

The Lord's Prayer *Sung*

The Hymnal S 119

The Breaking of the Bread

*Silence is kept.*

Fraction Anthem *New Plainsong - David Hurd*

The Hymnal S 161

Communion of the People

*All baptized persons, no matter how old, are welcome to receive communion.*

Prayer after Communion

*Presider* Let us pray.

God our Father, you formed us from the dust of the earth and brought us to new life in Christ through the waters of Baptism. We ask you to change our hearts as we journey through these forty days of Lent. Help us to see Jesus in everyone we meet, and to serve him in all persons, especially the poor, the sick, and the lonely. By your grace may our prayers and sacrifices this Lent help us grow closer to each other and to you. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

The Solemn Prayer Over the People

Bow down before the Lord.

*Please kneel.*

Grant, most merciful Lord, to your faithful people pardon and peace, that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve you with a quiet mind; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Dismissal

*Presider* Let us bless the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

**Please depart in silence.**



EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE  
**Transfiguration**

SEEKING AND SERVING CHRIST IN ALL PERSONS

*Ash Wednesday*

Worship for Children and Families

February 14, 2018

5:30 p.m.

**The Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes**

*Please stand at the ringing of the sacring bells. The ministers enter in silence.*

**Opening Prayer**

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Presider* Let us pray.

God of all mercy, you love everything that you have made. You forgive the sins of all who are truly sorry. Make our hearts clean, that we will tell you what we have done wrong. We know that you will heal us, forgive us, and bless us; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

**The First Lesson** 2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10 (CEB)

We beg you as Christ's representatives, "Be reconciled to God!". God caused the one who didn't know sin to be sin for our sake so that through him we could become the righteousness of God. Since we work together with him, we are also begging you not to receive the grace of God in vain. He says, I listened to you at the right time, and I helped you on the day of salvation. Look, now is the right time! Look, now is the day of salvation! We don't give anyone any reason to be offended about anything so that our ministry won't be criticized. Instead, we commend ourselves as ministers of God in every way. We did this with our great endurance through problems, disasters, and stressful situations. We went through beatings, imprisonments, and riots. We experienced hard work, sleepless nights, and hunger. We displayed purity, knowledge, patience, and generosity. We served with the Holy Spirit, genuine love, telling the truth, and God's power. We carried the weapons of righteousness in our right hand and our left hand. We were treated with honor and dishonor and with verbal abuse and good evaluation. We were seen as both fake and real, as unknown and well known, as dying—and look, we are alive! We were seen as punished but not killed, as going through pain but always happy, as poor but making many rich, and as having nothing but owning everything.

*Stand.*

**Sequence Hymn**

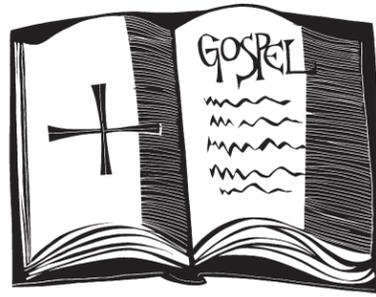
*Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days*

The Hymnal 142

## The Holy Gospel Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

✠✠✠ The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

*People* Glory to you, Lord Christ.



Jesus said, “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.”

*Presider* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

## The Sermon

### Invitation to Lent

Dear People of God: Every year we tell the story of Jesus’ last days with his disciples, his death on the cross, and his resurrection. In this season called Lent, we get ready for the great feast of Easter by looking at our lives to see how we can more closely follow God. We prepare for Easter by asking forgiveness for what we’ve done wrong, by praying, by studying the Bible, and by serving those in need. To get off to a good start, let us now kneel before God to say that we are sorry for what we have done wrong, and ask God to forgive us.

*Everyone kneels in silence.*

### The Blessing of the Ashes

Almighty God, you created us out of the dust of the earth, and we are your people. Let these ashes be a sign that we belong to you and that you have made us yours forever, on earth and in heaven, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

### The Imposition of the Ashes

*All are invited to come forward to receive ashes. Ashes are placed on the forehead with the words,*

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



## Litany

God of mercy and love, we confess to you and to one another that we have not lived the way you want us to live. We have done things we should not have done, and we have not done things we should have done.

We are sorry, **Please forgive us.**

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 you have forgiven us.

We are sorry, **Please forgive us.**

We are proud, impatient, and angry. We envy others who have more than we do. We do not share what we have.

We are sorry, **Please forgive us.**

We do not always pray and worship when we should. We forget your call to be faithful.

We are sorry, **Please forgive us.**

We turn away when others need our help. We are not kind. Our hearts are hard.

We are sorry, **Please forgive us.**

We are not grateful for the many things we have: for food, safety, and friends. We waste what we have, when there are others in need.

We are sorry, **Please forgive us.**

We think unkind thoughts about others. We judge people who are different from us.

We are sorry, **Please forgive us.**

We destroy and pollute your beautiful creation. We do not treat the earth with respect.

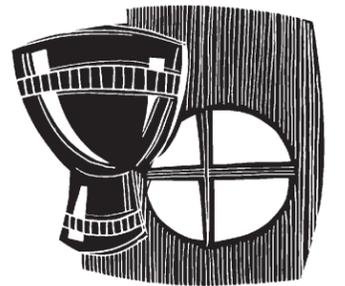
We are sorry, **Please forgive us.**

Almighty God, Father of Jesus Christ, you want people to turn away from doing wrong things and turn toward you. You ask your priests to tell people on your behalf that they are forgiven. You forgive everyone who is truly sorry. Please help us to mean what we say today and to leave here with new hearts that we may love and serve you more fully, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

## The Peace

*Presider* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* And also with you.



## The Holy Communion

### The Offertory Anthem

*Jesus to the Wilderness*

Michael Bedford

Holy Family Choir

*Stand.*

### The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer A

*You are invited to turn to page 361 in The Book of Common Prayer and join in the responses where indicated.*

### Sursum corda

The Hymnal S 120

### Sanctus

*New Plainsong* - David Hurd

The Hymnal S 124