

# Ash Wednesday – February 17, 2021 at 5pm Online Service

**Zoom connection is the same as for Evening Prayer services.**

Our churches are located on land which has long served as a site of meeting and exchange amongst Indigenous peoples, including the Anishinaabeg, the Huron-Wendat, and the Omàmiwininiwak (Algonquin), the St. Lawrence Iroquoians and the Mohawk. Our churches honour, recognize and respect these nations as the traditional stewards of the lands and waters on which we gather today.

*Host: Nick Brotherwood*

*Co-hosts: Josée Lemoine and Tania Lesack*

**THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY**

**Nick / Tania**

**The service starts on p. 281 of the BAS.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

**The Collect of the Day**

**Josée**

Dieu tout-puissant et éternel, tu ne méprises rien de ce que tu as fait et tu pardonnes les péchés de tous ceux et celles qui sont pénitents. Crée et forme en nous des cœurs nouveaux et contrits, afin que nous, déplorant dignement nos péchés et reconnaissant notre rupture avec toi, obtenions de toi, le Dieu miséricordieux, une parfaite rémission et pardon; par Jésus-Christ notre Seigneur, qui vit et règne avec toi et le Saint-Esprit, un seul Dieu, maintenant et pour toujours. **Amen.**

*Or* Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you despise 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 brokenness, 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.**

**THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**First Reading**

**Nick / Tania**

A reading from the second Book of Isaiah (Isaiah 58:1-12)

Shout out, do not hold back!

Lift up your voice like a trumpet!

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Announce to my people their rebellion,  
to the house of Jacob their sins.

<sup>2</sup> Yet day after day they seek me  
and delight to know my ways,  
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness  
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;  
they ask of me righteous judgments,  
they delight to draw near to God.

<sup>3</sup> “Why do we fast, but you do not see?  
Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”  
Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day,  
and oppress all your workers.

<sup>4</sup> Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight  
and to strike with a wicked fist.  
Such fasting as you do today  
will not make your voice heard on high.

<sup>5</sup> Is such the fast that I choose,  
a day to humble oneself?  
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush,  
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?  
Will you call this a fast,  
a day acceptable to the Lord?

<sup>6</sup> Is not this the fast that I choose:  
to loose the bonds of injustice,  
to undo the thongs of the yoke,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
and to break every yoke?

<sup>7</sup> Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,  
and bring the homeless poor into your house;  
when you see the naked, to cover them,  
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

<sup>8</sup> Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,  
and your healing shall spring up quickly;  
your vindicator shall go before you,  
the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.

<sup>9</sup> Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;  
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.  
If you remove the yoke from among you,  
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,

<sup>10</sup> if you offer your food to the hungry  
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,  
then your light shall rise in the darkness  
and your gloom be like the noonday.

<sup>11</sup> The Lord will guide you continually,  
and satisfy your needs in parched places,  
and make your bones strong;

and you shall be like a watered garden,  
like a spring of water,  
whose waters never fail.

<sup>12</sup> Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;  
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;  
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,  
the restorer of streets to live in.

The word of the Lord. (or Hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches.)

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 103.8–18, BAS, p. 842**

**Tania / Nick**

8 The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, \*  
**slow to anger and of great kindness.**

9 He will not always accuse 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.**

15 Our days are like the grass; \*  
**we flourish like a flower of the field;**

16 When the wind goes over it, it is gone, \*  
**and its place shall know it no more.**

17 But the merciful goodness of the Lord endures for ever  
on those who fear him, \*

**and his righteousness on children's children;**

18 On those who keep his covenant \*  
**and remember his commandments and do them.**

**God of infinite mercy and forgiveness, by the cross and resurrection of Jesus your Son, wash away our sins and deliver us from our infirmities of body and spirit, that we may live with him his risen life, to the praise and glory of your holy name. Amen.**

**Second Reading**

**Josée / Tania**

Lecture de la deuxième lettre de Paul aux Corinthiens. (2 Cor. 5:20b-6:10)

C'est au nom du Christ que nous sommes en ambassade, et par nous, c'est Dieu lui-même qui, en fait, vous adresse un appel. Au nom du Christ, nous vous en supplions, laissez-vous réconcilier avec Dieu. Celui qui n'avait pas connu le péché, il l'a, pour nous, identifié au péché, afin que, par lui, nous devenions justice de Dieu. Puisque nous sommes à l'œuvre avec lui, nous vous exhortons à ne pas laisser sans effet la grâce reçue de Dieu.

*Car il dit : Au moment favorable, je t'exauce, et au jour du salut, je viens à ton secours.*

Voici maintenant le moment tout à fait favorable.

Voici maintenant le jour du salut.

Nous ne voulons d'aucune façon scandaliser personne, pour que notre ministère soit sans reproche. Au contraire, nous nous recommandons nous-mêmes en tout comme ministres de Dieu par une grande persévérance dans les détresses, les contraintes, les angoisses, les coups, les prisons, les émeutes, les fatigues, les veilles, les jeûnes, par la pureté, la science, la patience, la bonté, par l'Esprit Saint, l'amour sans feinte, la parole de vérité, la puissance de Dieu, par les armes offensives et défensives de la justice, dans la gloire et le mépris, dans la mauvaise et la bonne réputation, tenus pour imposteurs et pourtant véridiques, inconnus et pourtant bien connus, moribonds et pourtant nous vivons, châtiés sans être exécutés, attristés mais toujours joyeux, pauvres, et faisant bien des riches, n'ayant rien, nous qui pourtant possédons tout !

La parole du Seigneur. / Écoutez ce que l'Esprit dit aux églises.

**Nous rendons grâce à Dieu.**

*Or* A reading from the 2nd letter of Paul to the Corinthians (2 Corinthians 5.20b—6.10)

So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; 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; <sup>8</sup> in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; <sup>9</sup> as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; <sup>10</sup> as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

The word of the Lord. (*or* Hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches.)

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Reading, BAS p. 68**

**Nick / Tania**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (Matt. 6:1-6, 16-21)

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

“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.

The Gospel of Christ.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

### **A short introduction to the season and the music to follow**

**Josée**

Music and meditation:

*Miserere mei, Deus*, comp. Gregorio Allegri, sung by Tenebrae, conducted by Nigel Short (5.29 min.)  
(*Miserere mei, Deus* is Latin for “Have mercy on me, O God”; it is a setting of Psalm 51)

### **THE LITURGY OF PENITENCE, BAS, p. 281**

**Josée / Tania**

Dear friends in Christ, every year at the time of the Christian Passover we celebrate our redemption through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Lent is a time to prepare for this celebration and to renew our life in the paschal mystery. We begin this holy season by remembering our need for repentance, and for the mercy and forgiveness proclaimed in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

I invite you therefore, in the name of the Lord, to observe a holy Lent by self-examination, penitence, prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, and by reading and meditating on the word of God.

*Those at home are invited to kneel if they so wish; they may also choose to turn off their camera.*

Let us kneel before our Creator and Redeemer.

*Silence is then kept for reflection. (1 min. signaled with a “gong” at the start and the end)*

### **Psalm 51.1–18, BAS, p. 282**

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving kindness; \*

**in your great compassion blot out my offences.**

Wash me through and through from my wickedness \*

**and cleanse me from my sin.**

For I know my transgressions, \*  
**and my sin is ever before me.**  
Against you only have I sinned \*  
**and done what is evil in your sight.**

And so you are justified when you speak \*  
**and upright in your judgement.**  
Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, \*  
**a sinner from my mother's womb.**

For behold, you look for truth deep within me, \*  
**and will make me understand wisdom secretly.**  
Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; \*  
**wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.**

Make me hear of joy and gladness, \*  
**that the body you have broken may rejoice.**  
Hide your face from my sins \*  
**and blot out all my iniquities.**

Create in me a clean heart, O God, \*  
**and renew a right spirit within me.**  
Cast me not away from your presence \*  
**and take not your Holy Spirit from me.**

Give me the joy of your saving help again \*  
**and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**  
I shall teach your ways to the wicked, \*  
**and sinners shall return to you.**

Deliver me from death, O God, \*  
**and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness,**  
**O God of my salvation.**  
Open my lips, O Lord, \*  
**and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice, \*  
**but you take no delight in burnt-offerings.**  
The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit; \*  
**a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.**

**Litany of Penitence, BAS p. 283**  
**Most holy and merciful Father,**  
**we confess to you, to one another,**

**Tania / Nick**

**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.**

We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbours 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 judgements, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbours, 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;  
**Hear us, Lord, for your mercy is great.**

*Silence is then kept for reflection. (1 min. signaled with a “gong” at the start and the end)*

Accomplish in us, O God, 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.**

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.**

*People kneeling are now invited to sit again.*

### **The Peace**

Since we are justified by faith,  
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who has given us access to his grace.

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

### **THE SENDING**

#### **Responsory**

This is love, not that we loved God,  
**but that he loved us and sent his Son.**

He is the sacrifice for our sins,  
**that we might live through him.**

If God loves us so much  
**we ought to love one another.**

If we love one another  
**God lives in us.**

**Nick / Tania**

### **The Dismissal Gospel**

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

#### **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.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Blessing**

May God the Father, who does not despise the broken spirit, give to you a contrite heart.

**Amen.**

May Christ, who bore our sins in his body on the tree, heal you by his wounds.

**Amen.**

May the Holy Spirit, who leads us into all truth, speak to you words of pardon and peace.

**Amen.**

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

**Amen.**

**Dismissal**

Go in the peace of Christ. *No Alleluia during Lent!*

**Thanks be to God!**