

Trinity on the Hill Episcopal Church

Los Alamos, New Mexico

Ash Wednesday



Wednesday, March 5, 2025

7:30 am, 12:30 pm and 7:00 pm

Holy Eucharist with The Imposition of Ashes

#WeAreTrinity

Sharing God's love / Embracing God's children / Responding to the needs of the world

Ash Wednesday begins the Holy Season of Lent. In these forty days, God leads us into the desert of repentance, that, through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline, we may grow in grace and learn to be God's people once again. Through fasting, prayer, study, and acts of service, we are brought back to God's generous heart. With willing hearts, our eyes will be opened to God's presence in the world and our hands are freed to welcome others into the radiant splendor of God's love. Thus, we prepare ourselves, during Lent and Holy Week, to celebrate the Easter feast with joyful hearts and minds. If you already have a church home, but are with us today because you work or live nearby, welcome. If you are looking for a church and would like some information, please speak to the clergy after the service. Whatever brings you here, you are always welcome at our table.

It is said that, next to Christmas, more people attend Ash Wednesday services than any other time of the year. Perhaps this is because it is easier to believe that we are sinners than that we are beloved. Humility is an important virtue. The root of the word is the Latin *humus*, which means "earth", and having humility is akin to being down-to-earth. But it also takes humility to accept that we are loved more than we can ask or imagine. We honor God today by being marked with a cross of ashes on our foreheads, but we honor God even more when we consent to being loved by him. And so, please do not let Ash Wednesday be the only day that you worship. This is only a small part of the amazing story of God's redeeming love for us and for all of his creation. Please join us again!

Trinity on the Hill Episcopal Church
3900 Trinity Drive, Los Alamos, NM 87544
Office (505) 662-5107
www.latoth.org

The Rev. Mary Ann Hill, Rector: momaryannhill@gmail.com
Organist: Margaret-Mary Sauppé: dotsanddashes6.28@gmail.com
Chancel Choir Director: Louisa Singleton: ljs020596@gmail.com
Associate Organist: John Singleton: john.singleton@physics.ox.ac.uk
Parish Administrator: Nancy Coombs: admin@latoth.org
Office Manager: Claire Singleton: admin@latoth.org
Bookkeeper: Angela Keiter: bookkeeper@latoth.org
Nursery Manager: Wendy Strain
Sexton: Wendy Huff

The Solemn Liturgy of Ash Wednesday

The Entrance Rite

Music will be included at the 7:00 pm service. Hymns are in the blue Hymnal 1982. At the procession, all stand. At the 12:30 pm service, the altar party enters in silence.

Celebrant Bless the Lord, who forgives all our sins

People **His mercy endures for ever.**

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.**

Please be seated for the lessons.

The Word of God

The First Lesson: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

Blow the trumpet in Zion;
sound the alarm on my holy mountain!

Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble,
for the day of the LORD is coming, it is near--
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness!

Like blackness spread upon the mountains
a great and powerful army comes;
their like has never been from of old,
nor will be again after them
in ages to come.

Yet even now, says the LORD,
return to me with all your heart,
with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;
rend your hearts and not your clothing.

Return to the LORD, your God,
for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love,
and relents from punishing.

Who knows whether he will not turn and relent,
and leave a blessing behind him,
a grain offering and a drink offering
for the LORD, your God?

Blow the trumpet in Zion;
sanctify a fast;

call a solemn assembly;
gather the people.
Sanctify the congregation;
assemble the aged;
gather the children,
even infants at the breast.
Let the bridegroom leave his room,
and the bride her canopy.
Between the vestibule and the altar
let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep.
Let them say, "Spare your people, O LORD,
and do not make your heritage a mockery,
a byword among the nations.
Why should it be said among the peoples,
'Where is their God?'"

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 103:8-14 (sung at 7:00 pm only)

8 The LORD is full of compassion and | mercy, *
slow to anger and of great | kindness.
9 He will not always acc | use us, *
nor will he keep his anger for | ever.
10 He has not dealt with us according to our | sins, *
nor rewarded us according to our | wickedness.
11 For as the heavens are high above the | earth, *
so is his mercy great upon those who | fear him.
12 As far as the east is from the | west, *
so far has he removed our | sins from us.
13 As a father cares for his | children, *
so does the LORD care for those who | fear him.
14 For he himself knows whereof we are | made; *
he remembers that we are but | dust.

S 414 Robert Knox Kennedy
(b. 1945)

© 1979, Robert Knox Kennedy.

The Second Lesson: 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

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: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, 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 honor and dishonor, 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.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn (at 7:00 pm): "Now let us all with one accord"

Hymnal 147

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

People: **Glory to you Lord Christ.**

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

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."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord

People **Praise to you Lord Christ.**

Please remain standing.

The Blessing and Imposition of Ashes

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.

Silence may be kept for a time, all kneeling.

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 wish to receive the cross of ashes are invited to come forward. Please maintain silence and form a single-file line in the center aisle. After this, the following Psalm is then said by all, kneeling:

Psalm 51 Miserere mei, Deus (said in unison)

- 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

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.**

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 Bishop, if present, or the Priest, stands and, facing the people, says

Almighty God, 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 God's people, being penitent, the absolution and remission of their sins. He pardons and absolves all those who truly repent, and with sincere hearts believe the holy Gospel. Therefore we beseech him to grant us true repentance and the 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.**

The Peace

Please remain in your pews for a brief Passing of the Peace.

Announcements

The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem (7 pm): “Drop, Drop, Slow Tears”

Orlando Gibbons

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer A (sung at 7:00 pm)

The people remain standing. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says

The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

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

Here a Proper Preface is sung or said on all Sundays, and on other occasions as appointed.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

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:

Celebrant and People

Sanctus and Benedictus (sung at 7 pm)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of
Hosts: Hea - ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo -
- ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is he that com - eth -
- in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Setting: From *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880-1968)

The people stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues

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.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

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:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

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.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say **(sung at 7:00 pm):**

People and Celebrant

Our Fa-ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed be thy Name,
thy king-dom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in hea - ven.
Give us this day our dai - ly bread. And for-give us our tres - pas - ses,
as we for-give those who tres-pass a-gainst us. And lead us not in - to temp - ta - tion,
but de - liv - er us from e - vil. For thine is the king-dom,
and the power, and the glo - ry, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

Plainsong; adapt. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944)

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept. Then may be sung or said

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

Agnus Dei (sung at 7:00 pm)

O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a -
way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -
on us. O Lamb of God, that
ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have
mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of
God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the
world, grant us thy peace.

Setting: From *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880-1968)

O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, **have mercy upon us.**

O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, **have mercy upon us.**

O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, **grant us your peace.**

The Celebrant continues

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.

All who are baptized, regardless of age, are welcome to receive communion. If you wish to receive communion at the altar rail, please come forward at the bidding. Please follow the instructions for receiving communion. If you wish to remain in your pew, communion will be brought to you. Gluten-free wafers are available if you let us know you need one. If you would like to receive a blessing instead of communion, please cross your arms over your chest. If you wish to pass altogether, please remain seated.

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

or with these words

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [*Amen.*]

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. [*Amen.*]

Communion Hymn: “Just as I am”

Hymnal 693

Post Communion Prayer (*please stand as you are able*)

The Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us 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.

The Blessing

In Lent, in place of a seasonal blessing, a solemn Prayer of the People is used, as follows:

The Deacon or, in the absence of a deacon, the Presider says

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. And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be with you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn (at 7 pm): “The glory of these forty days”

Hymnal 143

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please depart in reverent silence.

Cover art: “Aschermittwoch” (Ash Wednesday), Carl Spitzweg (1808-1885), Staatsgalerie Stuttgart

Serving Today

Organist, 7 pm	John Singleton
7:30 am: Lay Reader/LEM	Rozelle Wright
12:30 pm: LEM	Andy Light
Lay Readers	Joanna Gillespie, Claire Singleton
7:00 pm: Lay Reader	Lynn Godwin
LEMs	Lynn Godwin, Linda Light
7:00 pm: Server/Crucifer	Susan Sprake
Torch Bearers	Josh and Anna Moore
Altar Guild	Rozelle and Brad Wright Andy and Linda Light Ellie Giovanielli
Usher, 7 pm	Maggie Moore
Media Team, 7 pm	Bill Godwin, Richard Triplett



Trinity on the Hill Episcopal Church

Los Alamos, NM