

ECUMENICAL ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE, YEAR B, 2024

Holy Trinity Church, Anglican Parish of Wainuiomata

St Patrick's Church Wainuiomata, RC Parish of the Holy Spirit/Wairua Tapu, Lower Hutt

Celebrant Rev Derek Keatley

Homilist Rev Fr Akuila Taliauli SVD

Liturgical Assistant Vance Kapene

Rev Derek at the Presider's Chair

Fr Akuila beside him

Vance at Lectern

Vance	Welcome and opening prayer Explain bold type on the PowerPoint indicates congregational responses
Vance	Grace and peace to you from God God fill you with truth and joy Let us pray: Living God, as we enter this season of Lent, we offer ourselves to you with humility, repentance and love, conscious of your never failing love and mercy, and relying on your healing and forgiveness. We praise you for the supreme sacrifice of Jesus on the cross and for his saving love. Our prayers come to you through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

Sentence of the Day

Vance	Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the desert, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. Luke 4:1-2
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Collect of the Day

All	Almighty and Merciful God, you love everything you have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent; create in us new and contrite hearts so that when we turn to you and confess our sins we may receive your full and perfect forgiveness, through Jesus Christ our redeemer. Amen.
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HYMN – JUST AS I AM

<p>V.1 Just as I am, without one plea, but that Thy blood was shed for me, and that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee, O Lamb of God, I come! Just as I am, and waiting not to rid my soul of one dark blot, to Thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot O Lamb of God, I come!</p>	<p>V.2 Just as I am, though tossed about with many a conflict, many a doubt, fightings within, and fears without, O Lamb of God, I come! Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind; sight, riches, healing of the mind, yea, all I need, in Thee to find, O Lamb of God, I come!</p>
<p>V.3 Just as I am, Thou wilt receive, wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve; because Thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come! Just as I am, Thy love unknown hath broken every barrier down; now, to be Thine, yea, Thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come!</p>	

THE READINGS

St Patrick's Reader	<p>Joel 2:1-2,12-17 Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church Thanks be to God</p>
Vance	<p>Psalm 51:1-17 We say together Psalm 51 by alternate half-verses, adding the plea "Create in me a clean heart O God" as indicated Have mercy on me O God in your great kindness in the fullness of your mercy blot out my offences. Wash away all my guilt and cleanse me from my sin. Create in me a clean heart O God For I acknowledge my faults and my sin is always before me Against you only have I sinned and done evil in your sight so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless in your judging. Evil have I been from my birth sinner I am from the time of my conception. But you desire truth in our inward being therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart. Take hyssop sprinkle me with water and I shall be clean. Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Create in me a clean heart O God</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Continues...</i></p>

	<p>Let me hear the sounds of joy and gladness that the bones you have broken may rejoice Turn away your face from my sins and blot out all my misdeeds Create in me a clean heart O God and renew a right spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence do not take your holy spirit from me Create in me a clean heart O God</p> <p>Give me the joy of your help again and strengthen me with a willing spirit Then I will teach transgressors your ways and sinners will turn to you again</p> <p>Rescue me from bloodshed O God my saviour and my tongue shall sing of your deliverance O Lord open my lips and my mouth shall proclaim your praise. Create in me a clean heart O God</p> <p>You desire no sacrifice, or I would give it but you take no delight in burnt offerings. The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit a broken and contrite heart O God you will not despise.</p>
Holy Trinity Reader	<p>2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10</p> <p>Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church Thanks be to God</p>

GRADUAL HYMN – PURIFY MY HEART

<p>V.1 Purify my heart; Let me be as gold and precious silver. Purify my heart; Let me be as gold, pure gold.</p>	<p><u>Chorus:</u> Refiners fire, My heart's one desire Is to be holy, Set apart for you, Lord. I choose to be holy, Set apart for you, my master, Ready to do your will.</p>
<p>V.2 Purify my heart, Cleanse me from within and make me holy. Purify my heart, Cleanse me from my sin deep within.</p>	<p><u>Chorus:</u> Refiners fire, My heart's one desire Is to be holy, Set apart for you, Lord. I choose to be holy, Set apart for you, my master, Ready to do your will.</p>

Fr Akuila	<p>The Holy Gospel according to St Matthew, Chapter 6:1-6,16-21</p> <p>✠ Praise and glory to God</p> <p><i>(The Gospel is proclaimed)</i></p> <p>This is the Gospel of Christ</p> <p>Praise to Christ the word</p>
Fr Akuila	The Homily

Vance	<p>E te whanau a te Karaiti/ Dear friends in Christ, every year we celebrate Christ's death and resurrection. Lent is a time to prepare for this celebration.</p> <p>In order that our Lent may be a time of renewal and growth we begin this season by remembering our need for repentance and for the forgiveness of God proclaimed by Jesus Christ.</p> <p>I invite you, therefore, in the name of Christ, to observe a holy Lent by self-examination and repentance, by prayer, fasting, self-denial, and giving to those in need, and by reading and meditating on the word of God.</p> <p>In silence call to mind our sin and the infinite mercy of God.</p> <p><i>Silence</i></p>
Vance	<p>We have not loved you with all our heart, and soul, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.</p> <p>Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.</p> <p>We have been deaf to your call to serve. We have been unfaithful, proud, and hypocritical.</p> <p>Christ have mercy. Christ have mercy.</p> <p>We have been self-centered, and have taken advantage of others.</p> <p>Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.</p> <p>We have been envious of those more fortunate than ourselves.</p> <p>Christ have mercy. Christ have mercy.</p> <p>We have loved worldly goods and comforts too much. We have been dishonest in daily life and work.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Continues...</i></p>

	<p>Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.</p> <p>We have neglected prayer and worship, and have failed to commend the faith that is in us.</p> <p>Christ have mercy. Christ have mercy.</p> <p>We have been blind to human need and suffering, and indifferent to injustice and cruelty.</p> <p>Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.</p> <p>We have thought uncharitably about others, and we have been prejudiced towards those who differ from us.</p> <p>Christ have mercy. Christ have mercy.</p> <p>We have wasted and polluted your creation, and lacked concern for those who come after us.</p> <p>Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.</p>
All	<p>Merciful God, we have sinned in what we have thought and said, in the wrong we have done and in the good we have not done. We have sinned in ignorance: we have sinned in weakness: we have sinned through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry. We repent and turn to you. Forgive us, for our Saviour Christ's sake, and renew our lives to the glory of your name. Amen</p>

THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Rev Derek	As a sign of the spirit of penitence with which we shall keep this season of preparation for Easter, we invite you to receive on your head in ash the sign of the cross, the symbol of our salvation.
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(The ashes of last year's Palm Crosses from Holy Trinity and St Patrick's, previously combined, are blessed. Rev Derek and Fr Akuila, standing together, may both make the sign of the cross over the ashes at the same time)

Rev Derek	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. Amen.
Fr Akuila	<i>(May sprinkle the ashes with Holy Water)</i>
Both priests	<i>(In view of the congregation, Rev Derek and Fr Akuila may impose the blessed ashes on the forehead of the other)</i>
Both priests	<i>(Rev Derek and Fr Akuila take a dish each and two mixed congregational lines forms).</i> <i>The priests may use words according to their own tradition, or the following words may be used as the ashes are imposed on the foreheads of the penitent people</i> Repent and believe in the gospel

HYMN DURING THE IMPOSITION - HOSEA

V.1 Come back to me with all your heart, Don't let fear keep us apart. Trees do bend, though straight and tall; So must we to others call. <i>Chorus:</i> Long have I waited for your coming home to me, and living deeply our new life.	V.2 The wilderness will lead you To your heart where I will speak. Integrity and justice, With tenderness you shall know. <i>Chorus:</i> Long have I waited for your coming home to me, and living deeply our new life.
V.3 You shall sleep secure with peace; Faithfulness will be your joy. <i>Chorus:</i> Long have I waited for your coming home to me, and living deeply our new life.	

HYMN DURING THE IMPOSITION – CAUSE ME TO COME

V.1 Cause me to come to Thy river, O Lord, Cause me to come to Thy river, O Lord, Cause me to come to Thy river, O Lord, cause me to come, cause me to drink, cause me to live.	V.2 Cause me to drink from Thy river, O Lord Cause me to drink from Thy river, O Lord Cause me to drink from Thy river, O Lord cause me to come, cause me to drink, cause me to live.
V.3 Cause me to live by Thy river, O Lord Cause me to live by Thy river, O Lord Cause me to live by Thy river, O Lord cause me to come, cause me to drink, cause me to live.	V.4 Cause me to come to Thy river, O Lord, Cause me to come to Thy river, O Lord, Cause me to come to Thy river, O Lord, cause me to come, cause me to drink, cause me to live.

HYMN DURING THE IMPOSITION – TAKE MY LIFE AND LET IT BE

V.1 Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee; take my moments and my days, let them flow in ceaseless praise.	V.2 Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of thy love; take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.
V.3 Take my voice, and let me sing always, only, for my King; take my lips, and let them be filled with messages from thee.	V.4 Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold; take my intellect, and use every power as thou shalt choose.
V.5 Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine: take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne.	V.6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store: take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

INTERCESSIONS

Vance	<p>Let us pray for the church and for the world giving thanks for God's goodness.</p> <p>The bidding is <i>Lord, hear us. The response is Lord, hear our prayer</i> Lord, hear us. Lord, hear our prayer.</p> <p>Let us pray to our God who is ever ready to hear and answer us. God, our strength, we gather at the beginning of this holy season. Lead us from where we stand at the edge of darkness to the place of light where we can call the Cross our glory and rejoice in the resurrection of Christ, your Son. Lord, hear us Lord, hear our prayer</p>
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	<p>God our Creator, you desire that all people live in unity and peace. Give us light and wisdom to grow as one body united in love, so that we may continue your saving work amongst all people. Lord, hear us Lord, hear our prayer</p> <p>Gracious God, your love extends to the ends of the earth and your mercy surrounds our fragile lives. Send your blessings on us that we may be signs and instruments of your peace and justice in the world. Lord, hear us Lord, hear our prayer</p> <p>Ever present God, during this Lenten journey may your Word be as a stream in our dry ground and your presence as gentle rain to comfort us, make us joyous and enable us to walk towards Easter in your sight. Lord, hear us Lord, hear our prayer</p>
Vance	<p>As Christ teaches us we pray: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen</p>

THE PEACE

Rev Derek	<p>The peace of God be always with you. Praise to Christ who unites us in peace.</p>
Vance	<p>On our heads and in our homes The blessing of God In our coming and going The peace of God In our life and believing The love of God At our end and new beginning The arms of God to welcome us and bring us home. Ever loving God, we pray, united in Christ and</p>

	secure in the promise that you will hear and answer us. Amen.
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THE BLESSING

Rev Derek	<i>(Rev Derek and Fr Akuila, standing together, may make the sign of the cross together over the congregation as Rev Derek gives voice to the blessing)</i>
Fr Akuila	Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourself, and to take up your cross and follow him... ... And the blessing ✠ of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be with you all now and always. Amen.

FINAL HYMN – WHEN I SURVEYED THE WONDEROUS CROSS

V.1 When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died, my richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.	V.2 Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save on the death of Christ my God: all the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to His blood.
V.3 See from His head, His hands, His feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down: did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?	V.4 Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were an offering far too small, love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

THE DISMISSAL OF THE COMMUNITY

Vance	Go now to love and serve the Lord. Go in peace. Amen. We go in the name of Christ.
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Please stay for supper