Refresh and sustain us
as we go forward on our journey,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### THE DISMISSAL

#### Responsory

This is love, not that we loved God,

All: but that he loved us and sent his Son.

He is the sacrifice for our sins,

All: that we might live through him.

If God loves us so much

*All:* we ought to love one another.

If we love one another

All: God lives in us.

#### THE DISMISSAL GOSPEL Luke 15 v 4-7

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbours, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who need no repentance.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

#### 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.

All: Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

**All:** In the name of Christ. Amen